

(Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service



96

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 Fisher-Richardson House

other names/site number \_\_\_\_\_

2. Location

street & number 354 Willow Street n/a not for Publication

city or town Mansfield N/A vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Bristol code 005 zip code 02048

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

1/7/1998  
Date

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria. ( See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:  
 entered in the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined eligible for the National Register  
 See continuation sheet.  
 determined not eligible for the National Register  
 removed from the National Register  
 other (explain): \_\_\_\_\_

[Signature]  
Signature of the Keeper  
Edson A. Ball

Date of Action  
2/11/98

Fisher-Richardson House  
Name of Property

Bristol, MA  
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	
1	1	buildings
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
1	0	objects
2	1	Total

**Name of related multiple property listing**  
(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

**Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register**

0

N/A

**6. Function or Use**

**Historic Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

DOMESTIC: Single Dwelling

**Current Functions**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION AND CULTURE: Museum

**7. Description**

**Architectural Classification**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial

Colonial Revival

**Materials**  
(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone

walls weather board

roof shingle

other

**Narrative Description**

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

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## 7. DESCRIPTION

The Fisher-Richardson House is located on Willow Street in the town of Mansfield, Bristol County, Massachusetts. Dating in its initial construction to the second quarter of the eighteenth century, the house was expanded to nearly double its size in about 1800, suffered serious deterioration during the early years of the twentieth century, and was restored by local antiquarians and craftsmen in 1930. Since its restoration, the building has been owned by the town and operated as a museum by the Mansfield Historical Society. The house is located close to Willow Street on a small suburban-scaled lot within a twentieth-century residential neighborhood. Today the building is a long, rectangular, weatherboarded block under a shingled gambrel roof, stretching to six irregular bays in length and two piles in depth.

Willow Street is a long curving street running from the northwest to the southeast between two of the town's primary north-south routes, South Main and School streets, south of the town center. The Fisher-Richardson House sits on a small lot measuring 34,700 square feet within an area that was developed primarily in the mid-twentieth century. A handful of early buildings survive along the road to the west of the Fisher-Richardson House and east of the Rumford River, including an ample Italianate end house with connecting barn, a smaller altered end house, and a hip-roofed Federal ell house. Nearby on Geneva Street is a small Fisher and Richardson family cemetery. At the east end of Willow Street, near the densely settled South Main Street are a cluster of mid-twentieth-century Colonial Revival houses of exceptional quality and detail, taking the colonial, the saltbox, and the garrison forms. A more recent large saltbox sits to the west of the Fisher-Richardson House, while three Colonial Revival capes are located across the street. The remainder of the street's landscape is occupied by well-spaced houses of ranch and split level form.

The Fisher-Richardson House sits close to the road at the front center of the small grassy lawn. The roof ridge of the house parallels the roadway and the house presently faces to the south. A small number of perennials and annuals surround the house in spring and summer, but there are no larger foundation plantings. The lot is bordered by deciduous and evergreen trees. The front of the lot has no sidewalk or fence. To the rear of the house, a post and rail fence divides the rear third of the lot from the front. A small, shingled, modern shed is sited there, a single story in height, saltbox in form, with a front right door, and windows in each lateral wall. A number of outbuildings survived in deteriorated condition on the house lot when restoration was undertaken, including a small New England-style barn at the east side, a large carriage house in the English barn form in the center, and a small gabled shed to the west. All were demolished in 1930.

The overall dimensions of the Fisher-Richardson House are about forty-five feet in length and about twenty-six feet in depth. The walls of the house are covered in overlapping weatherboard, set with an average of six inches to the weather, and unfinished. Its gambrel roof is covered with closer-set shingles. Its facade measures six bays in width, with its primary entry located to the right or east of center in bay four. Constructed in two stages, the right or eastern portion, consisting of the entry bay and two eastern window bays, was the first built in the mid eighteenth century, followed by the section marked by the western three window bays at the end of the eighteenth century. Two brick chimneys sit on the roof ridge, near the center of the building. The house's side elevations are sparsely lit, with two regular openings, one for each tier of rooms on the first floor, and a single window lighting the garret story. On the eastern elevation, two first-floor windows are found; on the western elevation, a secondary door

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provides entry to the front room, and a window is positioned in the rear. The rear elevation is, as is common, the most irregular, with a door and two nearby windows positioned in the older eastern half and two more widely spaced windows positioned in the newer portion. The windows are all painted, six-over-six double-hung sash set in plain cases with angled lintels. The doors are all board set into simple surrounds. The fieldstone foundation is obscured by the present grade. A low bulkhead is located off the front portion of the east lateral wall. The house's well is located quite close to the west lateral door and is currently covered with a wooden surround. A well sweep is located to the rear of the well. The majority of these materials were put in place during the 1930 restoration of the house.

