

PH0122149

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Mass.	
COUNTY: Worcester	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE



1. NAME

COMMON:
Fruitlands Museums

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION Congressional District 3

STREET AND NUMBER:
Prospect Hill Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Harvard

STATE: Mass. CODE: 25 COUNTY: Worcester CODE: 027

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/> Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Park	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments
<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial	<input type="checkbox"/> Industrial	<input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational	<input type="checkbox"/> Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religious		
<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Fruitlands Museums, Inc.

STREET AND NUMBER:
Prospect Hill Road

CITY OR TOWN:
Harvard

STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Worcester County Registry of Deeds, Worcester District

STREET AND NUMBER:
Court House

CITY OR TOWN:
Worcester

STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Survey of Historic Assets, Commonwealth of Massachusetts

DATE OF SURVEY: 1969 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Massachusetts Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:
Archives Museum, State House

CITY OR TOWN:
Boston

STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Mass.
COUNTY: Worcester
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated.	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Fruitlands Museums complex lies in the fold of a hillside which faces west. It is comprised of six low buildings, three located on either side of a drive which curves downhill to end at the Alcott house. This eighteenth century farmhouse is set against a backdrop of woods. A post and rail fence surrounds the house and its cultivated lawn with fruit trees and a stately fir and separates it from the fields and woods beyond. The five-bay main facade of the two-story house faces south. The plain entrance, centered on the facade, carries a transom light. The frame building is covered with graduated clapboards and has a wide pitched roof with a center chimney. A carriage wing is attached to the east end of the building.

Diagonally above the Alcott house, on an open lawn plateau, lies the one-and-one-half story clapboard Shaker building, constructed in 1794. Its straight and clean lines are unbroken by decoration. Two narrow chimneys are located at each end of the roof's ridge. A plain entrance, surmounted by a transom window, breaks the center of each of the main facades. On each side of the door, a 6-over-9 sash window is evenly spaced between the door and the corner of the building. On the north facade, small shed dormers are situated directly over the two windows of the main facade above the eave line. The gable ends contain two windows on each floor.

Across the drive from this charming little yellow building, the Indian Museum and Picture Gallery complete the open air museum complex. Both modern buildings are one story high and conform in scale and harmonize in material and setting with the two early buildings.

There are two other buildings on the property. At the top of the hill near the entrance to Fruitlands lies the eighteenth century clapboard house used as the Director's residence. Prospect House, with its terrace overlooking the valley and hills beyond, is the headquarters for the complex. The one-and-one-half story clapboard building is u-shaped around a brick terrace. It houses the administrative offices, conference and rest rooms, as well as a light and cheery small restaurant.

The buildings and their surroundings are in excellent condition.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- Pre-Columbian | 16th Century | 18th Century | 20th Century
 15th Century | 17th Century | 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religious/Philosophy | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fruitlands Museums complex is a pioneer American effort in the so-called "open air" or outdoor museum movement, which had its beginnings in Sweden in the late 19th century. The Museums were founded in 1914 by Mrs. Clara Endicott Sears and in 1966 the complex was made a Massachusetts Historic Landmark.

The whole complex lies in a fold of a hillside, facing west toward Mount Wachusett. At the foot of the hill is the original Fruitlands, an eighteenth century farmhouse, where Bronson Alcott lived from June, 1843, to January, 1844, and where he underwent a spiritual transformation. Alcott came here to found a community under a new social order, the Con-Sociate Family, that was to be truly a part of the soil; he left a Transcendental philosopher who believed that the family mattered most, a belief which his daughter Louisa May Alcott later expressed in her writings. The house now contains furnishings and possessions of the Alcott family and memorabilia of the leaders of the Transcendental Movement--Emerson, Thoreau, Margaret Fuller and others.

In the early years of the Massachusetts Bay Colony, this same fold of the hillside was the campsite of the Nashua Indians who, in association with others, carried off Mrs. Mary Rowlandson in 1676. The account Mrs. Rowlandson wrote of her capture and redemption was the first and most celebrated of the New England "captivities," one of the earliest forms of literature produced in America. An American Indian Museum commemorates this aspect of Fruitlands.

Also part of the complex is a building erected in 1794 by the Harvard Shaker Society and originally used as an office. It was moved from the former Harvard Shaker Village to Fruitlands in 1920. The building is now a museum of Shaker life and includes exhibits of Shaker handicrafts and community industries.

The last of the Fruitlands Museums is the Picture Gallery which houses two outstanding collections. One comprises portraits of New Englanders by itinerant artists of the nineteenth century, some of whom, like Chester Harding and Francis Alexander, became well-known portrait painters. These works are popularly known as American Primitives and with the other exhibits at Fruitlands constitute an important representation of American folk art. The second collection contains examples of the Hudson River School--the first American school of painting--and the work of later American landscape painters.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Odell, Shepard. Pedlar's Progress: The Life of Bronson Alcott. Boston, 1937.
 Sears, Clara Endicott. Bronson Alcott's Fruitlands. Boston, 1915.
 Webber, Everett. Escape to Utopia. New York, 1959.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	42° 30' 40"	71° 36' 43"		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	42° 30' 31"	71° 36' 25"				
SE	42° 30' 22"	71° 36' 32"				
SW	42° 30' 32"	71° 36' 50"				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 36 3/4 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
 Anne R. Wardwell (PAM), Survey Director

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: April 12, 1972

STREET AND NUMBER:
 Archives Museum, State House

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

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

National State Local

Name: John F. K. [Signature]
 Secretary of the Commonwealth,
 Chairman, Massachusetts
 Title: Historical Commission

Date: April 14, 1972

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

[Signature]
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: _____

ATTEST: _____
 Keeper of The National Register

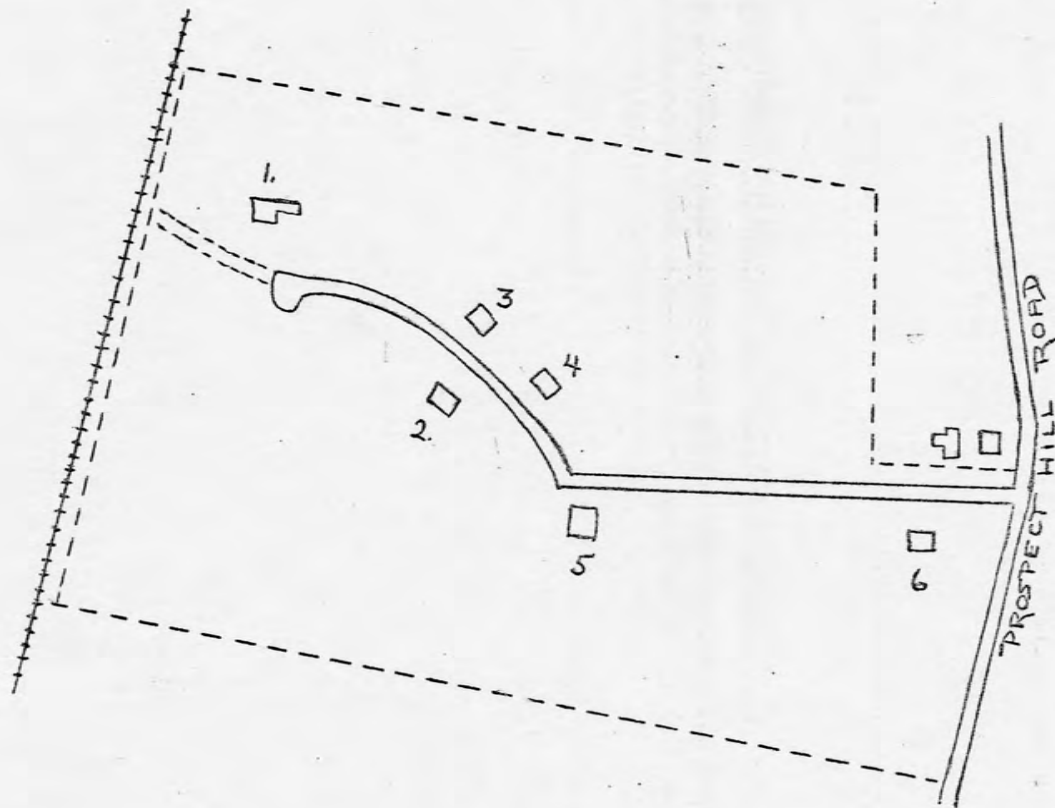
Date: _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

(WORCESTER COUNTY)

HARVARD, MASS.

FRUITLANDS MUSEUMS

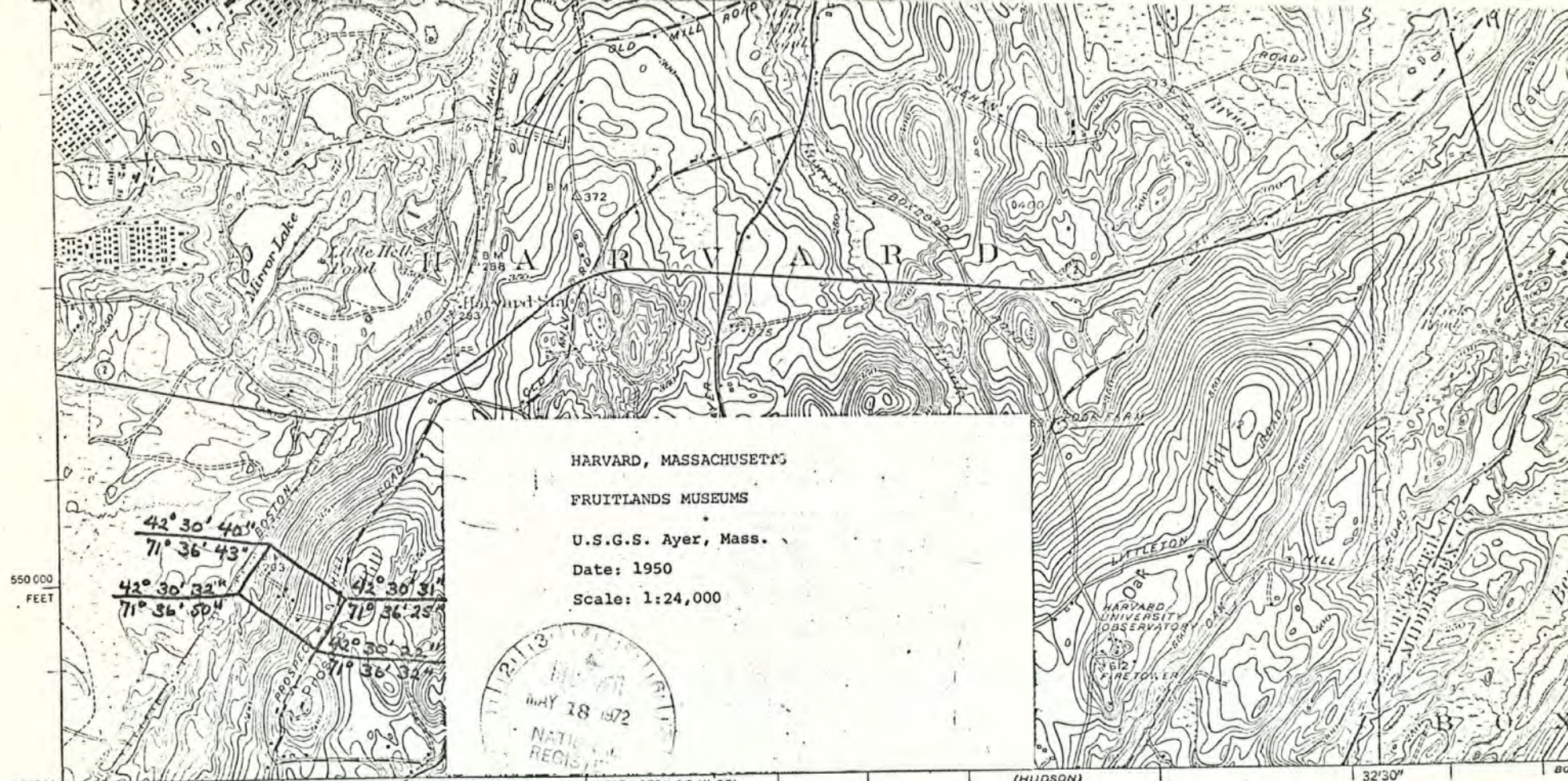


KEY

----- Boundaries of National Register submission

+ + + + + Railroad track

1. Alcott House
2. Shaker House
3. Indian Museum
4. Picture Gallery
5. Prospect House
6. Director's House



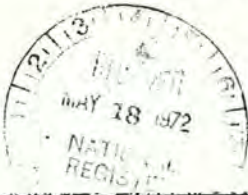
HARVARD, MASSACHUSETTS

FRUITLANDS MUSEUMS

U.S.G.S. Ayer, Mass.

