

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

PH0683698

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED SEP 6 1978
DATE ENTERED NOV 20 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Captain Joel Robinson House (preferred)

AND/OR COMMON

Heritage Farm

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

111 Rocklawn Avenue

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Attleboro,

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

VICINITY OF

10th

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Massachusetts

25

Bristol

005

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

OWNERSHIP

STATUS

PRESENT USE

DISTRICT

PUBLIC

XOCCUPIED

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

XBUILDING(S)

XPRIVATE

UNOCCUPIED

COMMERCIAL

PARK

STRUCTURE

BOTH

WORK IN PROGRESS

EDUCATIONAL

XPRIVATE RESIDENCE

SITE

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

ACCESSIBLE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

OBJECT

IN PROCESS

XYES: RESTRICTED

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

BEING CONSIDERED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

NO

MILITARY

OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Donald Kimball and Elizabeth Hartshorn Phillips

STREET & NUMBER

111 Rocklawn Avenue

CITY, TOWN

Attleboro

STATE

Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Bristol County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Court Street

CITY, TOWN

Taunton

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth #95

DATE

1970

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Captain Joel Robinson House is located in a wooded residential section of Attleboro. Its two and one half acre lot is surrounded by approximately forty acres of open space. In addition to the house there is a wood shed at the rear of the lot. The house is the only one of its period in the area. Boundaries are confined to the house and its immediate acreage.

The main house, built c. 1790, is a two and one-half story gable roofed structure with a central chimney. It is wood framed, sheathed in clapboards with simple corner boards and cornice, and sits on a low stone foundation. The facade, which faces south across Rocklawn Avenue, is five bays in width ordered around a central doorway. The six panel door is headed by a semi-circular fan and flanked by pilasters supporting fragments of an entablature and a pediment. The house is two rooms deep. Fenestration is 12/12 double hung sash throughout with the exception of 9/6 attic sash and two 9/6 sash on the second floor of the rear elevation. All are set in simple architrave frames.

In 1863, when major repairs were made to the sills, a small gable roofed kitchen ell with an open piazza was added to the northern end of the east elevation. The piazza was removed in 1940. The original barn which had been cut from a two and one half to one and one half story structure in 1940 had become so unsafe by 1963 that it was taken down. It was replaced by a garage which employed the same dimensions. A one story ell, invisible from the street, was also added.

Much original interior finish remains. There are four and six raised field paneled doors with hardware dating from both the late eighteenth century construction date and from the 1860's remodeling. Floorboards are of wide pine, hickory and chestnut planks. Corner posts have casing with beaded edges. The two front downstairs rooms have raised field paneled fireplace walls with built-in cupboards. The backroom has wainscotting of vertical pine boards capped with a single molding. All three rooms, as well as the three above them, have fireplaces.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

SEP 6 1978

DATE ENTERED

NOV 20 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 6 • PAGE 1

Historic American Building Survey, Department of the Interior, Library of
Congress, Washington, D.C., 1935 Federal

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1790

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Joel Robinson

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Joel Robinson House is the oldest in its part of Attleboro and has been owned by nine generations of the same family. It was built c. 1790 on land that had been owned by the family since 1713. The Robinson family had been one of the first three to settle in the area. They assisted Captain Thomas Willett in 1661 in a survey of the Rehoboth North Purchase, now Attleboro.

Captain Joel Robinson served in the American Revolution and continued to serve as a captain in the Attleboro Militia. He was a farmer and housewright and is believed to have built several of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth century houses in Attleboro. After his death, the house was owned jointly by his two daughters, Mary and Eliza. Mary married Ezra Walker, a local carpenter. Eliza married her cousin Samuel Blackington who became a prominent industrialist in Blackintonville and built a brownstone mansion in North Adams which is now the public library (NR).