The Fisher-Richardson House was constructed using the vertical plank frame method popular in southeastern Massachusetts during the colonial period and later. In this method, a house frame of vertical posts and various horizontal beams is built following the common New England pattern. But rather than employing studs between these major members, this construction method substituted thick planks set vertically and spiked into the sills and plates. Much of the house's post and beam frame can be viewed from its interior, revealing two distinct framing systems. In the older eastern portion, the house frame is composed following traditional structural patterns using the bay system to determine the plan, a chimney bay and a wider room bay in both the front and rear piles. Corner and interior posts mark these structural bays, sitting on sills and foundation, tied with surrounding plates, a bridging girt dividing the front from the rear pile, and a binding summer beam. Although some sections of the frame were replaced during restoration, enough survives to document a smooth hewn frame that may originally have been exposed. The newer western portion employs a different frame, in this instance composed of two rooms of equal depth from front to rear and with two equal-sized bays. It shares its eastern posts with the original house, its new posts marking the corners and bays. The chimney was located in the rear pile set toward the central girt rather than in a special chimney bay. In the design of its frame the addition to the house employs the Hemenway—or square—plan, identified first in the Barre, Massachusetts, area and since then noted in many parts of New England. The east portion of the house has a stone cellar of about six feet in depth beneath it. Both the old and new roofs are similarly constructed, employing an unusual and exceptionally simple version of a gambrel roof frame. Trusses were built of common rafters and collars at the level of the break in the roof's two slopes, but no purlins join these trusses. The older portion has four trusses, the newer portion has five trusses, set with the eastern one close to the original end elevation.

The conjectural plans for the Fisher-Richardson House, provided at the time of restoration, are somewhat unusual. For the first phase of the house's life, its room arrangement was a common one: a single large front room, two smaller ones to the rear, with a lobby entry before the chimney. The reconstructed plan, however, provides only one firebox in the original chimney, creating an oxymoronic kitchen with no fire in the rear pile. The construction of the new western section added four new rooms. In the front pile, the addition included a large room adjacent to the original house and a small room in the outer corner with its own exterior door. In the rear pile, the outer corner included a moderate-sized room, with a small pantry and a small baffle next to the original house. The off-center chimney provided heat to two of the added rooms—the large front room and the rear outer room—and, most unusually, added a third firebox in the small baffle created by the space adjacent to the chimney bay of the original house and open to the rear central kitchen of the original section. Unheated spaces in the new addition included the small front room, known to the house's nineteenth-century owners as "chaos," and the rear pantry. The removal of the original chimney and the substitution of a through stair passage is conjectured for this period as well.

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The interior finish of the Fisher-Richardson House as restored is characterized by wide board floors, feather-edged and vertical beaded paneling on the walls, and open beamed ceilings. During the restoration, all of the existing plaster and beam cases were removed. Photographs taken during the process suggest that at least a few of the ceilings had been plastered below the joists but exposing cased summers and girts, suggesting that some original or early plaster treatments were inadvertently removed. Although some of the building's frame has members that are quite smooth, most are rough enough to suggest they were designed to be enclosed. Beneath the plaster in many of the rooms, the restorers discovered more of the vertical paneling, which survived uncovered in "chaos." Of varying width, the long boards are feathered at one side of reception in the rabbet ornamented by a quarter-round bead. Only one side of the boards was finished in this way, creating a plainer side for secondary rooms. Well-preserved sections of paneling were replaced in the house, while worn and missing pieces were reconstructed. Mantels were reconstructed for the chimneys and a new set boiler added to the new chimney in the kitchen. New floors were added in several of the rooms. The house is furnished with the collections of the Mansfield Historical Society, including a range of sample furniture, decorative and useful items, display cases, and paper artifacts affixed to the walls.

Archaeological Description

A high probability exists for locating prehistoric resources on the Fisher-Richardson House property. Six prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile) including one site along the Rumford River less than 1000-2000 feet from the property. The physical characteristics of the property, a well drained, level terrace adjacent to an unnamed pond and tributary wetlands of the Rumford River, are also favorable locational criteria for prehistoric settlement and subsistence. Given these factors, the size of the lot (34,700 square feet) and the impacts of housing construction, a moderate to high potential exists for significant prehistoric recoveries on the property.

There is a high potential for historic archaeological remains on the property. Further documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing can determine the locations for structural remains and dates of construction of several outbuildings around the house which were demolished in 1930. At the time of building restoration a carriage house was present as well as a small barn to the east and small gabled shed to the west. It is possible that all or some these structures date to the original construction of the house, however, it appears more likely they were built later, possibly during or after the 1800 expansion when the house doubled in size. It is likely that structural remains exist on the property from 18th century outbuildings (barns, sheds etc) whose locations are presently unknown. Occupational related features (trash pits, privies and wells) also likely survive on the property which date to the 18th and 19th centuries. The location of one well near the west lateral door is known, however, it is unknown when this well was constructed. Construction features may also be present near the house, it's additions and outbuildings.

(end)

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.)

- X 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.
X C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- A owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
B removed from its original location.
C a birthplace or grave.
D a cemetery.
E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
F a commemorative property.
G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
previously listed in the National Register
previously determined eligible by the National Register
designated a National Historic Landmark
recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey #
recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

CONSERVATION

EDUCATION

SOCIAL HISTORY

Period of Significance

1743 - 1947

Significant Dates

1930

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

Primary location of additional data:

- X State Historic Preservation Office
Other State agency
Federal agency
X Local government
University
X Other

Name of repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities

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## 8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fisher-Richardson House at Willow Street, Mansfield, Bristol County, Massachusetts, is a small gambrel-roofed house dating in its initial construction to the second quarter of the eighteenth century, expanded at the end of the same century, and restored in 1930. Each section of the Fisher-Richardson House demonstrates building and planning methods distinctive to its period of construction, providing an informative contrast within a single building. Furthermore, this property documents the living arrangements of two families in rural southeastern Massachusetts who occupied the house into the twentieth century. The building has traditionally been identified as the town's oldest, and was purchased by the town and restored as the community's commemoration of the Massachusetts Tercentenary. The condition of the building at that time led to extensive replacement of compromised materials. The building has been restored and partially reconstructed but much of its early fabric survives; it retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, place, feeling, and association. The Fisher-Richardson House meets the National Register criteria A and C at the local level.

The Fisher-Richardson House is located in the town of Mansfield, an industrial railroad town of Bristol County, Massachusetts. The area which is now Mansfield was the territory of the Pokonokets at the time of first European settlement. As English settlement moved inland from the early nodes along the coast and at Providence, land in this vicinity was granted to the town of Taunton as the North Purchase in 1668, its northwestern border following the long diagonal that marked the boundary between Plymouth and Massachusetts Bay colonies. This section was separated from its parent town to become the town of Norton in 1711, the northern portion of Norton becoming the town of Mansfield in 1775. Though the town was characterized by its agriculture for much of its early history, it was noted for its deposits of bog iron, and with its neighbors Norton, Taunton, and Raynham was the site of an early iron industry. During the early nineteenth century, the town was a center for the production of straw braid hats, an endeavor that continued as an important component of the town's economy into the early years of the twentieth century. By the middle of the nineteenth century, the town was positioned as a railroad hub, and utilizing available waterpower sources, a variety of manufacturing establishments clustered here, including jewelry, taps and dies, and chocolate. These flourishing businesses produced a large town center, with a range of exceptional Queen Anne, Romanesque Revival, and Colonial Revival public buildings, including the Town House (1883) and the Soldiers Memorial Library (1901), and a complement of schools and churches. In the surrounding neighborhoods are ample and modest houses in familiar forms including small and large end houses, picturesque cottages, foursquares, bungalows, and smaller numbers of two-families.

The land in this vicinity was part of the Taunton North Purchase of 1668. The 100 acres that included this site were designated lot number 30. The earliest known description of the property is from the 1723 deed, by which Isaac Wellman bought the land. No buildings were noted on the property at that time. Wellman apparently built the first house on lot number 30 between 1723 and 1731, when the meeting to organize the Norton North Precinct was held at his home. His probate record shows that that house was located to the north along present-day South Main Street. Isaac Wellman's estate was divided in 1743, and his son Ebenezer inherited the land on which the Fisher-Richardson House was built. Ebenezer Wellman apparently constructed this building between 1743 and 1751, when his own estate was divided and a house is mentioned on this site. His brother Timothy inherited the home. Timothy and his wife Rhoda lived here with their three children before selling the property in 1760. The purchaser was

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Ebenezer White, the first minister of the Norton North Precinct, who was settled on a 35-acre farm nearby. This is one of eight other properties he either bought or sold in the town.

Ebenezer White died the following year. He made detailed provisions for his wife Lydia, left his real property to his sons Benjamin and Ebenezer, and left personal property to his daughters. Circumstances changed, however, when Benjamin White died soon after his father, leaving no will. The court decided that the Reverend Ebenezer White's real property should go to his son Ebenezer and Benjamin's heirs, including his mother and sisters. Mary White, who was married to Lemuel Fisher, received the Fisher-Richardson House. Lemuel and Mary's family was at its largest in about 1785, when all of their surviving children had been born but had not yet married. According to tradition, the addition to the house was built when Lemuel and Mary's son Daniel married in 1800 and his bride, Hepzibah, came to live here. It is not surprising that, as the youngest son, Daniel remained in his parents' household. By 1810 three of Daniel and Hepzibah's four children had been born and his parents had moved out--probably to a second, smaller home they also owned in Mansfield. In 1816 deeds were filed that transferred the ownership of all of Lemuel's property to Daniel.

Daniel Fisher is typical of those rural landholders who made a living by engaging in several different enterprises. He operated a gristmill on the nearby Rumford River, worked as a blacksmith, and cut peat from a bog near his home. By 1850, Daniel and Hepzibah's daughter Evelina, with her husband Ira Richardson and their children, lived in her parents' home. Evelina died the following year; Daniel passed away six years later. In his will, written in 1853, Daniel gave Ira Richardson a portion of his property including the dwelling house to use until Ira's youngest daughter turned twenty-one. At that time, the property would be divided among Ira's children. Yet Daniel's wishes could not be carried out. Although he had planned to provide his grandchildren with his property, the early deaths of two of them gave Ira ownership of this parcel. Ira Richardson and his children occupied the house during the third quarter of the nineteenth century. Richardson served as a captain in the militia and engaged in a number of trades including carpenter and wheelwright as well as farmer and sexton. The late nineteenth century saw the house occupied by Ira's daughter, Martha Richardson, who opened the house to a number of the family's extensive branches over her long lifetime.

After Martha Richardson's death in 1929, the house was inherited by her niece Emma Frost, then residing in East Orange, New Jersey. It was at this time that the idea of restoring the property emerged. The house had fallen into disrepair, and had even been condemned by the town's fire and police departments. But the reputed age of the property and its long association with the town's founding brought this threat to its survival to the attention of interested town citizens and its new owner. They called on William Sumner Appleton and Eugene Dow of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities for an opinion about the historic value of the building and were pleased to hear it described as "an interesting type of house that should be preserved." Miss Frost and SPNEA initially negotiated a joint plan to restore the house, which would eventually go to SPNEA at the termination of three life tenancies. Soon, however, as local interest in the property increased, the plan was altered to have Miss Frost offer the house and a small lot to the town, and the town take on the costs of restoration. In February of 1930 the town meeting of Mansfield voted to underwrite the costs and the following April Miss Frost deeded the house to the town.

Within a month work on the house began under the direction of the Town Manager, Harold H. Everett, and a local antiquarian, Harold R. Bliven. The house was repaired and restored using techniques and

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methods which were common for domestic and museum solutions at the time. The house was at first jacked up to return its frame closer to plumb and square, an operation that revealed the extreme deterioration of the building's fabric. Sills, planks, and posts were rotted away, and were largely replaced. In part the deteriorated parts of the building were replaced with old materials, in this case from the circa 1780 Holmes House purchased for this purpose. In part, the members were replaced with new materials, as in the case of the vertical planking, where old oak was replaced with new spruce, the sills, and also new windows, new doors, some new floors, and some new trim. The restoration project relied heavily on the knowledge of seventy-year-old carpenter Lewis S. Packard, who brought to the project not just long experience with area buildings but a collection of period tools with which he fabricated new material for the restoration.

To celebrate the opening of the house, and as an additional celebration of the Tercentenary, a pageant was held at the house in September of 1930. Entitled the "Pageant of the House of Romance," the subtitle continued, "Being a Revival of Important Events in the Fisher-Richardson Families to Celebrate the Restoration and the Opening of the Fisher-Richardson Homestead." The pamphlet described the restoration of the house and the pageant, written by the local historian Jenny F. Copeland, a driving force behind the house's restoration.

New England had enjoyed a long history of celebrating town founders when the town of Mansfield took on the Fisher-Richardson House and its restoration. Formed in 1769, the Old Colony Club of Plymouth celebrated Forefather's Day to mark the Pilgrims' landing that same year. As the nineteenth century progressed, the number and frequency of such commemorations increased, as towns marked their hundredth, hundred and fiftieth, and two hundredth anniversaries of establishment. Townspeople gathered for dinners and speeches, and the literature of local history burgeoned with each celebration. Early in the twentieth century, many of the region's oldest towns were celebrating their tricentennials, highlighted by the 1930 anniversary of the founding of Massachusetts Bay. Pageants like the one held at the Fisher-Richardson House were particularly popular during the early years of the twentieth century as towns took notice of their histories.

Interest in the homes of the founders appeared as early as the first decades of the nineteenth century, and included early collectors and preservationists such as Ben Perley Poor. Though the homes of the prominent and those of exceptional age were well known in many Massachusetts communities, it was not until the early twentieth century that historic house museums became popular places to commemorate local history. Family associations and local historical societies increasingly chose this route, while regional organizations such as the Essex Institute and the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities provided leadership and established the first professional standards for research, restoration, and reconstruction. Mansfield must certainly have been among the first town governments to take on a historic house.