Date: 1950

Scale: 1:24,000



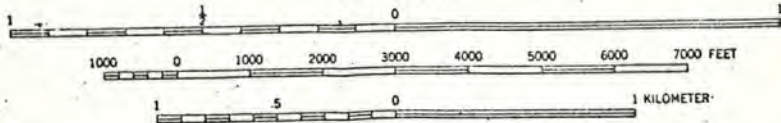
550 000
FEET

42°30'
71°37'30"

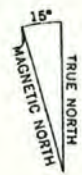
42° 30' 40"
71° 36' 43"
42° 30' 32"
71° 36' 50"
42° 30' 31"
71° 36' 25"
42° 30' 22"
71° 36' 32"

570 000 FEET STILL RIVER 1 MI. CLINTON 7.3 MI. WEST ACTON 6.3 MI. 35' CONCORD 13 MI.

SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1923 and 1935. Revised 1950
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts (Mainland)
coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue

Structure on this
Littleton



DATE OF RECEIPT 5/18/72 YES _____ NO _____ NUMBER _____ REGISTER: _____

DATA PAGE _____

PHOTO (S) _____

PHOTO DESCRIPTION (S) _____ 2

MAP (S) _____

MAP DESCRIPTION (S) _____ 1

LOGGED _____

ACKNOWLEDGE 5/18/72 _____

RESUBMIT _____

REVIEW _____ Tech Review OK MDH 10-11-72

HISTORIAN _____ Oliver Scales 10/15/72

ARCHEOLOGIST _____

ARCHITECT _____

ASST. KEEPER _____

KEEPER _____

WRITER/EDITOR _____ OK Revised 10-16-72

DIRECTOR, OAHP _____

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR The Bronson Alcott House in Concord is already an NHL. (How many do we need?), The other bldgs. are ① a moved Shaker structure (we have ~~the~~ Shaker villages intact on NR) ② an art gallery; ③ an Indian museum; ④ curator's house. This is not a district - nothing unites the bldgs. I suggest they nominate Annually Edition Entry the ones that meet the criteria. EDA 10/24/72

Federal Registry Entry _____ Annual Edition Entry _____

Logged _____ Card _____

COMMENTS: _____ WORKING NUMBER 5.18.72.724

Made a Landmark 5-30-74
3-19-74

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: _____

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**



**National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form**

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

1. Name of Property

historic name Fruitlands Museums Historic District

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 102 Prospect Hill Road N/A not for publication

city or town Harvard N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01451

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.)

Judith B. McDonough 4/8/97
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet 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 5/23/97
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Name of Property

Harvard (Worcester County), Massachusetts
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

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

Category of Property

(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	
15	3	building
5	0	sites
6	0	structures
2	0	objects
28	3	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

1 (Fruitlands 3/19/74)

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

AGRICULTURE: fields

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: single dwelling

RECREATION AND CULTURE: museum

AGRICULTURE: fields

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Shingle

Craftsman

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone, brick

walls clapboard, shingle, brick

roof slate, asphalt shingle

other bronze

Narrative Description

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

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 #MA 1004, MA 1005
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #_____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

ART

SOCIAL HISTORY

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1910-1947

Significant Dates

1910, 1914, 1916, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1935,

1941, 1947

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Clara Endicott Sears

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:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Name of Property

Harvard (Worcester County), Massachusetts
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 130 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 Zone	285420 Easting	4709640 Northing	3. 19 Zone	285440 Easting	4708640 Northing
2. 19 Zone	285860 Easting	4709580 Northing	4. 19 Zone	285360 Easting	4708620 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 Claire W. Dempsey with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical District date March 1997

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

city or town Massachusetts 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 Fruitlands Museums, Inc

street & number 102 Prospect Hill Road telephone 508-456-3924

city or town Harvard state MA zip code 01451

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 ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetFruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard (Worcester County)
MassachusettsSection number 7 Page 1

7. DESCRIPTION

The Fruitlands Museums Historic District is located along Prospect Hill Road, superbly sited along this ridge to overlook the Nashua River valley and the uplands beyond in the western rural section of Harvard, Massachusetts. Land owned by the museums amounts to 130 acres (all included within the present nomination), stretching west from this road to the Boston and Maine Railroad right-of-way and the Oxbow National Wildlife Reservation. This large parcel of land is an important tract of open space within the town, and a key element in the scenic overlook that continues to the north as far as Route 2 and to the south through the village of Still River. With the town's surviving agricultural properties, forests, and conservation land the Fruitlands Museums property makes a significant contribution to the preservation of Harvard's historic and scenic landscapes. Developed by Clara Endicott Sears between 1910 and her death in 1960, the complex began with her first purchase of thirty-eight acres for a country home, the Pergolas, and expanded over the next fifty years to include four museums (Fruitlands, the Shaker Museum, the American Indian Museum, and the Picture Gallery) and an array of supporting buildings (the Garden House, the Farm, the Director's Residence, and Prospect House). Fruitlands, home of Bronson Alcott's Consociate Family, was made a Massachusetts Historic Landmark in 1966 and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1974. This nomination seeks historic district status for the museum property surrounding it. These buildings represent a number of phases in Harvard's history, including traditional house types that were associated with the farmsteads accumulated by Sears, additional early buildings moved into the grounds over time, and new and reconstructed buildings designed specifically for museum purposes.

Harvard, Massachusetts, is a suburban and exurban town located in eastern Worcester County, in the uplands east of the Nashua River valley. First settled late in the 17th century and experiencing little industrial growth during the 19th century, the town's landscape retains elements of its early experience of village and outlying farms beneath a post-World War II veneer of suburban development. The town's civic focus, Harvard Center, is located in the town's geographic center, while the older village of Still River overlooks the Nashua in the southwest, and the remnants of the longstanding Shaker village survive in the northeast. Although small historic hamlets developed at mill privileges and crossroads, until fifty years ago the town retained a well-developed but dispersed agricultural landscape, best known for its apple industry. 18th and 19th century farmers positioned their houses prominently along the town's roadways, their outbuildings stretching along the road or beyond the house to the rear, their fields isolating one farmstead operation from another. As the 19th century progressed, Harvard's attractive farm landscape and its location just thirty miles to the northwest of Boston combined to make the town attractive for vacationers. The new seasonal homes provided a contrast within the landscape not just in their scale and style, but also in their siting within the landscape. While earlier builders clung to the roadways, these newcomers sought privacy and quiet deep within their properties, preferring natural vistas to the steady traffic of everyday life.

Although the Fruitlands Museums are now united into a single parcel of 130 acres, the land that now stretches for nearly a mile along Prospect Hill Road was accumulated by Sears over several decades. She purchased, piecemeal, most of five historic farmsteads in the area, and prior to land takings for Fort Devens and the Oxbow Nature Preserve, her property extended to the west across the railroad right-of-way. Evidence of the historic land uses of the property survive in remnant walls, for example, in some sections of the property, but reforestation of the western portion and extensive clearing of the eastern have created a new landscape of woodland and park. The entrance to the museum is located at the north-

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetFruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard (Worcester County)
MassachusettsSection number 7 Page 2

central portion of the lot, and the majority of the buildings are arranged along the winding museum access road that extends from Prospect Hill Road down the hill to Fruitlands. In order, moving from east to west along this road, the buildings are: the Director's Residence and Prospect House on the south side of the road, with an asphalt parking area opposite the latter at an elevation of 120 to 135 meters; a significant drop in the land to 105 meters and three of the museums and the modern Reception Center, first the Picture Gallery and then the American Indian Museum on the north side of the road, a second parking area adjacent to the center, then the Shaker Museum on the south side; a third parking area is located further down the road, and finally at the base of the hill is Fruitlands, at an elevation of 90 meters and positioned about 300 feet from the railroad right-of-way. The Pergolas (demolished ca. 1965, HA-25) was located toward the southern portion of the parcel, near Prospect Hill Road, and the Garden House sits farther to the south also near the road. The Farm is located to the north of the museum entrance, also along Prospect Hill Road. The Fruitlands Museums property includes four other potential historic archaeological sites, the remnants of earlier farmsteads in the area: in the southwest portion of the parcel (HA-26) where a farmstead was located in the 19th century; the site of the Coffey farmstead (HA-51), between the Pergolas and the Garden House; the original site of the Knight-Dudley House, the Director's Residence (HA-52), just south of the museum entrance; and the site of the Hynes farmstead (HA-53), at the northeast of the property. The remaining landscape combines cleared fields and yard, near the buildings and toward the road, with extensive wooded areas to the west, crisscrossed by a network of nature trails.

The site of Sears' summer home, **the Pergolas (MHC # HA-25)** probably survives in the area only in archaeological form. Located off Prospect Hill Road overlooking the Nashua River valley, the house had a semi-circular drive before it and was surrounded by formal gardens and extensive tended grounds with walks and vistas on the property sloping off to the west. Constructed to a design by Sears shortly after she purchased the property in 1910, the large, clapboarded house took the ample hip-block form with a lower hipped service wing to the north. See historic photograph attached. Stretching seven bays across the road-facing facade, the central entry had a fanlit door screened by an Ionic portico topped with an ornamental ironwork balcony, moved here from her great-grandfather Joseph Peabody's house, which originally stood on the site of the Armory at 136 Essex Street in Salem, MA. On either side of the entry, bands of windows in shallow projecting bays were positioned in bays two and three and bays five and six, with small double-hung sash in bays one and seven; double-hung sash were regularly arranged on the second floor. Parallel fenestration could be found on the lower north service wing. On the interior the plan included a number of ample rooms. The front entry and a sequence of halls through the center of the house occupied the space marked by bays three and four. The entire south side of the house was occupied by the large drawing room, with a dining room and library located north of the central halls.