The road on which the house is located was originally called Meetinghouse Road. It was changed to Rocklawn Avenue c. 1890 by Charles Phillips in recognition of the large red sandstone boulder on the lot of the Robinson House. Large outcroppings of this rock type appear through the area which is undisturbed.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bristol County Probate and Land records. Family documents, journals etc.
 Attleboro maps of 1831, 1832, 1858, 1880, 1891

John Daggett, A Sketch of the History of Attleborough, M. Mann, Printer,
 Dedham, 1834

John Daggett, A Sketch of the History of Attleborough, Press of Samuel Usher,
 Boston, 1894

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.6 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A

1	0
---	---

3	0	6	6	4	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	6	4	5	3	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Refer to the attached map which is plat number 78 of the Attleboro assessors maps. The nominated property occupies lot number 9 which is delineated in red.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Elizabeth Phillips
 Attleboro Historical Comm.

Candace Jenkins, National Register Coordinator

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Massachusetts Historical Commission

August 1978

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

294 Washington Street

617- 727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Boston

Massachusetts

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Patricia L. Wesbroski

8/25/78

TITLE

Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Chuck Adams

DATE

11-20-78

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Anna M. Dwyer

DATE

11/17/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Robinson, Capt. Joel, House

State Mass.

Working Number 9.6.78.4022

TECHNICAL

Photos 4
Maps 1, Plat

CONTROL

OK pl
9.7.78

Significant for its association with one of the earliest settlers in Attleboro. Also appears to have architectural significance.

HISTORIAN

Accept
Lightner
11-16-78

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

IN ADDITION TO ITS HISTORICAL ASSOCIATIONS NOTED ABOVE THE HOUSE HAS SIGNIFICANCE AS AN INTACT AND STRAIGHTFORWARD EXAMPLE OF A LATE 18^C FARM HOUSE.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

ACCEPT
Mark Duggan
11/17/78

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Approved
11/20/78

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2-6-79

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered NOV 20 1978

INT:2106-74



Capt. Joel Robinson House
Elizabeth Phillips, m1977
111 Rocklawn Avenue
Attleboro, MA

Entrance, south elevation

NOV 20 1978

SEP 6 1978

W



#6

Capt. Joel Robinson House
Elizabeth Phillips, 1977
111 Rocklawn Avenue
Attleboro, MA

East elevation

SEP 6 1978

NOV 20 1978

|



#5

Capt. Joel Robinson House
Elizabeth Phillips, 1977
111 Rocklawn Avenue
Attleboro, MA

North elevation

SEP 6 1978

NOV 20 1978

41

THIS PAPER MANUFACTURED BY KODAK



#1
Capt Joel Robinson House
Heritage Farm
111 Rocklawn Ave.
Attleboro, Mass.

