

JAN 24 1990

FORM NO.

173

58

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

PHOTOGRAPHS:

- 63:32 Front and Right facades
- 63:33 Rear and left facades
- 62:10 Summer tie beam into rear plate of left chamber
- 62:13 Attic - Principle rafters and common purlins

Town BOXFORD 009
 Address 15 Old Topsfield Road
 Historic Name Phineas Foster House
 Use: Present residence
 Original residence

DESCRIPTION

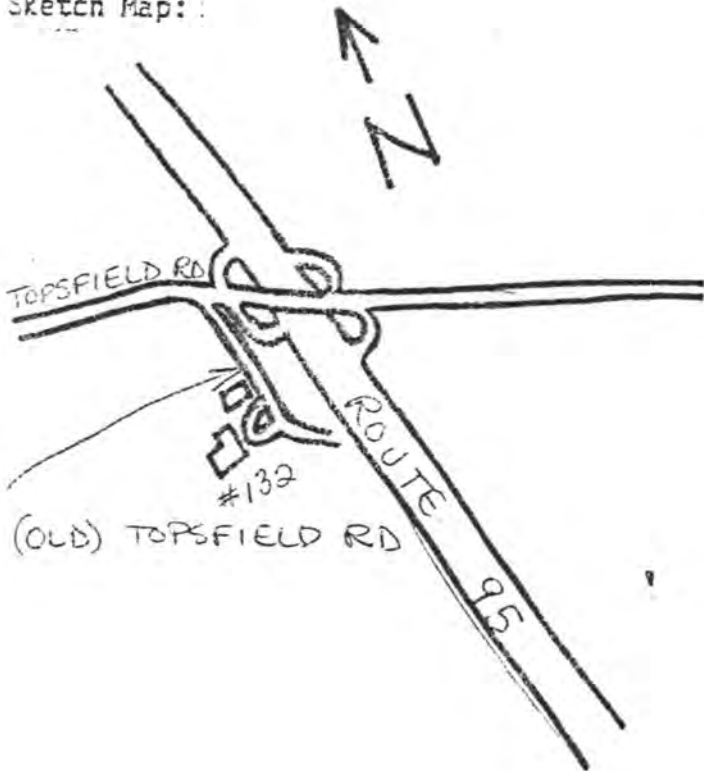
Date c. 1725
 Source visual analysis
 Style First Period
 Architect unknown
 Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard / shingles
 Outbuildings barn - 19th century

Major Alterations (with dates) all - 18th C
kitchen and side enclosed porch - 20th C.
 Condition good

Moved no Date n/a
 Acreage 3.1 acres
 Setting rural suburban , next to
highway on dead end street which is
secluded

Recorded by James Kyprianos
 Organization Boston University
 Date November 1985

Sketch Map:



Z E N

TM REFERENCE 19 / 337-640 / 4723-500

USS QUADRANGLE Georgetown (now Ipswich)

SCALE 1:25,000

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: BOXFORD	Form No: 58
Property Name: Phineas Foster House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Phineas Foster House retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Its surviving First Period evidence in the later section of the house gives clear indications that the older section is likely to yield important information about earlier First Period construction methods and is therefore eligible under Criterion D. The second phase addition embodies distinctive characteristics of late First Period or transitional framing practices in its run-out flat chamfer and unusually late use of the tusk tenon, and meets Criterion C.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Foster House is of L-shaped plan; the older five-bay, central-chimney, two-story house with protruding lobby entrance having been enlarged with a two-story rear ell. The ell, sited behind the northeast corner, contains a rear chimney stack, and has a one-story porch off its east wall. In the space to the southwest between the ell and the main house is another one-story addition with shed roof, with an exposed cellar entrance on the west side. A one-story screen porch extends from the west gable of the main block. The main house seems to have begun as a single cell plan in the right-hand (east) half, including the chimney bay, although much of the interior framing in this section is boxed. It then grew to a double cell plan in the late First Period, with a later 18th-century summer-kitchen ell addition. The one-story porch entry is, perhaps, Federal. The central chimney is rebuilt.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

The attic roof frame, of principal and purlin system, with a pitch of 40-45 degrees, declares the right-hand rooms and chimney bay earlier than the bays to the west. The three earlier bays have multiple purlins of smaller scantling; the two later bays only three purlins. The older section shows dovetail mortise evidence of having had collars between the rafters; the later section does not.