Between these last two rooms was a hall hung with Sears' landscape paintings, leading to the north wing of the house, which included a variety of service spaces. To the north of the house, at the lower ground level of the north elevation, was a long narrow arcaded cloister, sheltering statues. To the south side of the house was a large flat-roofed porch supported by Doric columns screening a projecting polygonal bay in the rear pile, open as a porch in the second story. Below this porch was the primary formal garden, surrounded on its east and north side with stone retaining walls, with paths set in a central oval and connecting to the house, the drive, and the western lawn. Further to the south was a large pergola, composed of eight Byzantine columns purchased in 1906, arranged in a crescent and giving way to a series of terraces. The house, described by historian Anderson as having been "grandly designed but poorly constructed" (1976:158), was demolished after Sears' death. The Peabody portico is now in the

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collection of the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA. Until the early 1980s all that remained was a remnant of the columns and terraces, forming a scenic overlook. Since that time most of these remnants have been removed for safe-keeping and to discourage assembly.

Tax records reveal the Sears property included a broad range of support buildings, including cottages, greenhouses, fruit cellar, garages, and sheds, but their specific locations are not known. One element of the estate that does survive, however, is **Garden House (MHC # 198)** and its associated three-car garage. This property was purchased in 1912 for a member of Sears' staff, the gardener and chauffeur. The house is located on Prospect Hill Road to the south of the museum buildings and the Pergolas site, set in from the road and facing to the east. The small house is a gable block of a story-and-a-half in height and double pile in plan, with shed-roofed dormers on the front and rear roof slopes. Its four bay gable end faces the street, with a second entry along the three-bay right lateral wall. The house has four rooms on the first floor interior, with a stair between the front and rear sitting rooms on the south side and a kitchen and dining room on the north. A large frame hip-roofed three-stall garage is located next to the house on the left and a small stone pyramidal-roofed pumphouse sits to the right rear.

Shortly after Sears had established her estate in Harvard, she learned that a farmstead adjacent to her own had been the site of the Alcotts' Fruitlands, and that the nearly derelict house there was indeed the Transcendentalists' residence. She was able to purchase the parcel in 1913 and set about researching and restoring it. Although Sears apparently believed the house dated to the early 18th century, **Fruitlands (MHC # 199)** was probably constructed in about 1800 by a member of the Sprague family, and is famous for its use by the Consociate Family of Bronson Alcott and Charles Lane in 1843. The house was restored by Miss Sears after she purchased the property in 1913. The house is located far into the interior of the museum grounds at the end of the winding access road, facing to the south. The present configuration of the house is the result of Miss Sears' restoration, intended to represent the period of the Consociate occupation, but including elements restored to an earlier period. The contracting work was completed by a Mr. Hardy of Ayer. The asymmetrical five-bay, clapboarded, center-chimney house is the core of the structure, now treated with a restored slate roof and new windows and doors. The house had paired chimneys on its ridge prior to restoration, evidence that earlier owners has replaced the likely center chimney with later stove flues. The main block has a single-story rear ell projecting from the east rear, now restored as a "colonial" kitchen with a huge fireplace. Historic photographs show that another ell extended from the opposite west rear corner, described as a bedroom. A secondary gabled wing extends from the east ell, with a porch across its front elevation. Formerly a woodshed, it was converted into an apartment by Sears and was once lit by gabled wall dormers. Two small frame structures, probably dating to the restoration, are located near the house, a well and wellhouse to the east of the house, and a pumphouse to the northeast.

The present center chimney was replaced during Sears' restoration, the core of the traditional New England plan she believed to be both original to the house and still in place when the Alcotts occupied the property. The lobby entry probably originally contained a winding stair, but is now fitted with cases for museum exhibits. Formal rooms are located on either side in the front pile, with the "long kitchen" across the rear pile. The parlor or dining room on the east is trimmed with horizontal board wainscoting and a high mantel ornamented with gougework in its entablature, and pilasters and a large fan in the frieze. The opposite west room or study has similar wainscoting and a plain fireplace surround. Exposed elements of the house framing are unusual and intriguing, with hewn posts and girts, arch and angle bracing, deep sawn-plank joists, and exposed rafter feet. Its heavily framed roof includes principal

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rafters, a large ridge purlin, lower purlins only in the two inner bays, and arch bracing from the ridge to the rafters in the chimney and end bays. The lower floor of the east ell is now used for exhibit space, while the dormers have been removed and the apartment has been given over to museum storage. A small gabled ell extends from this wing to the north, a service and bath space, and a flat-roofed ell was constructed in the re-entrant angle formed by the wing and the gabled ell, a docent's room with many windows to take advantage of the western views.

The Knight-Dudley House, now serving as the **Director's Residence (MHC # 204)**, is a second early building located on the museum grounds. It was moved to its present location in 1946 from a site nearby, to the south and closer to Prospect Hill Road (HA-52). It is presently set to face to the north and the museum's primary access road. Probably dating to the late 18th century, the house was remodeled in 1947 by the architect Marjorie Pierce of Lexington, MA, first serving as the museums' library. The large center-chimney house is augmented by a modern ell extending from the west rear elevation; by a rear lean-to extending from the east rear elevation; and by a gabled wing and porch extending from the east elevation. A modern two-bay, gable-roofed garage has been constructed adjacent to the east wing. Covered in clapboards, the simple entablature entry treatment at the center of the five-bay facade dates to the relocation of the building, as does the central chimney. The house has the standard center-chimney plan, with a lobby entry with a dogleg stair, as well as a second stair in the rear pile. Its formal rooms are those in the north, front section of the building, the east room retaining Federal-period trim. The rear pile of rooms has been reconfigured, but was probably originally a large kitchen centered on the large rear firebox, and flanked by one or two smaller corner rooms. At present the southwest corner includes a bath and opens into a bedroom in the new west ell, while the large rear room opens into a small rectangular bay and the new rear kitchen in the east wing. The room arrangement on the second floor parallels the first, with large front rooms and a series of smaller rooms across the rear. Evidence of the building's framing can be seen in exposed posts and girts in all the rooms, most of which were originally cased, with a transverse summer in the west room and a normal summer in the east room. The roof frame is composed exclusively of hewn rafters framed into the plates and a five-sided ridge purlin, with arch braces at each end, framed between the end rafter and the ridge.

The Farm (MHC # 197) is an excellent survival of a mid-19th century farmstead, retained by Sears as the centerpiece of her Guernsey breeding and dairy operation. The house is sited close to Prospect Hill Road in traditional fashion, a 2 1/2-story end house in the Italianate style. The three-bay facade is screened by an enclosed hip-roofed porch. The side entry opens into a stair hall, and a single front room and two rear rooms are located in this main block, currently used as a front parlor, and rear sitting and dining rooms. From the rear elevation of the main block extends the common little house, which encloses the kitchen, pantry, bath, and rear stair. A back house, now used as a tool room but likely to have been a wood house originally, joins the service ell to the ample New England barn, set at a right angle to the house and parallel to the road. The three-level barn has a cupola, a ramped entry on its west elevation, with a shed addition flanking it, and another entry on the lower level on the south elevation. A secondary gabled block was added to the southwest corner of the barn, probably to serve as a milk room. A long henhouse once extended down the hill from the barn, a shed-shaped structure with an attached silo; another shed was formerly located in the barn yard as well. A small hip-roofed pumphouse, a two-bay, hip-roofed garage, and a gable-roofed bull house, all clapboarded, are located to the north of the house.

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The Shaker Museum (MHC # 200 & 920) was the first major addition to the property after the Pergolas, moved into the complex by L. Kingston Savage after Sears purchased it in about 1916 when the Harvard Shaker community was anticipating dissolution. The small building was the oldest in their village, built in 1794 and formerly located on the lot at 78 Shaker Road (see form # HA-7), within the Harvard Shaker Village National Register Historic District. The house is located on the south side of the winding access road, facing to the north. The 1 1/2-story gable block resembles the others that survive in the Shaker village, covered in clapboard and wood shingles, and nearly devoid of ornament beyond simple window and door surrounds. The three-bay building has symmetrical end elevations of two bays, with shed-roofed dormers, end chimneys, a central door, and double-hung sash. A central hall runs from the front door to the rear, with a closed stair in the common Shaker reversed position, running up from the rear toward the front of the building. Large rooms occupy the north front of the building, with two smaller rooms on the south rear side. On the second floor, a single room occupies the east side of the building; two unequal-sized rooms occupy the west side. The interior is trimmed with the simple treatment of batten doors, plain board window casings, chair and peg rails, and small stoves for heat. In addition to the house, a number of stone and wrought-iron elements were moved with the building, including the well-known mounting steps, composed of four granite block steps leading to a platform resting on four granite posts, with scrolled iron rails.

The American Indian Museum (MHC # 201, 921, & 922) was constructed in two stages in 1929 and 1932 and incorporated two older buildings within it. The museum is sited on the north side of the museums' winding access road, facing to the southwest. Today the building is composed of two separate gable-block masses, linked by a small gabled hyphen. The front portion consists of two side-by-side gable blocks of a story-and-a-half in height, with entry in the lower right two-bay portion. A second gabled portion is positioned behind and perpendicular to the front section. The lateral and rear walls of the rear section and the left lateral elevation of the front section are each augmented by low hip-roofed projecting bays. The building is regularly fenestrated, with four windows and a door across the facade, and windows flanking the bays in most of the remaining elevations. The earliest front portion of the building was formerly the surplus Still River North Schoolhouse; the later rear addition was formerly an old barn. The whole was encased in brick veneer, with bricks from Lancaster's Town Hall, and covered in a slate roof. Entry into the building leads to a small vestibule, with the small room to the right used for exhibitions by the United Native American Cultural Center, and a large exhibition room to the left. The room exposes the building's light frame and roof structure, composed of small rafters and multiple purlins; its floor is concrete incised with ornamental Native American-derived designs. A diorama once occupied the projecting bay at the opposite end of this gallery; the diorama was removed in 1968 and artifacts installed. A second entry is located in the connecting hyphen, and a diorama of Mary Rowlandson's redemption, in May of 1676, is located here. A second large gallery opens off this connector, exposing the heavy trussed framing of a barn, with heavy rafters and purlins in the roof structure, and six bents composed of posts and rafters with arch braces from girt to post, and struts from girt to rafter. Dioramas in this gallery depict a Nashaway Village and the Sun Dance of the Plains Indians. Each large room includes displays of Sears' Native American collection, primarily enclosed in glass cases along the walls. On either side of the Indian Museum are two bronze statues of Native Americans set on large boulders, each sculpted by Sears' cousin Philip Sears (1869-1953). Pumunangwet, He-who-shoots-the-stars (1931), is a standing figure holding a large bow, suggesting that an arrow has just been released skyward. Wo Peen, the Dreamer (1938), is a seated figure, leaning on a bent knee and carrying a bow.