Southwest Facade

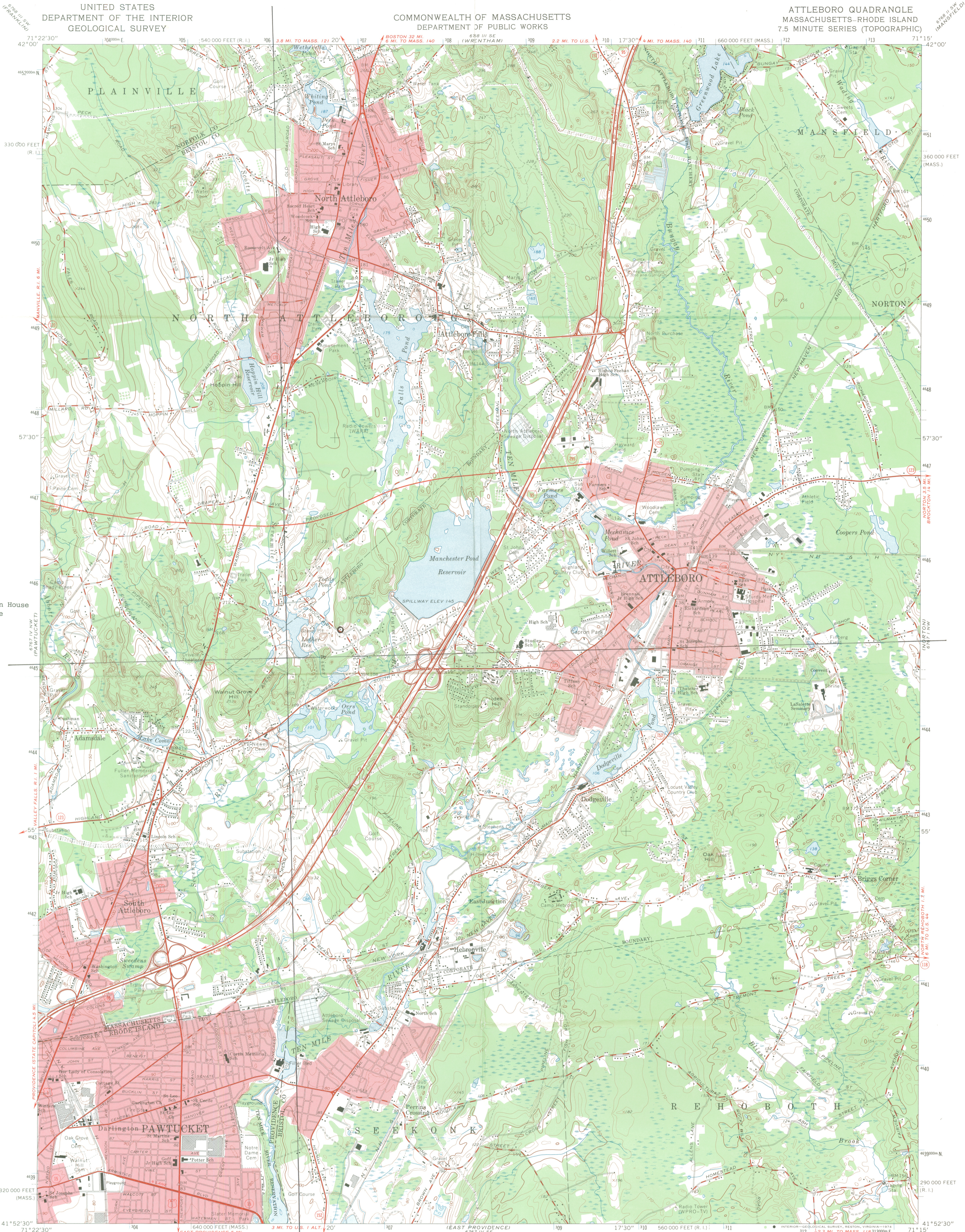
Captain Joel Robinson House
Elizabeth Phillips, 1977
111 Rocklawn Avenue
Attleboro, MA

Southwest facade

NOV 20 1978

SEP 6 1978

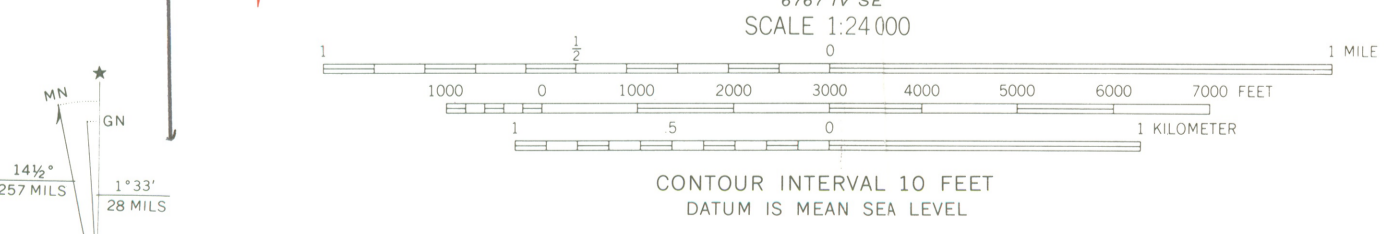
2



Capt. Joel Robinson House
111 Rocklawn Avenue
Attleboro, Mass.

UTM References:
19/306640/4645320

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1935 and 1938-1939
Revised 1964
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and Rhode Island coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

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

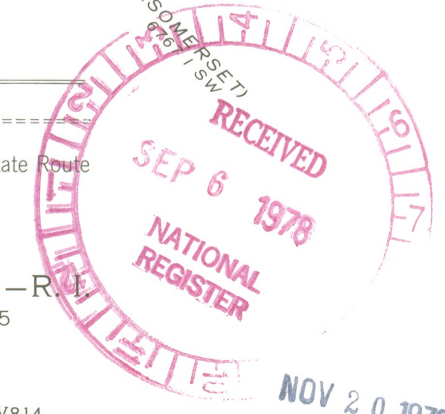
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ATTLEBORO, MASS.—RHODE ISLAND
N4152.5—W7115.7.5