While the earlier rooms are all boxed, the added bays to the east are exposed and show flat chamfers run out on the tie beam, joists of 24" on centers with late tusk tenon joints, and evidence of a partition once running along the summer.

SIGNIFICANT LATER FEATURES

The lower left-hand room has Second Period raised-field paneling and a boxed frame. The Federal staircase in front of the central chimney represents a common alteration, while the cellar stairs from the second-phase addition are relatively rare "puncheon" stairs, made from reused beams.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: BOXFORD	Form No: 58
Property Name: Phineas Foster House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Little is known about the early-18th-century ownership of this building. Perley suggests it was owned by Solomon Gould after 1765; Phineas Foster was there in 1799. There is a tradition of a mid-17th-century barn associated with this site, but more research should be given to the property ownership and use in the early 18th century.

REFERENCES

Parkhurst, Winifred C. and Barbara Carolyn Perley, Updated Dwellings of Boxford, (Rowley, MA: Rowley Printing, 1977,) pp.104-105.

Perley, Sidney, The Dwellings of Boxford, (Salem, MA: Essex Institute, 1893,) pp.125-6.

1/24/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
State _____

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------|
| 11. Coker, Benjamin, House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 12. Conant, Exercise, House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 13. Corning, Samuel, House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 14. Davis, Ephraim, House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 15. Davis--Freeman House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 5-16. Dickinson--Pillsbury--Witham House | | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Betty L. Savage</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| Substantive Review | | Attest _____ | | |
| 17. Dustin House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 18. Dyke-Wheeler House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 19. Emerson House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |
| 20. Foster, Phineas, House | Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | <u>Melores Byers</u> | <u>3/9/90</u> |
| | | Attest _____ | | |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Foster, Phineas, House
NAME:

MULTIPLE First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/24/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/07/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/23/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/10/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000193

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: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/9/90 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTMs boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Boxford
Phineas Foster House
15 Old Topfield Road
Rear + left facades
1985

1st Period Buildings of E. Mo. TR.

63:33



Phineas Foster House

Buxford

Phineas Foster House

15 Old Topstfield Road

Front + Right facades

1985

1st Period Buildings of E. Mass + R

63:30



Boxford
Phineas Foster House
15 Old Topstfield Road
Attic - principal rafters - common purlins
1985

1st Period Buildings of E. Mass TR



Boxford

Phineas Foster House

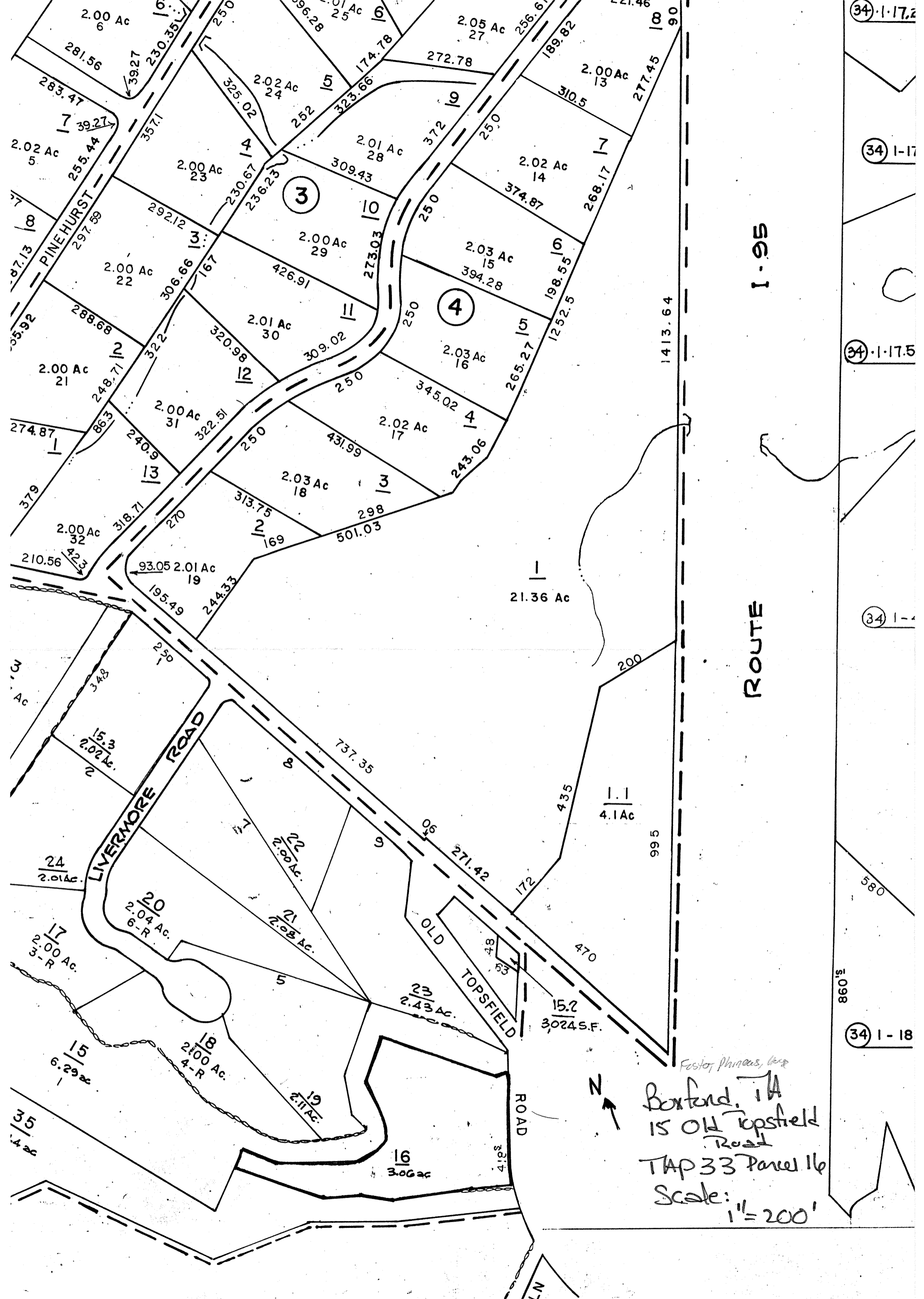
15 Old ~~Wood~~ Road

Summer He began

1985

1st Period Buildings of E. Ma. MRA

62:10



34-1-17.2

34-1-17

34-1-17.5

34-1-

34-1-18

1-95

ROUTE



Foster Phineas, Inc
 Boxford, IA
 is Old Topfield
 Road
 Tap 33 Parcel 16
 Scale:
 1" = 200'

21.36 Ac

1.1
4.1 Ac

16
3.06 ac

20
2.04 Ac.
6-R

24
2.01 Ac.

17
2.00 Ac.
3-R

15
6.29 ac

18
2.100 Ac.
4-R

19
2.11 Ac.

23
2.43 Ac.

15.2
3024 S.F.

21
2.08 Ac.

22
2.00 Ac.

LIVERMORE ROAD

OLD TOPSFIELD ROAD

PINEHURST

3

4

2.00 Ac 6
281.56
283.47
2.02 Ac 5
255.44
297.59
2.00 Ac 22
288.68
2.00 Ac 21
274.87
2.00 Ac 32
210.56
15.3
2.02 Ac.
24
2.01 Ac.
17
2.00 Ac.
3-R
15
6.29 ac
35
1.4 ac

2.01 Ac 25
196.28
174.78
2.02 Ac 24
325.02
2.00 Ac 23
292.12
2.00 Ac 22
306.66
2.01 Ac 30
320.98
2.00 Ac 31
322.51
2.03 Ac 18
313.75
2.01 Ac 19
195.49
2.04 Ac.
6-R
2.100 Ac.
4-R
2.11 Ac.
2.43 Ac.

2.05 Ac 27
256.6
272.78
2.01 Ac 28
309.43
2.02 Ac 14
374.87
2.03 Ac 15
394.28
2.03 Ac 16
345.02
2.02 Ac 17
431.99
2.03 Ac 18
501.03
2.03 Ac 16
394.28
2.02 Ac 17
431.99
2.03 Ac 18
501.03
21.36 Ac
1.1
4.1 Ac
737.35
271.42
15.2
3024 S.F.

2.00 Ac 13
310.5
277.45
2.02 Ac 14
374.87
2.03 Ac 15
394.28
2.03 Ac 16
345.02
2.02 Ac 17
431.99
2.03 Ac 18
501.03
1413.64
995
435
172
470
84
63
580
860'

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281