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Prospect House (MHC # 203) was added to the complex to provide administration and service spaces for the expanding facility, opening on Memorial Day in 1935. It was constructed from two buildings moved to the site, connected and expanded with new construction. The rear or southern sections have always served as the tearoom, while the northern section was a caretaker's residence before being remodeled as the present library. The long H-shaped building is located on the south side of the winding access road, but oriented to overlook the Nashua River valley. Much of its current appearance results from the renovation of 1962. The front gabled block was originally a small cottage, believed to have been constructed in about 1900 on a site nearby on Prospect Hill Road. With its center entry along its north-facing elevation, the facade was originally treated with an entry porch that was an extension of the roof line and three gabled dormers in the front roof slope, while polygonal bays were positioned on the west and south elevations. Presently the block has broad shed dormers on each roof slope, the south bay has been removed, the original porch has been replaced with a Tuscan portico, and the cornice is treated with a simple entablature. The interior of this section of the building includes a central stair, with library rooms on either side on the first floor and offices above. This road-facing section is linked to the remainder of the building with a small gabled hyphen, enclosing a hall and bathrooms. A long central hyphen extends behind this, constructed from the Coffey barn moved to this location from the farmstead site to the south (HA-51) between the Garden House and the site of the Pergolas. From the primary elevation of the exterior, this section has a central entry with a simple gabled porch; two large gothic windows are located on the left and three on the right of the entry. On the interior, this section includes the Trustees Room, with a Rufus Porter mural removed from a house in Harvard center and built-in cases for artifacts, and the Tea Room. The rear gabled section of the H block appears to constitute new construction with shed dormers on each roof slope and regular fenestration. The block extends east beyond the central hyphen, with an entry on the north elevation providing access to the second floor offices. A second entry on the south elevation provides access to the hall between the Sears Room, overlooking the Nashua River valley, and the kitchen at the east end. A modern covered porch extends at an angle from the south portion of the building, providing outside eating areas.

The Picture Gallery (MHC # 202) was the last museum added to the complex, also in two stages, in 1941 and 1947. Each half, the older front and the newer rear, is composed of two laterally placed pyramidal-roofed blocks, with a lobby entry on the front and a connecting section between the front and rear sections. A shed-roofed extension on the west side of the building is a fireproof storage area added in 1962. The entry is a gable-roofed projection with a central fanlit door flanked by double-hung sash. The building is also covered in a brick veneer with a slate roof, lit partially from the pyramidal double-layered glass roofs or skylights. Surviving plans for portions of the building include one for the complex roof, indicating that the plan was by G.H. Hayter and the contractor was L.D. Russell, both of Clinton, MA. A plan of the steel trusses for the roof is labeled Eastern Bridge & Structural Company, Worcester MA. The gallery includes Sears' collections of folk portraits, in the older front section, and her Hudson River school paintings in the newer rear. A hall divides the front section into two side galleries, each square with canted corners. The rear gallery is a single long rectangular space, also with canted corners. A long corridor separates the front and rear sections. In each space natural light enters through the octagonal skylights.

The Miriam Shaw Reception Center (Map A) was the last building added to the area, in 1973, and named for Sears' niece and companion. It is located on the south side of the museums' winding access road, facing to the northeast. It is a long, low gabled block covered in vertical board siding with two small shed-roofed extensions, one from the rear and one from the west elevation. The side entry into the

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building is behind a shed-roofed porch at the gabled end, and a Shaker Bell is positioned at the front of the building on the ridge line. On the interior the building is divided into two primary rooms, a small front museum shop and a large gallery and meeting space in the rear.

Archaeological Description

The Fruitlands Museums Historic District is located in an area where several prehistoric sites have been documented and where a high potential exists for the recovery of additional sites. At present, three known prehistoric sites are located within or adjacent to the proposed district with another six sites in the general area (within one mile). The Pergolas Farm/Fruitlands Museums site (19-WR-303) is located west of Prospect Hill Road and completely within the proposed district. One axe is recorded from this site, however, dragnostie material are lacking. Arrowheads were also reportedly found in 1928 in the fields of the Pergolas influencing Clara Endicott Sears to begin collecting local and regional Native American artifacts and start the American Indian Museum on her property. Two additional unnamed sites (19-WR-362, 363) are recorded for the area west of the railroad tracks and adjacent to the district at it southwestern corner. These sites may extend into the district but otherwise lack associated artifacts or other interpretive information. Most known sites in the general area of the district are located on terrace locales bordering the Nashua River floodplain. Locational characteristics for the nominated property include several well drained, level to moderately sloping terraces and knolls in close proximity to wetlands indicating favorable conditions for many Native American subsistence and settlement activities. Most of the western boundary of the Fruitlands District lies within 100 feet (300 meters) of the Nashua River floodplain and related wetlands. The Nashua River drainage which flows to the Merrimack River is a documented locus of Native American settlement. Given the above information, the availability of open space and patterns of known site distribution and types in the region, the presence of known sites in the district is documented and a high potential exists that additional sites will be found.

A high potential also exists for the recovery of significant historic archaeological resources within the district. Archaeological survey and testing can help locate structural remains and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) for the five historic farmsteads originally located in the area which Sears purchased and incorporated into her museum complex. Portions of the 18th to 19th century Knight Dudley farmstead complex (HRV-HA-52) were originally purchased in 1910 with the balance of the farm purchased in 1945. The farmhouse currently survives as the Director's residence at a new location. Archaeological survivals of that structure may survive at its original site south of the museum entrance. Documentary evidence also indicates the potential for survivals of a barn, two sheds, corn barn, hog house, hen house, cooper shop, windmill and pump all included with the complex in 1910. Archaeological resources related to the 18th century Michael Coffee farm may also survive south of the Dudley Farm opposite the terminus of Madigan Road. Sears purchased that farm in 1910. Coffee's farmstead (HRV-HA-51) included a house, barn, hen house and shed. None of these structures are extant and their appearances are unknown. Only portions of the barn may survive as part of Prospect House. Sears purchased another 19th century farmstead (HRV-HA-26) originally located in the southwestern portion of the nominated property. No examples of this farm remain and we know little of its appearance. The 18th century Haynes farm (HRV-HA-53) was also purchased by Sears to expand beyond Willard's Farm to the north along prospect Road. That complex included a house and two barns in the northeastern portion of the property which were demolished by Sears. In 1913 Sears purchased portions of the Abel Willard (ca. 1850) Farm including the late 18th century Fruitlands house and barn which became the core of the Farm component subsequently known as the Pergolas Farm. The house

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and barn associated with the original Willard Farm are still extant, however a shed, carriage house, ice house and windmill may survive only in archaeological context. After Sears' purchase, several new agricultural outbuildings dating to ca. 1920 were added among which a hog house, tool shed, silo and hen house are no longer extant. The Pergolas site (HRV-HA-25), including the house, formal gardens and outbuildings now also survives in archaeological context, having been demolished ca. 1965. Sears also purchased a smaller lot and cottage originally located on the west side of Prospect Hill Road from H.E. Drury which was incorporated into Prospect House. Sears purchases also included the site of a brickyard operation located on land behind the Dudley and Coffee parcels on the west side of the railroad. Given the above information, the potential for structural remains of 18th through 20th century residences and related outbuilding is high in the Fruitlands Museum Historic District. The potential for occupational related features dating to the same period is also high both at sites represented exclusively in an archaeological context and with structures still standing.

(end)**8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The Fruitlands Museums Historic District is a collection of museums on 130 acres in the eastern Worcester County town of Harvard, Massachusetts, developed during the first half of this century by Clara Endicott Sears (1863-1960) on her country estate, the Pergolas. The first of these museums, Fruitlands itself, was established in 1914 with the restoration and opening of the home of Bronson Alcott's Transcendentalist Consociate Family as a museum. From that start, Sears went on to add three additional museums, the Shaker Museum, the American Indian Museum, and the Picture Gallery, to form a cluster of related public places on her large estate. Additional buildings related to the administration of the estate and museums include: Prospect House, tea rooms, and administrative spaces; the Knight-Dudley House, now the Director's Residence; the Willard Farm complex; and the Garden House, a residence for her staff. The buildings within the museum grounds are of architectural interest individually and collectively, and include two traditional center-chimney houses, a mid-19th century end house and barn complex, an early Shaker office, two small museum buildings, a restaurant, offices, and library building, and an early 20th century cottage and garage. These resources include buildings on the land Sears purchased, some she moved into her estate, and new construction. Although some buildings have been moved from their original context, these moves were part of Sears' plan for the estate and resulted in the preservation of buildings that might otherwise have been lost. Sears' development of the museums took place between 1910 and 1947, a period extending one year into the fifty-year cutoff date for consideration of properties eligibility for National Register listing. Clara Endicott Sears was an early New England preservationist, among the first to assemble a personal collection of buildings and artifacts and open them to the public. The museums that survive demonstrate the quality and innovation of her accomplishments and represent an important early step in the development of the research institutions that outdoor museums are today. The centerpiece of the museum, Fruitlands, was made a Massachusetts Historic Landmark in 1966 and was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1974. This nomination recommends the larger museum property for National Register Historic District designation. The property includes sixteen (16) contributing buildings, six (6) contributing structures, five (5) contributing sites, two (2) contributing objects, and one (1) non-contributing building. The Fruitlands Museums Historic District meets criteria A, B, and C at the local level. It retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

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Harvard has its municipal roots in the granting of the Nashaway Plantation in 1643, a large parcel measuring eight by ten miles that became the town of Lancaster, as well the similarly large town of Groton, incorporated in 1655. Settlement in the area began in the west near the Nashua River, and as settlers increased in number, Harvard was incorporated as a separate town from parts of these communities in 1732. Dispersed settlement and mixed grain and husbandry agriculture characterized the town's colonial period, followed by Federal-period development with the intensification of agriculture. Clustered village and hamlet settlement could be found in Harvard's center village and at the turnpike village in Still River. A cluster of small mills could be found on Bowers Brook north of the center village, the town's only example of traditional 19th century water-powered industrial development. During the 18th and 19th centuries, Harvard was exceptional for the repeated attraction into its midst of unusual if not eccentric communal societies.

Shadrach Ireland started the pattern with his community in the northeast part of the town, which in turn attracted Mother Ann Lee and her earliest followers at the end of the 18th century. The town's third clustered settlement, Shaker Village, grew up there in the first half of the 19th century. Far more short-lived but no less emblematic and influential was the Transcendentalist Fruitlands here on Prospect Hill. The town participated to a degree in the mid-19th century shift to dairy farming, but it was its proximity to eastern cities and the presence of the railroad that made its farmers turn their fertile lands to market gardening. Its chief agricultural development, however, came with the rise of apple culture in the town and region, leading to its position as the Commonwealth's chief producer in 1940. The town's natural beauty made it increasingly attractive to visitors, and summer homes became a popular feature during the second half of the 19th century. At first many of the summer visitors were former residents, returning seasonally to their family farms from their new middle-class lives in city and suburb. Others boarded with residents, in the handful of inns, or at the Shaker Rural Retreat. By the turn of the century, however, wealthier visitors began to purchase tracts and construct larger and more fashionable homes. Fiske Warren developed a Single Tax Enclave in the town, Tahanto, purchasing significant acreage in the town along Bolton Road and West Bare Hill Road, and he and many of his associates built rural estates on large lots. As author F.S. Savage notes about Harvard in the first quarter of the 20th century: "There are many old farms that have been purchased by city people and much land has been brought and nice houses erected by people of wealth..." (Savage 1924:49)

Clara Endicott Sears was among the best-known and accomplished of the town's summer visitors. In 1910, she selected this Prospect Hill site to build her estate, the Pergolas. After she had purchased an adjacent parcel of land in 1913 she learned that the unsightly house down the hill was the home of Bronson Alcott's Fruitlands. This discovery led Sears down paths to what would become her legacy, the writing of fiction and history about New England, its landscape, and material culture, and the creation of museums to teach others about them. Each of Sears' books of New England history and each of her museums were initiated by discoveries made in and around her Harvard estate. After discovering Fruitlands in her backyard, Sears undertook research on the commune and the restoration of the house, and opened it as a museum in 1914. Her research on Fruitlands led her to the Shaker village in Harvard, where she became acquainted with the elders and was asked to preserve their oldest building, which became the Shaker Museum in 1916. After "arrow heads" were discovered in her fields in 1928, Sears began collecting Native American artifacts, hoping to assemble an authentic collection representing a variety of tribes. She established the American Indian Museum in 1929 and expanded it in 1932. Her last museum was the Picture Gallery, built in 1941 to hold her collection of primitives and itinerant painters, and she later expanded it in 1947 to house her Hudson River School works. In 1940 and 1941