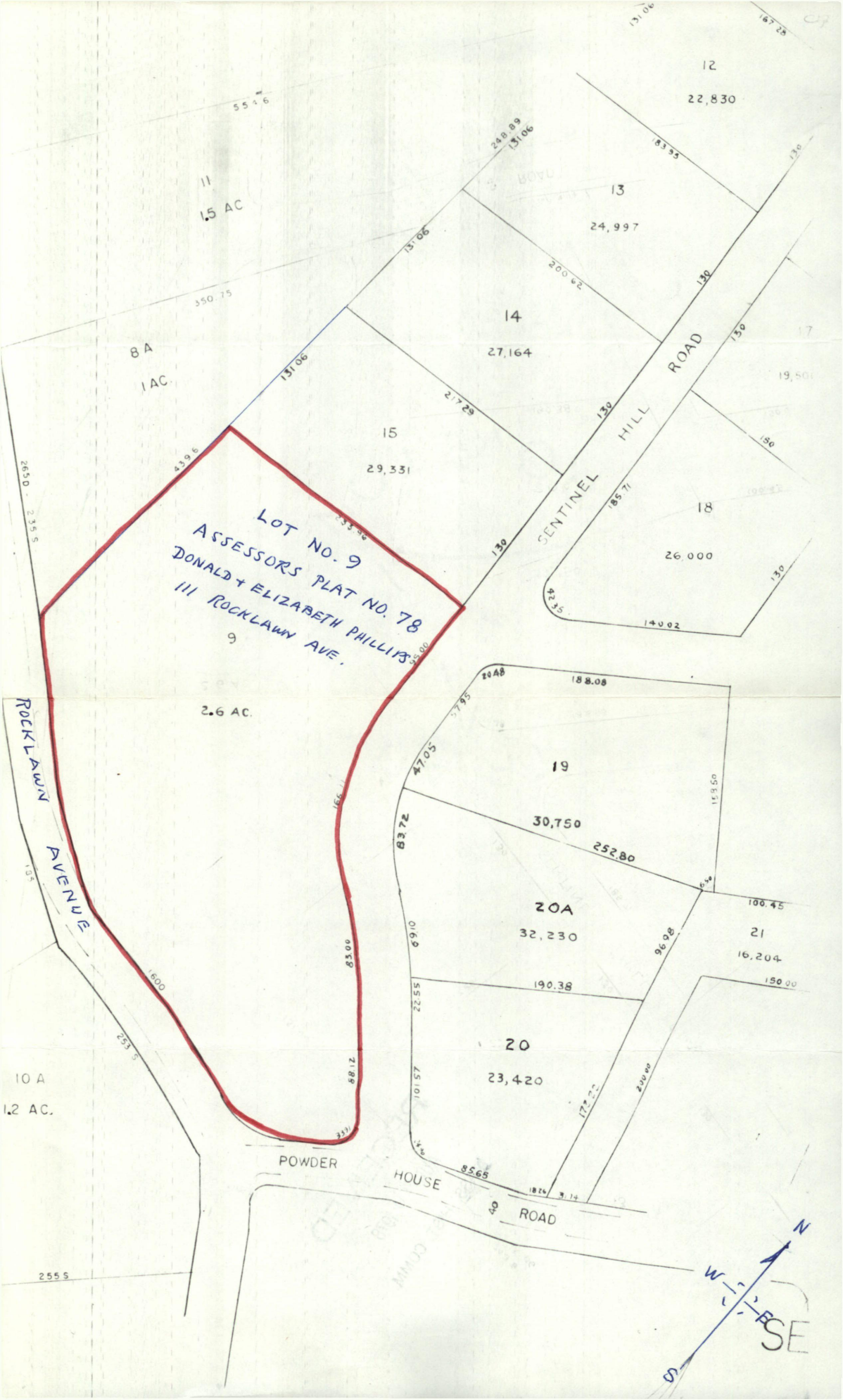
1964

AMS 6767 IV NE—SERIES V814



NOV 2 0 1978

Capt. Joel Robinson House
111 Rocklawn Ave
Attleboro, Mass.