In 1984 the town reconfirmed its commitment to the Fisher-Richardson House by placing a preservation restriction on the property, to run in perpetuity; charging the town with the maintenance of the property; and requiring written permission of the Mansfield Historical Commission before any alterations were made to its fabric and grounds. In 1995, the historical commission received a Bay State Historical League Scholar-in Residence grant and hired a historical consultant to conduct extensive architectural and documentary research on the building. The house is open to the public, with tours conducted by the Mansfield Historical Society. Additional information on the Fisher-Richardson House.

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MassachusettsSection number 8 Page 4Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Mansfield are poorly documented, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area occupy the western periphery of the Massachusetts coastal lowland and headwaters of the Taunton River Basin. Mansfield and its neighboring town to the north, Foxborough, lie in an area where the headwaters of five drainages meet in a relatively small geographic area. The drainages include the Neponset, Charles, Taunton, Blackstone and Narragansett Bay drainages. Prehistoric sites in this area can contribute information to currently held models of Native American socio-political systems aligned within specific riverine drainage systems. Prehistoric sites in this area may represent a new group of sites within these drainages where socio-political systems overlap between peripheral or interior areas of neighboring river drainages.

Historic archaeological remains associated with the Fisher-Richardson House have the potential to locate and help reconstruct earlier structures related to the house which no longer survive and provide detailed information on the house inhabitants. Mapping of structural remains and analysis of related artifacts can help document the building sequence on the property and determine specifically when the house was first constructed. Archaeological survivals can help reconstruct the form of the original house and extensive modifications which occurred in 1800, and can also document the degree to which 1930 reconstructions were true to the 18th and 19th century form of the house. Detailed analysis of occupational related features can provide much needed information on the social and economic lives of the house's early inhabitants including the nature and regional/local importance of farming in early 18th century Mansfield, then the northern portion of Norton. Archaeological survivals can help document the social and economic changes which occurred on the farm as the town's economy changed from a more agricultural orientation to one which included agriculture and industry. Some of these local and regional changes may be reflected in new activities occurring on the farm over time.

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Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities Archives. Consulted the microfiche records of notes and correspondence about the Fisher-Richardson House, 1929-30; architectural plans by L.G. Foster of 1930; and photographs of 1930.

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# National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

### Boundary Description:

The boundaries of the Fisher-Richardson House are illustrated on the attached Town of Mansfield Assessors Map Number 28, Lots 66 and 67.

### Boundary Justification:

The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Fisher-Richardson House since its purchase by the Town of Mansfield for restoration and use as a historic house museum in 1930.

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Fisher--Richardson House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Bristol

DATE RECEIVED: 1/13/98      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/26/98  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/11/98      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/27/98  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 98000096

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    2/11/98 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the  
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_ DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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



FISHER - RICHARDSON HOUSE  
MANSFIELD (BRISTOL), MA

JULY 1996

REAR ELEVATION, NW

NEGS. AT TOWN HALL  
MANSFIELD

photographer: BARBARA ORLANDO  
+ KATE VIENS



FISHER - RICHARDSON HOUSE

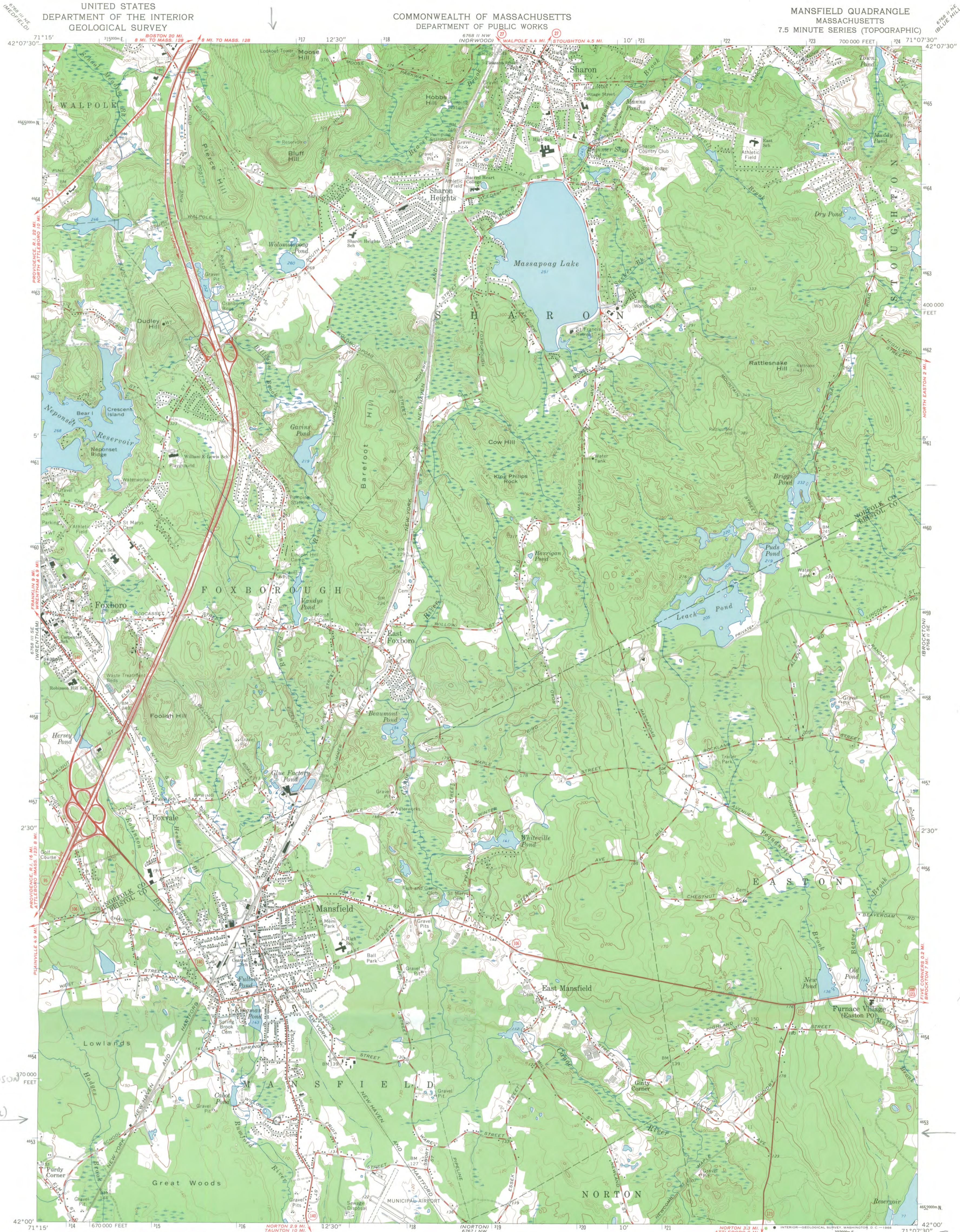
MANSFIELD (BRISTOL) MA

JULY 1996

FRONT ELEVATION, SOUTH

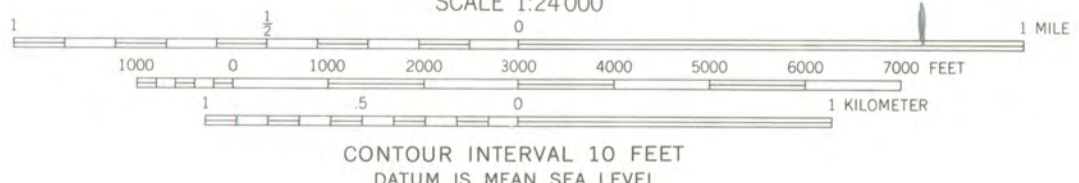
NEGS. @ TOWN HALL / MANSFIELD

photographers: BARBARA ORLANDO  
+ KATIE VIENS



FISHER-RICHARDSON  
House  
MANSFIELD (BRISTOL)  
MA.  
ZONE 19  
E 315480  
N 463120

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetable surveys 1936. Revised 1964  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 19, shown in blue  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where  
generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked



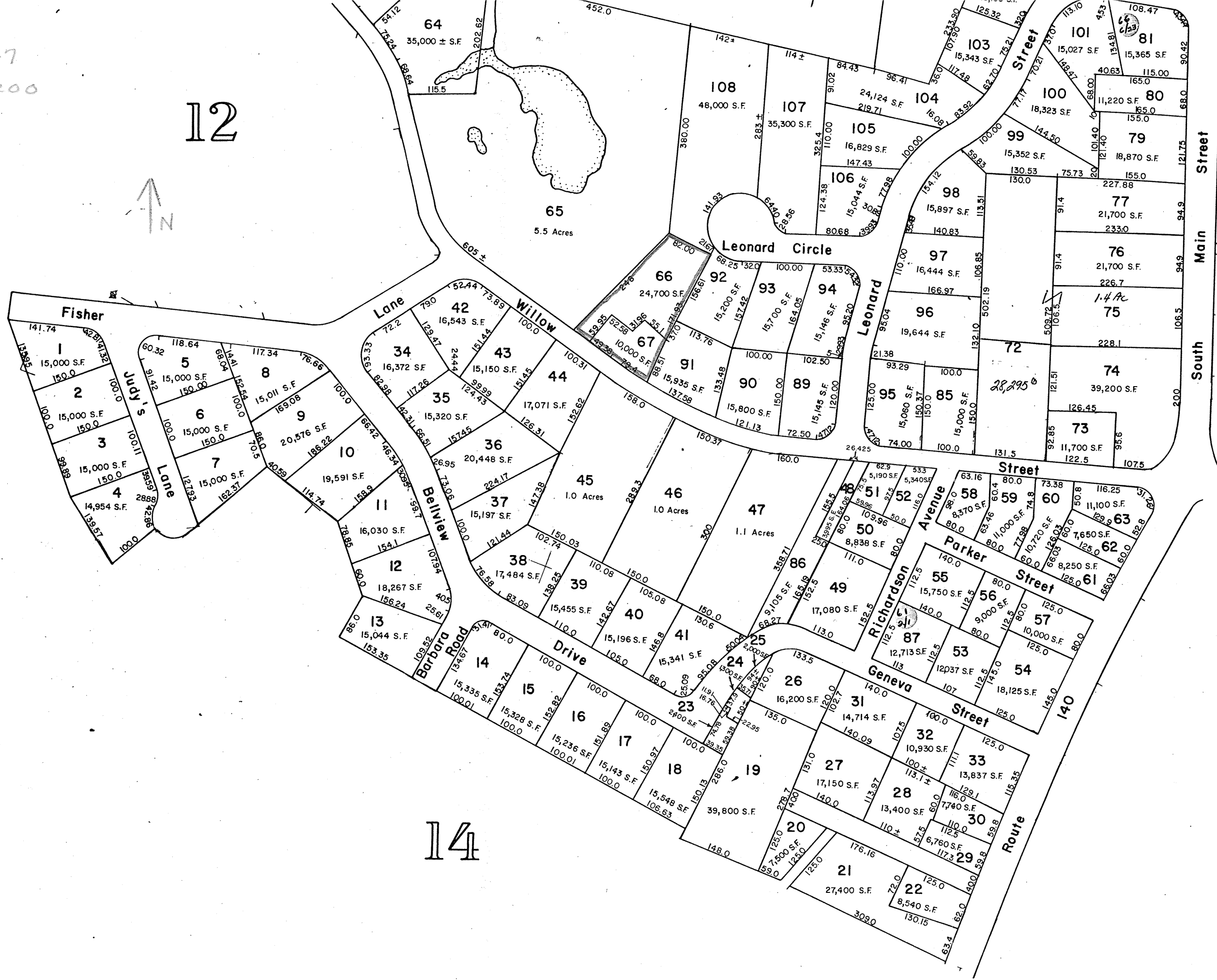
ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route



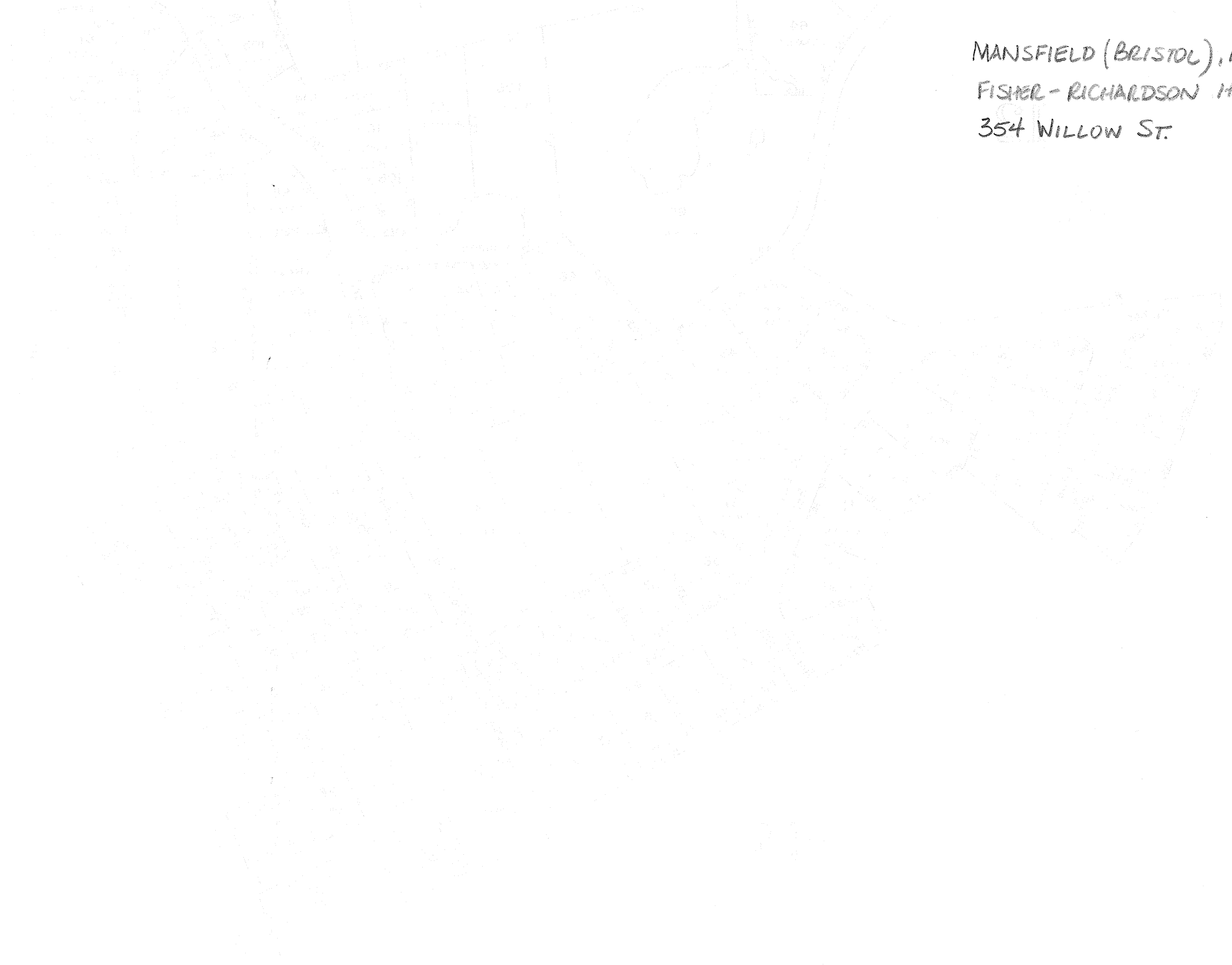
MANSFIELD, MASS.  
N4200-W7107.5/7.5  
1964  
AMS 6768 II SW-SERIES V814

12



14

MANSFIELD (BRISTOL), MA  
FISHER-RICHARDSON HOUSE  
354 WILLOW ST.





**The Commonwealth of Massa**  
 William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Con  
 Massachusetts Historical Commiss

July 11, 1997

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

Mansfield P 084 613 104  
 US Postal Service  
**Receipt for Certified Mail**  
 No Insurance Coverage Provided.  
 Do not use for International Mail (See reverse)

Sent to	Carol Shull
Street & Number	NPS
Post Office, State, & ZIP Code	Box 37127
Postage	\$
Certified Fee	✓
Special Delivery Fee	
Restricted Delivery Fee	
Return Receipt Showing to Whom & Date Delivered	✓
Return Receipt Showing to Whom, Date, & Addressee's Address	✓
<b>TOTAL Postage &amp; Fees</b>	<b>\$ 1</b>
Postmark or Date	✓

PS Form 3800, April 1995

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Fisher-Richardson House, 354 Willow Street, Mansfield (Bristol Co.), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property within the district were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

*Betsy Friedberg*

Betsy Friedberg  
 National Register Director  
 Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

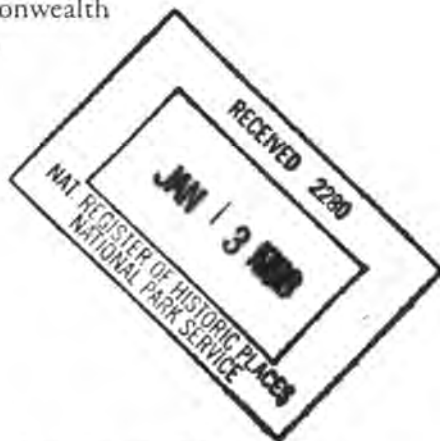
cc: Town of Mansfield, owner  
 Kate Viens, Chair, Mansfield Historical Commission  
 Chair, Mansfield Board of Selectmen  
 Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant



**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

January 6, 1998 William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Ms. Alexis Abernathy  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service, Cultural Resources  
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20240



Dear Ms. Abernathy:

Enclosed is a resubmitted NR nomination for the Fisher-Richardson House, Mansfield (Bristol Co.), MA. It is identical to the nomination submitted this summer, except for a current signature from the Massachusetts SHPO and the extent of photo documentation.

I would appreciate an expedited review on this nomination. Thank you for checking on this one for us.

Please contact me if you have any questions, or if I can help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Philip Bergen".

Philip Bergen  
National Register Assistant  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure



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

January 7, 1998

Ms. Carol Shull  
Keeper  
National Register of Historic Places  
Department of the Interior  
National Park Service  
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400  
1849 C Street, NW  
Washington, D. C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull,

Enclosed please find the following nomination form being resubmitted:

Fisher-Richardson House, 354 Willow Street, Mansfield (Bristol Co.), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Town of Mansfield, owner  
Kate Viens, Chair, Mansfield Historical Commission  
Chair, Mansfield Board of Selectmen  
Claire W. Dempsey, Preservation Consultant