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Sears lost her lands to the west of the Boston and Maine Railroad right-of-way, amounting to over 200 acres, to the wartime expansion of Camp Devens. (Fruitlands Archives, Correspondence; Barton 1988: passim)

Clara Endicott Sears was born in 1863 to Knyvet Winthrop Sears (1832-1891) and Mary Peabody Sears (1836-1929). Descendant of early colonial governors and China traders, Sears was born into a life of wealth and security. The family's primary residence was on Beacon Street in Boston, with seasonal visits to farms in Danvers and Groton, to the seaside at Nahant, to grandparents in Salem, to Britain and the Continent. Perhaps because of the accomplishments of her ancestors, and certainly in part because of their permeation of her daily life, Sears had a lifelong interest in New England history. Early in her privileged youth, Sears vowed to marry only if she found exactly the right man, and she was reluctant to give up her independence for the role of wife and mother. When her father died in 1891, when she was twenty-eight, she chose the role of companion to her mother, which provided her with ample opportunities to pursue her personal interests. Her long interest in literature and spirituality led her to collect a group a quotations on self-knowledge and work "for those who had lost their bearings," publishing The Power Within in 1911. (Barton 1988: 1-46)

Sears was nearly fifty before she established a household of her own, when she selected the fine Prospect Hill vistas as a substitute for the family's Riverdale Farm in Groton. From Groton, she had frequently driven through Harvard and its environs, and had admired the exceptional views across the Nashua valley. She developed her plan to purchase land in the area, but was initially frustrated in her efforts as the owners were unwilling to sell farms that "had been in the families for many generations" (Harris 1940: 31). Eventually, however, farmers began to release specific fields, the first being Willard S. Dudley's 38 acres from in 1910. There she built the Pergolas, named for the columns and wellheads she imported from Venice in 1906, which would ornament the gardens. She participated with her contractors in the design of the building, which she called "a villa with English comforts" (Barton 1988: 62). The large, clapboarded house took the ample hip-block form with a lower hipped wing to the right. Savage characterized the house as "the finest residence we have in the town" (Savage 1924: 49) The estate included a range of other buildings, known from tax records but not from photographs, including the \$30,000 house, one \$3,000 and two other garages, three cottages, a "hermitage," a greenhouse, barn, fruit cellar, and auto shed (Inventory and Valuation of Harvard). The house and all but two of these related buildings were demolished after Sears' death; the Pergolas survives only in archaeological form (HA-25), the only surviving elements the Garden House and garage.

After her initial purchase, Sears eventually purchased most of five farmsteads along Prospect Hill Road, as well as a handful of smaller adjacent lots, accumulating what Savage described as "over one mile of the finest scenic property in the town" (Savage 1926: 49). Willard S. Dudley and his father Silas had operated Prospect Farm on the acreage that would later form the center of the museums complex. The Dudleys specialized in milk for the Boston market. Eventually over the next three decades, Sears purchased most of the Dudley operation, first a series of fields and finally in 1945 the farmstead complex (HA-52). In 1910, the farm complex included a house, barn, two sheds, corn barn, hoghouse, henhouse, cooper shop, windmill and pump; the surviving element, the center-chimney Knight-Dudley House was moved from its original site on Prospect Hill Road to be renovated as the Director's Residence. Also in 1910 Sears purchased the Michael Coffee Farm, located to the south of the Dudley Farm, opposite the terminus of Madigan Road. Coffee's farmstead (HA-51) had included a house, barn, henhouses, and shed, their appearance unknown, as well as the site of another farmstead (HA-26). The barn was

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subsequently moved into the museums area to become a part of Prospect House. Sears also purchased land behind the Dudley and Coffee parcels on the opposite, west side of the railroad in 1912 and 1913, including the site of a brickyard operation. Beginning in 1913, Sears made purchases of components of Abel Willard's large farm operation. Willard was the son of Still River's prominent Baptist Bowles Willard, and he accumulated more than 200 acres, including the farm that contained the Fruitlands house and barn. This land became the core of the Farm component at her estate, subsequently known as Pergolas Farm, serving today as the superintendent's residence. The operation was extensive, including a registered Guernsey herd and a building complex composed of a house, barn, shed, carriage house, icehouse, windmill and pump. Sears added a garage, bull pen, hoghouse, toolshed, silo, and henhouse, many of which still survive. Sears expanded further beyond Willard's Farm with the purchase of the Haynes Farm to the north along Prospect Hill Road (HA-53), a large center-chimney house with a Beverly jog, and two barns, one an ample New England barn; these were demolished by Sears. Sears purchased small parcels as well, including the small acre and a half of land on which the Garden House stood, purchased in 1912 from Ellen Seaver of Arlington. Sears also is believed to have purchased a small lot and cottage on the west side of the road from H.E. Drury (Savage 1924: 49), which she moved in to form a part of Prospect House. (Fruitlands Archives, Title Abstracts; Harris 1940: 31-32; Inventory and Valuation of Harvard, 1910)

Perhaps the most significant of the properties Sears purchased was Fruitlands, the home of Bronson Alcott's short-lived 1843 communal experiment. Amos Bronson Alcott (1799-1888) was a writer and educator of the Transcendental movement, first known for his *Observations on the Principles and Methods of Infant Instruction* (1830) and for Elizabeth Peabody's transcriptions of his class lectures in *Record of a School* (1835). He was best known, perhaps, as the father of Louisa May Alcott (1832-1888), author of *Little Women*. Like the better-known Concord philosophers Ralph Waldo Emerson and Henry David Thoreau, Alcott was a radical young Unitarian searching for personal freedom, inner discipline, and transcendent experience. His unusual efforts of experimentation made him the object of some humor and scorn within and without the movement. Alcott moved frequently from school to school, position to position, in a life of uncertainty acutely felt by his wife Abigail May Alcott and their four daughters. During a trip to England to visit a school based on his model, Alcott met Charles Lane and convinced him to finance a communal experiment in Massachusetts. On their return to the United States, they purchased a farm in Harvard where they would live a communal existence as a Consociate Family. A house, barn, and land were purchased, described at the time in the *Dial* as "ill-placed and unsightly," and the plan was to erect new cottages at a future date (Nourse 1894: 276). They were joined there by Lane's son William; Henry G. Wright, a teacher in the English Alcott School; the English mystic Samuel Bower; Samuel Larned, a Brook Farm member; Brook Farm baker Thomas Hecker, founder of the Paulist Fathers; reformer Joseph Palmer (1789-1873), who had been jailed for wearing a beard; Christopher Green, Samuel Greeley, Anna Paige, and Abram Wood. The commune would be vegetarian and hoped to avoid the use of draught animals as well, "to supersede ultimately the labor of the plough and cattle, by the spade and the pruning knife" (Nourse 1894: 276). The inexperienced group was not capable of achieving the self-sufficiency they aimed for, and the group dissolved during the first winter.

Palmer stayed on, purchasing the farm, renaming it Freeland, and welcoming tramps to stay. After his death, his grandsons purchased the property from his estate for their mother Nancy Palmer Holman (d. 1893). Shortly after her death, it was purchased by Abel Willard and tenanted. (Nourse 1894: 275-284; Fruitlands Archives, Title Abstracts; Holman, n.d.)

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After acquiring Fruitlands, Sears developed an intellectual interest and felt a spiritual affinity for Alcott. She undertook research on the commune, locating descendants of members, and interviewing them for anecdotes and facts about the group and its experience. With a contractor, Mr. Hardy of Ayer, she renovated and restored the house to her understanding of its appearance at the time of the Alcott occupancy, removing one wing, reconstructing one as a "colonial kitchen," and replacing the center chimney, windows, and doors. She tracked down objects associated with the Alcotts as well as with Henry David Thoreau, arranging them in Fruitlands in a combination of period and exhibit spaces. Her book *Bronson Alcott's Fruitlands* was published the next year and was favorably reviewed. She then became a member of Boston's Authors Club, an important feature of her life from then on. Fruitlands was opened as a museum in 1914, at first opened seasonally for three afternoons per week, when a matron was available "to show and entertain many guests who come from all over the country." (Savage 1924: 49; Barton 1988: 65-81; Fruitlands Archives, Trustees Meetings)

Her research on Fruitlands led her to the Shaker village in Harvard, where the Consociates had frequently visited and where Charles Lane resided for a time after the failure of Fruitlands. Ann Lee had visited Harvard during 1781 when she and her followers traveled east from the Hudson River valley and founded a number of small local communities in western and central Massachusetts. In Harvard, she built on the remnants of Shadrach Ireland's religious enclave and eventually incorporated his "Square House" into the community. Ann Lee spent an exceptional amount of time within the Harvard community in the decade before her death. The presence of the Shakers in the town was a source of local fear and excitement, including attacks and attempts to turn the Shakers out of the town. The Shakers prevailed, however, constructing residences, a meetinghouse, offices, a school, ten shops, seven barns, a tannery, a gristmill, and a sawmill by 1828. Their main business was farming and horticulture, raising herbs, broom corn, and seeds, and selling medicinal extracts, brooms, sieves, canned fruit, herbs, and seeds. Harvard's Shaker Village was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1989. Among the buildings that survive in the Church Family are the 1791 Meetinghouse, the Second House, a Tailor Shop, the stone Herb House, the New Office, the brick Ministry, the Carpentry Shop, and a Barn. At the South Family, three buildings survive, the Dwelling House, the Applesauce House or Shop, and the Washhouse. Also surviving are the large barn ruins within each family as well as their irrigation system, pathways, stone walls, and a significant array of archaeological resources. A single standing building of the North Family, its Office, also survives at 157 Shaker Road. Harvard is also noted for the survival here of the Holy Hill of Zion, between South Shaker and Ann Lee roads, one of the outdoor worship areas established by Shaker communities in response to a period of awakening and visions. The Shaker community peaked during this mid-century period, when about 200 members lived in town and the families owned about 2,000 acres of land in Harvard, Ayer, and Littleton.

By the time Sears became interested in the Shaker community, its numbers had significantly diminished and plans were in motion to dissolve the Harvard community, sell the property, and have remaining members relocate to surviving villages. Over the years, Sears had become acquainted with the Shaker elders, and developed a quick rapport with them. She admired the work ethic of the Shakers, the strength and independence of the elders, and felt compassion for them in the face of local prejudice. She was interested in their particular experience of spirituality and revelation, and she came to know them well enough to be given access to their records. When the village was to be abandoned, the elders asked Sears in 1916 to prepare a book and to purchase and to preserve their oldest building. The Shaker Office stood in the Church Family on the main thoroughfare now known as Shaker Road, one of the earliest yet least altered of the buildings in the village. Sears eagerly agreed to incorporate the

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building into her estate and accomplished the entire relocation in six weeks. In addition to the building, Sears took a range of granite landscaping elements for fences and paths, as well as the distinctive mounting steps. Savage noted that Sears "was very particular to have every board, clapboard and each timber to be in exactly the same places as it was in the original," work accomplished by L. Kingston Savage. In addition Sears received gifts and purchased items of Shaker domestic life, the core of the museum collection today, whose strength is its Harvard Shaker artifacts. Gleanings from Old Shaker Journals was published in 1916, and the Shaker building was soon opened as a museum, probably after the close of World War I. The large acreage of the Shakers was purchased by Fiske Warren, who began a second single-tax enclave there, Shakerton. (Barton 1988; 82-96; Fruitlands Archives, Trustees Meetings)

After Native American artifacts were discovered during plowing on her property in 1928, Sears' curiosity was "fired" and she began collecting additional artifacts, both locally and by mail. She corresponded with a full array of experts in the emerging fields of North American archaeology, ethnography, and material culture. Sears' interest in local Native American culture was strong, and she worked closely with Warren King Moorehead of the Peabody Museum in Andover, acquiring most of her New England artifacts through him and funding an archaeological survey of the Nashua valley by him. She hoped for the discovery of a village site and a burial to augment her collections and enliven her exhibits. Sears also corresponded and purchased artifacts from Henry T. Newman of Iowa, but her concern over the authenticity of his finds brought their collaboration to a quick end. Most of her western artifacts were acquired from Col. A. B. Welch of Mandan, North Dakota, the adopted son of a Sioux chief and an employee of the Department of the Interior. For over a decade, she corresponded and made purchases from him of Sioux artifacts, assembling a collection of excellent quality. The American Indian Museum was constructed in two stages in 1929 and 1932 and incorporated two older buildings within it. The first portion employed the Still River North Schoolhouse, formerly located on the east side of Prospect Hill Road opposite the farm; the front addition employed an old barn. The whole was encased in old brick veneer salvaged from the Lancaster Town Hall. She commissioned two sculptures for the outside of the museum, both by her cousin Philip Shelton Sears (1869-1953), Pumunanquet and Wo Peen in 1931 and 1938 respectively. Philip Sears was a graduate of Harvard Law School and a student of Daniel Chester French (1850-1931). Other of his statues, busts, and memorials are in the collections of the Massachusetts Statehouse, Harvard Medical School and Varsity Club, and the White House, as well as municipalities in and outside of Massachusetts (Opitz 1986). Clara Endicott Sears published The Great Powwow, about Metacom or King Phillip, in 1934. (Barton 1988: 110-125; Volmar 1995: passim)

As the number of museums increased, Sears turned to activities aimed at improving their administration. In 1930 she established the Fruitlands and Wayside Museums, Inc., a Massachusetts corporation for "literary, educational, and benevolent purposes" that were exceptionally broad, including the collecting, preserving, exhibiting, and publishing of historic, antiquarian, or artistic objects, books, and pictures, as well as carrying on agriculture and maintaining parks. The capital stock of \$5000 was paid for with a section of her property including the museums, an area of 51.5 acres, as well as "copyrights and collections of objects pertaining to the Shakers, American Indians, and Concord Philosophers." From then on, Sears would report regularly to her board of trustees, and her museums would be tax exempt. To attract and please her growing numbers of visitors, Sears also added a public tearoom at Prospect House. This complex was constructed by Sears in 1933 from two existing buildings, a cottage and the

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Coffey barn, and new construction, the front serving first as a caretaker's cottage, the rear as the tearoom. Taking advantage of a position near the top of the ridge, its views made it a popular stop for auto tourists and later Camp Devens soldiers. (Fruitlands Archives, Incorporation Papers, Harris 1940: 30-31)

Her last museum was the Picture Gallery, built in 1941 to hold her collection of primitives and the work of itinerant painters. It was expanded in 1946 to house her Hudson River School works. Sears had been collecting portraits for many years, using her time-tested combination of writing to dealers, advertising in newspapers, and stopping by at old farmhouses. When she had a number she thought sufficient to exhibit, she planned a small gallery. It was her practice "to employ local talent in all these undertakings," while she drew the design herself, as she "always" had. E.H. Hayes and L.D. Russell of Clinton were hired to execute the first all-new building, designed so that it would not "take attention away from the rest of the old houses." The lighting of the galleries was her pride, designed after the galleries of Doll & Richards of Boston, with an exceptional system of double roofs in the skylights, also executed by local firms, the steel frame furnished by Eastern Bridge & Structural Company of Worcester. She turned next to American landscape paintings, relying on the advice of Henry Vose of Boston's Vose Galleries to assemble her exceptional collection. When this collection reached a comfortable size, she doubled the size of the Picture Gallery to accommodate it. She published *Some American Primitives* in 1941 and *Highlights among Hudson River Artists* in 1947. During the work on the Picture Gallery, Sears was finally able to purchase the last farmstead parcel of the Dudley Farm, including the Knight-Dudley House, in 1945. Sears was shocked by the state of deterioration at the house, and planned to move the house further within the estate. She was able to move the house the next year and proceeded with the restoration in 1947. That work was done to Sears specification by Marjorie Pierce, an architect with experience in restoring and remodelling old houses, practicing in Lexington MA. (Fruitlands Archives, Trustees Meetings)

Sears' efforts at the study and collection of New England artifacts and building are firmly within the pattern of outstanding individual efforts that characterized the fields' early years. In her eclectic interests, Sears resembles some of her New England predecessors, the individuals like Ben Perley Poor and organizations like the Massachusetts Historical Society and the Essex Institute, assembling their cabinets of curiosities. Successful efforts to preserve early buildings dated to the campaign for Old South Church in 1876, accelerating as family and patriotic associations and local historical societies embraced this method of demonstrating American culture and values. In her choice to assemble buildings threatened in other locations, Sears predates New England's better-known practitioners, Henry Ford at the Wayside Inn, Henry and Helen Flynt at Deerfield, and Albert Wells at Sturbridge. Sears is an exemplar of the efficacy of individuals in the early years of the preservation movement in the United States, and is of special interest as an accomplished woman among better-known men. Like them Sears used her avocational interest, accumulated knowledge, and inherited wealth to establish a personal collection that formed the core of a series of museums. Sears was also exceptional in her skill and willingness to conduct historical research on her chosen subjects, and presenting that research in a distinguished series of volumes. Opening her personal collections to the public at such early dates and in the form of an outdoor museum made Clara Endicott Sears a leader and an innovator.

Sears was best known for these museums and the associated books, but she was a novelist and memorialist as well. In addition to her "museum" books, her interest in Fruitlands led her to the followers of William Miller, about whom she wrote in *Days of Delusion*, published in 1924. She

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published three historical novels set in Harvard: *The Bell Ringer* (1918), *The Romance of Fiddlers Green* (1922) and *Whispering Pines* (1930). During World War One she wrote the popular song "The Unfurling of the Flag" and organized the Canning and Evaporating Club to prepare preserved foods for the front and camps such as nearby Devens. Her final volume, *Early Personal Reminiscences*, about her childhood and family, was published in 1956. (Barton 1988: passim)

Clara Endicott Sears died in 1960. At that time the corporation Fruitlands and Wayside Museums, Inc. received her Harvard property and shortly thereafter the Pergolas was demolished. Since that time the corporate name has been shortened to Fruitlands Museums, Inc. Fruitlands continues to collect, preserve and interpret artifacts associated with Native Americans and 19th century American art and culture. To keep up with trends in museology, the museum converted the caretaker's dwelling into a library and archive, and added fireproof storage to the gallery. The museum maintains a professional staff and energetic volunteers, attracting about 15,000 visitors annually. (Fruitlands Archives, Probate File, Self-study Documentation)

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupations in Harvard are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can provide valuable information on the role sites in this area play in the overall subsistence and settlement systems of Native Americans in the Nashua River drainage and their relationships to the larger Merrimack River system. Several sites have been recorded within and adjacent to the nominated district documenting local examples of a regional pattern of Native use of the Nashua River floodplain and its adjacent terraces and ridges. In 1983 the Massachusetts Historical Commission Prehistoric Survey Team recorded the prehistoric collections of the Fruitlands Museum which contained over 500 artifacts from the Sears collection, many of which were probably collected from the district area. Unfortunately, most of the artifacts lacked provenance information beyond the town level limiting their significance for management and research oriented study. Prehistoric sites in this area can help increase the value of this artifact collection by providing a comparative basis of artifact types and materials from a documented context to compare with types in the collection.

Historic archaeological remains described above have the potential to provide detail information on the social, cultural and economic changes that characterized a town dominated by the agricultural economy and populated by unusual if not eccentric societies throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. This pattern continued into the 20th century, however, this later period also saw the increase of the town as a resort as many of the town's farms were purchased by city people and land was bought and houses built by wealthy people. Mapping and excavation of structural remains from residences and outbuildings of the farms originally present on the nominated property can reconstruct the layout of these individual farms and their original appearance. Archaeological data may be our only source of information on the appearance of at least two farms including the Coffee farmstead (HRV-HA-51) and the farmstead site at HRV-HA-26. Structural remains can help reconstruct residences and the changing agricultural land use of each farmstead. At the Pergolas site (HRV-HA-25), structural remains can help reconstruct the centerpiece of Sears summer retreat and document or disprove statements that the house was of grand design but poorly constructed. Potential structural remains can also help document data of construction for buildings and components of standing structures no longer extant. Many construction dates for sites and standing structures in the district are not conclusively known including the Fruitlands which also had

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an ell, no longer extant, extending from the west rear corner. Archaeological data can also document the extent to which Sears reconstruction followed the original form of the house.

Detailed analysis of structural remains and occupational related features related to the farm sites in the district can also document town and regional agricultural trends and techniques which evolved from mixed grain and husbandry during the Colonial Period to shifts in dairy farming in the mid 19th century. Archaeological data can also document when and to what extent farmers turned to market gardening in response to stimulus from their proximity to eastern cities and the railroad as well as the growth of the town's chief agricultural product of apples. Archaeological data can also identify changes which occurred as farms were purchased by city people possibly acting as gentlemen farmers.

Detailed analysis of occupational related features can also document and test the concept that Harvard attracted unusual if not eccentric societies during the 18th and 19th centuries and the extent to which Sears may have continued this pattern into the 20th century. Archaeological data, particularly occupational related features may be present from documented aspects of Bronson Alcott's short lived 1843 communal experiment at the Fruitlands where a group of individuals attempted to live in a communal and vegetarian existence towards a goal of self-sufficiency. Data may survive in an archaeological context to document aspects of these goals. In addition to data relating to agricultural technologies some of the farms in the district also contained components that can contribute data on other technologies and trades including wind technology, coopering and transportation. The presence of a brickyard operation on the land to the rear of the Dudley and Coffee farmsteads also indicates the potential to recover information relating to the brickmaking industry.

(end)

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(continued)

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(end)

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

UTM references (cont.)

5. 285 280 4708 400

6. 284 560 4708 420

Verbal boundary description:

The boundaries of this district are marked on the attached Town of Harvard assessors maps numbers 11, 15 and 16 and include the entire parcel held by Fruitlands Museums.

Boundary justification:

The boundaries of the Fruitlands Museums Historic District were drawn to include all of the lands assembled by Clara Endicott Sears which are still held by the museums and surround the Fruitlands National Historic Landmark.

(end)

**Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard, Massachusetts
District Data Sheet**

MHC#	NAME	STYLE	DATE	STATUS	RESOURCES
HA-25	The Pergolas Site Stone Walls	N/A N/A	ca. 1910 ca. 1910	C C	Si St
197	The Farm Willard House Barn Pumphouse Garage Bull House	Italianate N/A N/A N/A N/A	ca. 1850 ca. 1850 ca. 1920 ca. 1920 ca. 1920	C C C C C	B B St B B
198	The Garden House Garage Pumphouse Stone Walls	Classical N/A N/A N/A	ca. 1900 ca. 1915 ca. 1915 ca. 1915	C C C C	B B St St
199	Fruitlands Pumphouse Wellhouse	Colonial N/A N/A	late 18th century (NHL 1974) ca. 1915 ca. 1915	C C C	B B B
200 920	Shaker Museum Shaker Mounting Steps Stone Walls	Federal N/A N/A	1794, ca. 1916 ca. 1830, ca. 1916 ca. 1830, ca. 1916	C C C	B St St
201 921 922	Indian Museum Pumunangwet Wo Peen	Classical N/A N/A	19th c., 1929, 1932 1931 1938	2C C C	B O O
202	Picture Gallery	Classical	1941, 1947	C	B
A	Miriam Shaw Reception Center	barn	1973	NC	B

**Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard, Massachusetts
District Data Sheet**

<u>MHC#</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>STYLE</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>RESOURCES</u>
203	Prospect House	Colonial Revival	19th c., 1900, 1933, 1962	2NC	B
204	Knight-Dudley House/ Director's Residence Garage	Colonial	late 18th c., 1947	C	B
		N/A	1947	C	B
HA-26	Farm Site	N/A	19th century	C	Si
HA-51	Coffee Farm Site	N/A	18th c.-ca. 1920	C	Si
HA-52	Knight-Dudley Farm Site	N/A	18th c.-1946	C	Si
HA-53	Hynes Farm Site	N/A	18th c.-ca. 1915	C	Si

Total Number of Resources

	Contributing	Non-contributing
Building Structures	15	3
Sites	6	
Objects	5	
Total	2	3
	<hr/> 28	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Fruitlands Museums Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 4/18/97 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 4/30/97
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 5/16/97 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/02/97
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 97000439

NOMINATOR: STATE

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5/23/97 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Noted in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



Wo. Peen, the Dreamer

Fruitlands Museums Historic District-
Harvard MA

Claire Dempsey



Garden House
Fruitlands Museums Historic District-
Harvard MA

Claire Dempsey 1994



The Pergolas (demolished, HA-25)
Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard MA

copy by C3394-5
GEORGE M. CUSHING,
PHOTOGRAPHY
306 NEWBURY ST., BOSTON
596-4750

Fruitlands Museums Photograph



Picture Gallery
Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard MA

Claire Dempsey 1994



Prospect House
Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard MA

Claire Dempsey 1994



Knight. Dudley House
Fruitlands Museums Historic District-
Harvard MA

Claire Dempsey 1994



Shaker Museum, Mounting Steps, Fruitlands
Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard MA

Claire Dempsey 1994



The Farm
Fruitlands Museums Historic District
Harvard MA

Claire Dempsey 1994

AYER, MASSACHUSETTS

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Ayer MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map

Fruitlands Museums Historic District Harvard, MA

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

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

1988

Produced by the United States Geological Survey
 Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies
 Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1980-1981. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1988
 Supersedes Shirley 1965 and Ayer 1966 1:25,000-scale maps
 Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19 Universal Transverse Mercator
 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 40 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks
 There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
 NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
 OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

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

UTM grid convergence (GK) and 1983 magnetic declination (M) at center of map
 Diagram is approximate

ADJOINING MAPS	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1 Ashburnham								
2 Townsend								
3 Lowell								
4 Fitchburg								
5 Billerica								
6 Sterling								
7 Hudson								
8 Maynard								

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

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	.....
Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	.....
House; barn; church; school; large structure	.....
Boundary:	
National, with monument	.....
State	.....
County, parish	.....
Civil township, precinct, district	.....
Incorporated city, village, town	.....
National or State reservation; small park	.....
Land grant with monument; found section corner	.....
U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section	.....
Range, township, section line: location approximate	.....
Fence or field line	.....
Power transmission line, located tower	.....
Dam; dam with lock	.....
Canary; grave	.....
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	.....
Windmill; water well; spring	.....
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave	.....
Control: benchmark station; vertical station; spot elevation	.....
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	.....
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava; sand	.....
Sounding; depth curve	.....
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	.....
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	.....
Swamp; marsh	.....
Submerged marsh; land subject to controlled inundation	.....
Woodland: scattered trees	.....
Scrub; mangrove	.....
Orchard; vineyard	.....

Fruitlands Museums
 Historic District
 120 Prospect Hill Road
 Harvard (Worcester Co.)
 Massachusetts

Utm:
 A - 19 285420 4709640
 B - 19 285800 4709580
 C - 19 285440 4708640
 D - 19 285360 4707620
 E - 19 285280 4706600
 F - 19 284560 4705620

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



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

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

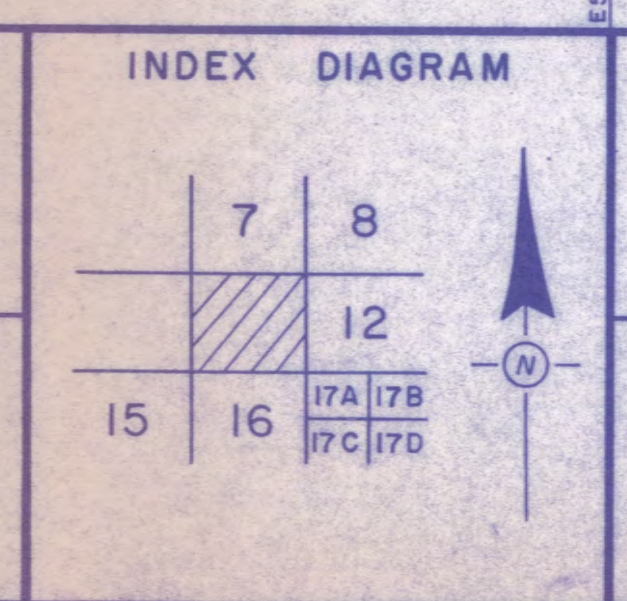
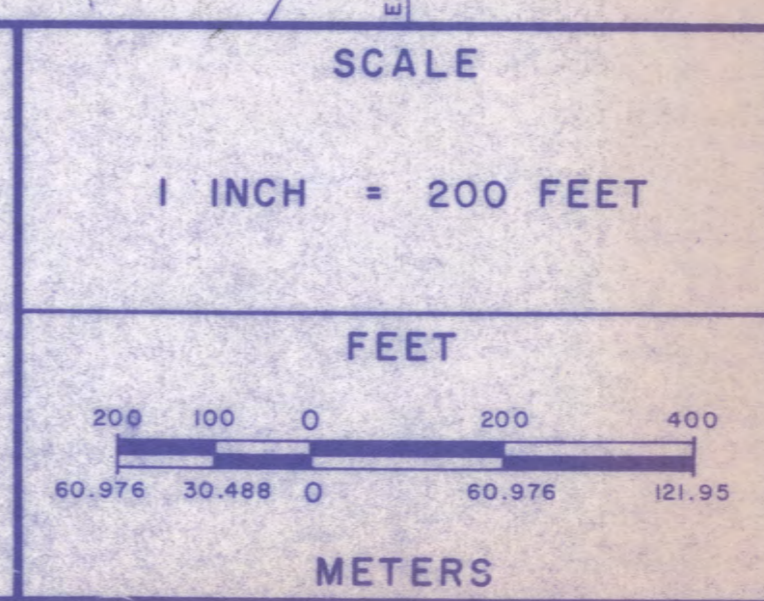
COMPLETION DATE: FEBRUARY 15, 1985

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LEGEND SYMBOLS

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

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. 2
 MATCH LINE M.L.
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS



ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH 1-1-94

MAP NO. 11



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PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

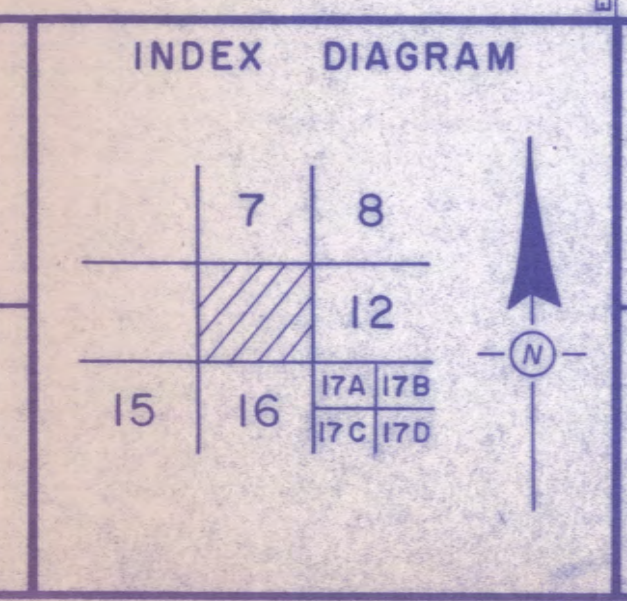
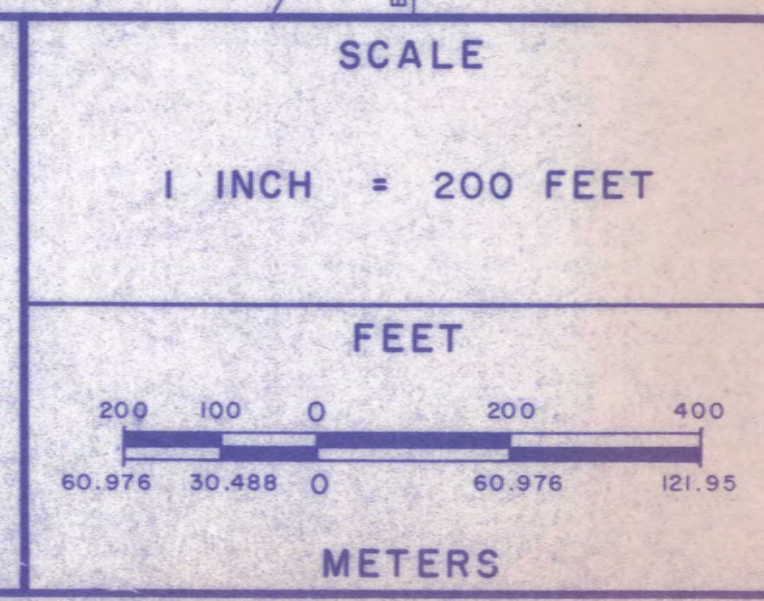
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LEGEND SYMBOLS

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

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. 2
 MATCH LINE M.L.
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS



ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH
 1-1-94

MAP NO.
 11



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THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS. STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

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LEGEND SYMBOLS

AREA CALCULATED AcC
 AREA SURVEYED Ac
 BLOCK LIMIT ————
 BLOCK NUMBER [02]
 COMMON OWNERSHIP / OR Z
 EXEMPT PROPERTY (E)

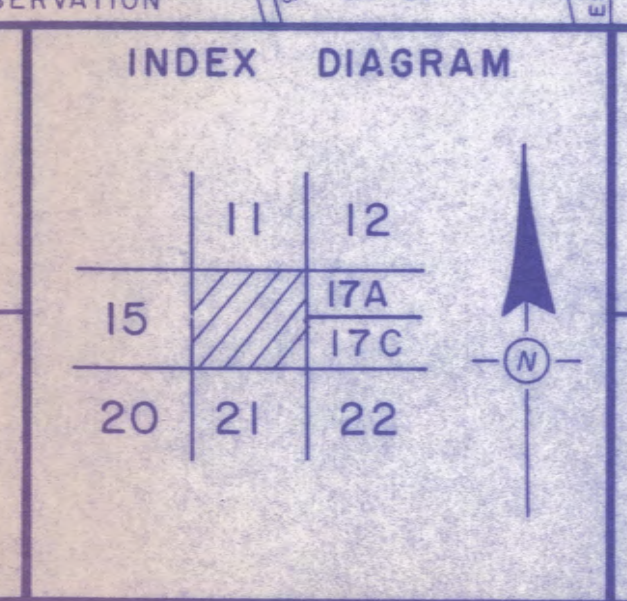
SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
 MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
 RIGHT OF WAY R/W
 RECORD DIMENSION 100'
 SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
 WETLANDS

SCALE

1 INCH = 200 FEET

FEET

METERS



ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH
1-1-94

MAP NO.
16



662 AcC
MAPS 11-32

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STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

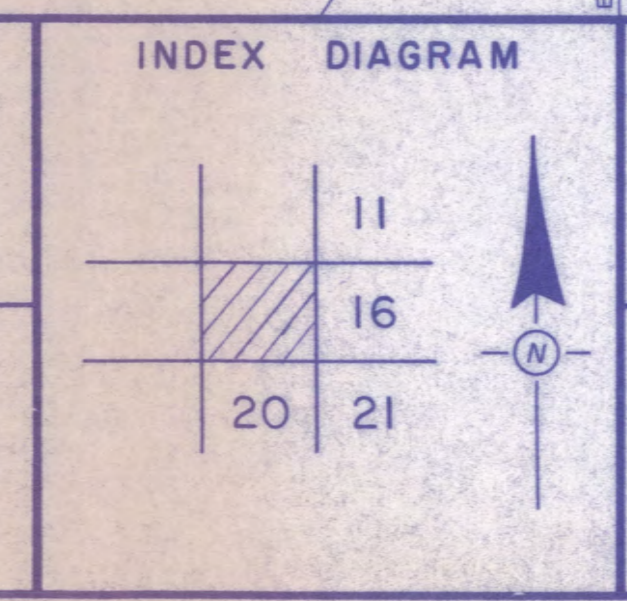
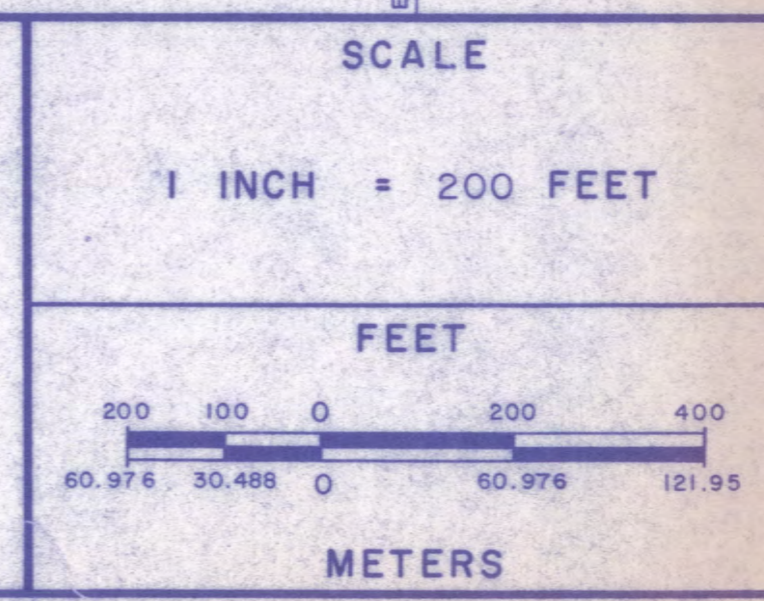
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LEGEND SYMBOLS

AREA CALCULATED AcC
AREA SURVEYED Ac
BLOCK LIMIT ————
BLOCK NUMBER 02
COMMON OWNERSHIP OR Z
EXEMPT PROPERTY E

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
RIGHT OF WAY R/W
RECORD DIMENSION 100'
SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
WETLANDS

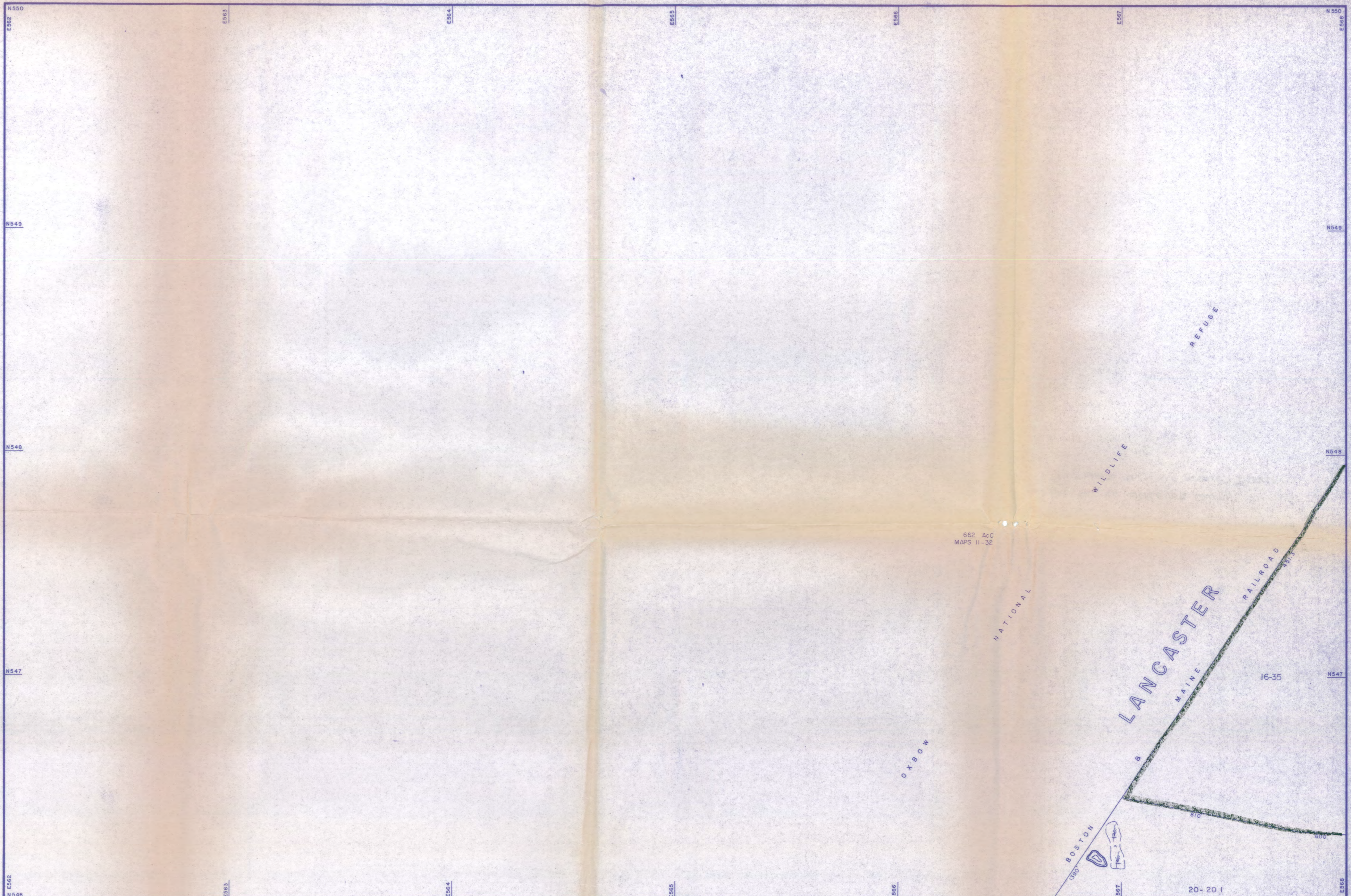


ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH
1-1-94

MAP NO.
15




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THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASS.
STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

PHOTOGRAPHY DATE: APRIL 23, 1983

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LEGEND SYMBOLS


AREA CALCULATED AcC
AREA SURVEYED Ac
BLOCK LIMIT ————
BLOCK NUMBER 02
COMMON OWNERSHIP OR Z
EXEMPT PROPERTY E

SUBDIVISION LOT NO. ②
MATCH LINE ← M.L. →
RIGHT OF WAY R/W
RECORD DIMENSION 100'
SCALED DIMENSION 100'S
WETLANDS


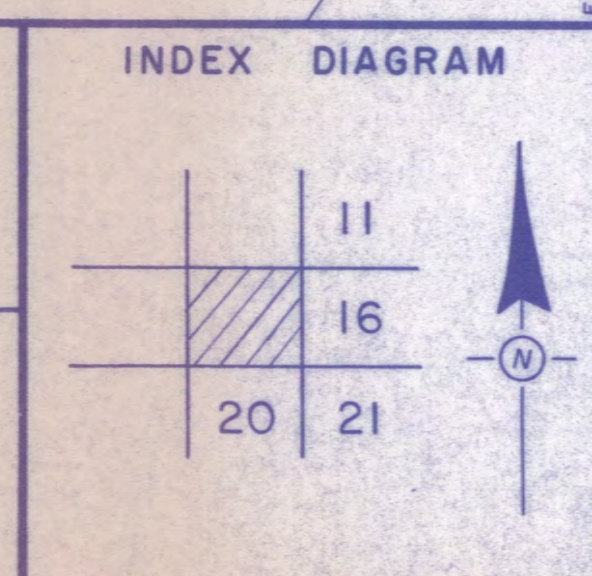
SCALE

1 INCH = 200 FEET

FEET



METERS

ASSESSORS MAP

HARVARD

REVISED THROUGH
1-1-94

MAP NO.
15

H34-PHR

FEB 27 1973

Hon. John F.X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Dear Mr. Davoren:

After careful consideration we are returning your nomination for Fruitlands Museums. In our opinion the buildings do not have sufficient historical cohesiveness to merit inclusion in the National Register as a district.

You might consider nominating each structure individually. As you know, we are reluctant to accept buildings which have been moved, especially if similar structures are still in existence on their original sites. We will be pleased to consider nominations for any of the properties which appear to meet the criteria in their own right.

Sincerely yours,

William J. Murtagh (Sgd.)

William J. Murtagh
Keeper of the National Register

cc:

Director, Northeast Region w/cy inc

LI- Mr. Winge

~~PHR w/cy inc~~

PHR - Mrs. Mott w/cy inc

CShull:lmj 2-8-73

BASIC FILE RETAINED IN PHR



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

April 10, 1997

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127



Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination for:

Fruitlands Museum Historic District, Harvard (Worcester County), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owner of the property in the Certified Local Government community of Harvard was notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60-120 days before the meeting.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

cc: Fruitlands Museum, Inc., Harvard, MA
John Martin, Chair, Harvard Historical Commission, Harvard, MA
Virginia Thurston, Chair, Board of Selectmen, Harvard, MA
Claire Dempsey, Preservation Consultant
Nancy Reifenstein, CLG Coordinator, Town of Harvard