11
1.5 AC

8A
1 AC

LOT NO. 9
ASSESSORS PLAT NO. 78
DONALD + ELIZABETH PHILLIPS
111 ROCKLAWN AVE.
9

2.6 AC

10A
1.2 AC

14
27,164

15
29,331

13
24,997

18
26,000

19
30,750

20A
32,230

20
23,420

21
16,204

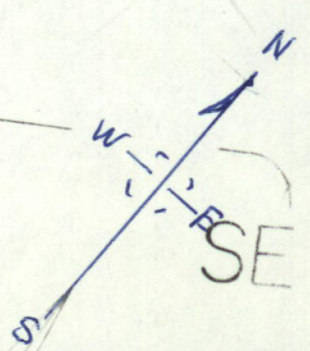
12
22,830

2650 - 235 S

ROCKLAWN AVENUE

SENTINEL HILL ROAD

POWDER HOUSE ROAD



RECEIVED

AUG 10 1978

MASS HIST COMM

NOV 20 1978



PAUL GUZZI

Secretary of the
Commonwealth

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

294 Washington Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108

(617) 727-8470

August 21, 1978

Mr. Charles Herrington, Chief
Registration Branch
National Register
OAHP, Heritage Conservation and
Recreation Service
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Mr. Herrington,

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Attleboro- Capt. Joel Robinson House

Beverly- Odd Fellows' Hall

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

Sincerely,

Christine Boulding

Christine Boulding
Acting Survey Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered NOV 20 1978

Name

Location

Robinson, Capt. Joel, House

Attleboro
Bristol County

High Service Water Tower and Reservoir

Lawrence
Essex County

Odd Fellow's Hall

Beverly
Essex County

Also Notified

Honorable Edward W. Brooke
Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Margaret M. Heckler
Honorable Paul Tsongas
Honorable Michael J. Harrington

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Robinson, Capt. Joel, House
 ② OTHER NAMES: Heritage Farm
 ③ date of entry: NOV 20 1978
 ④ county code: 005

⑤ LOCATION street & number: 111 Rocklawn Ave.
 city / town: Attleboro
 vicinity of: _____
 state: MA
 county: Bristol
 ⑥ NPS REGION: N Atlantic

⑦ OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name)
 ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR: _____
 ⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS HABS HAER NHL
 ⑩ FUNDED? YES NO
 ⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 10
 ⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION STATE FEDERAL
 if state who prepared form? _____

⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME _____ NO
 ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME _____ NO
 ⑮ ACREAGE: _____
 LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑯ CONDITION deteriorated altered original site
 excellent ruins unaltered moved
 good unexposed reconstructed unknown
 fair unexcavated excavated
 ⑰ features: INTERIOR SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-4 NOT APPLICABLE-7
 EXTERIOR SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-5 NOT APPLICABLE-8
 ENVIRONS SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-6 NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS YES-Restricted YES-Unrestricted No Access Unknown
 ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE YES NO
 ⑳ SAVED? YES
 ㉑ IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

㉒ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE :
 ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 COMMERCE-6 ENTERTAINMENT-26 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 POLITICS/GOVT.-21 RECREATION-28
 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 COMMUNICATIONS-7 EXPLORATION-12 LAW-16 RELIGION-22 SETTLEMENT-29
 AGRICULTURE-3 CONSERVATION-8 HEALTH-27 MILITARY-18 SCIENCE-23 URBAN PLANNING-31
 ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS-9 INDUSTRY-13 MUSIC-19 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
 ART-5 EDUCATION-10 INVENTION-14 PHILOSOPHY-20 TRANSPORTATION-25
 ㉓ CLAIMS: explain
 'first'
 'oldest'
 'only'

㉔ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: _____ CURRENTLY: _____
 ㉕ dates of initial construction: _____ major alterations: _____ historic events: _____
 ㉖ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION: _____

㉗ architectural style(s): _____ ㉘ architect: _____ ㉙ master builder: _____ ㉚ engineer: _____

㉛ landscape architect / garden designer: _____ ㉜ interior decorator: _____ ㉝ artist: _____ ㉞ artisan: _____ ㉟ builder/contractor: _____

㊱ NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL:
 EVENTS:
 INSTITUTIONAL:

㊲ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP