

# MHC Reconnaissance Survey Town Report

## MASHPEE

Report Date: 1984

Associated Regional Report: Cape Cod and the Islands

**Reconnaissance Survey Town Reports**, produced for MHC's Statewide Reconnaissance Survey between 1979 and 1987, introduce the historical development of each of the Commonwealth's municipalities. Each report begins with an historic overview, a description of topography, and political boundaries. For the purposes of the survey, the historic period has been subdivided into seven periods: Contact (1500–1620), Plantation (1620–1675), Colonial (1675–1775), Federal (1775–1830), Early Industrial (1830–1870), Late Industrial (1870–1915), and Early Modern (1915–1940/55). Each report concludes with survey observations that evaluate the town's existing historic properties inventory and highlight significant historic buildings, settlement patterns, and present threats to these resources. A bibliography lists key secondary resources.

Town reports are designed for use together with a series of town maps that demarcate settlement patterns, transportation corridors and industrial sites for each historic period. These maps are in the form of color-coded, polyester overlays to the USGS topographic base map for each town on file and available for consultation at MHC. For further information on the organization and preparation of town reports, readers should contact MHC.

Users should keep in mind that these reports are now two decades or more old. The information they contain, including assessments of existing knowledge, planning recommendations, understanding of local development, and bibliographic references all date to the time they were written. In some cases, information on certain topics was not completed. No attempt has been made to update this information.

Electronic text was not available for digital capture, and as a result most of the reports have been scanned as PDF files. While all have been processed with optical character recognition, there will inevitably be some character recognition errors.

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## MHC RECONNAISSANCE SURVEY REPORT

DATE: 1984

COMMUNITY: Mashpee

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### I. TOPOGRAPHY

Mashpee is located in the southwestern portion of Cape Cod, bordered in the north by Sandwich, in the east by Barnstable and Nantucket Sound, in the south by Nantucket Sound, and in the west by Falmouth. The township is located entirely within the Mashpee Outwash Plain with the Sandwich Moraine to the north in Sandwich and Bourne and the Falmouth Moraine to the west in Falmouth and Bourne. Land surfaces in the town are generally fairly level and slope to the south. Elevations average 100 feet or less. Soils in Mashpee are sandy loams and less rocky than moraine areas to the north and west. However, Mashpee soils are said to be less cultivated than other Cape areas, with the best soils near and around large ponds.

In general, Mashpee is a wooded township with some oak, but mostly pitch pine. It has been reported that by 1800 only 1,200 acres of cleared land existed (Deyo 1890: 707). The Mashpee woods which join with those of Sandwich and Falmouth afford a good range for deer.

Drainage in Mashpee is generally from north to south, through numerous rivers, creeks, lakes, ponds, and swamps. Several kettle hole ponds and depressions exist as well. Mashpee/Wakeby Pond is the largest in the town along with numerous smaller ponds, including John's, Ashumet, and Santuit ponds.

Two main harbor areas exist along Mashpee's southern coastline. One harbor, Popponeset Bay, forms a partial eastern boundary of the township. The other harbor, Waquoit Bay, forms a portion of the town's western border with Falmouth. Both harbors are barred at their entrances. Several salt ponds, bays, and rivers also crosscut Mashpee's southern coastline. From east to west these areas include the Quashnet River, Red Brook, Hamblin Pond, Little and Great rivers, Sage Lot Pond, Popponeset Creek, Ockway Bay, Mashpee River, Shoestring Bay, Quaker Run, and the Santuit River.

### II. POLITICAL BOUNDARIES

A "six-mile square" native reservation for the Mashpee Indians was procured by Richard Bourne of Sandwich in 1660. Desirable lands were subsequently annexed by surrounding towns. In 1700 a large tract on Waquoit Bay in the west was taken by Falmouth, followed by the loss of northern territory to Sandwich, and the transfer of Cotuit to Barnstable. Mashpee was established as an Indian Lands District in 1763. This status was revoked in 1797, when the territory was made a plantation. District status was reestablished in 1834. The eastern boundary with Barnstable was adjusted in 1795, 1894, and 1916. Northern boundary changes with

Sandwich were made in 1859, 1860, 1887, and 1905. Mashpee was incorporated as a town in 1870.

### III. HISTORIC OVERVIEW

Mashpee is a residential community with military base facilities, located on the primary Cape Cod south shore corridor running between Mashpee Pond and Great Neck on Vineyard Sound. Native sites are likely at many coastal, riverine and pondside locations. Plantation period native villages were consolidated as reservation lands set off in 1660 through efforts of Christian missionary Richard Bourne. Native church in 1670 northeast of Santuit Pond. Territory used as native concentration camp after King Philip's War. Plantation remained under control of Society for Propagating the Gospel in New England through the early 18th century. Meetinghouse was relocated to a more central site in 1717. Autonomous district status was finally granted in 1763, but was revoked in 1789 as part of effort to control growing, heterogeneous, nonwhite population. Local religious revival of the early 1830s led to an 1833 uprising for self-government, which resulted in the reestablishment of district status in 1834. Dispersed agricultural settlement was characteristic of the 18th and 19th centuries, with cranberry bog development after 1850. Postwar expansion of Otis Air Base has entered northwestern territory north of John's Pond. Mid-20th century shoreline cottage development has concentrated along the southeast coast from Succonesset Point to Popponeset Beach. Recent, intensive suburb and condominium development of New Seabury has extended from Pine Tree Corner along Great Neck Road to South Mashpee and the Ockway Bay-Popponeset area. Scattered late 18th and 19th century cottages survive, primarily along Route 130 and Waquoit Road, although some abandonment has taken place. Suburban pressures from Falmouth and Barnstable will continue to be intensive, threatening remaining structures, rural landscapes, and significant archaeological sites.

### IV. CONTACT PERIOD (1500-1620)

#### A. Transportation Routes

Inferred north-south route from Cape Cod Bay/ Shawme Lake focus between Mashpee and Santuit ponds on Sandwich-Cotuit Road. Alternate route inferred west of Mashpee Pond on Route 130, with southwest branch on Falmouth-Sandwich Road. Conjectured southern branch between Quashnet and Mashpee rivers to Great Neck and Ockway Bay on Lovells Road-Waquoit Road-Great Neck Road. Northeast connector conjectured on Old Barnstable Road to abandoned way along Quashnet River corridor north of Johns Pond.

#### B. Population

No direct evidence is present on which to base estimates of Contact period Native American populations. However, in most probability Native populations did exist, particularly in the Waquoit Bay and Popponeset Bay areas along the township's southern shore. Populations also probably existed along major

riverine and lake/pondside locations as well. Early 17th century plagues and epidemics undoubtedly reduced populations. No Europeans resided in the township during this period.

### C. Settlement Pattern

European settlements did not exist in Mashpee during the Contact period. However, some contact between Native Americans and Europeans in this area undoubtedly took place, as European explorers and fishermen frequented the area long before settlement. In addition, direct and indirect contact probably existed between Mashpee area Natives and Dutch and English traders who traded from the Aptuxcet Post area in present-day Bourne north of Falmouth on Buzzard's Bay.

Numerous sources of evidence indicate Native American populations had settled the Mashpee area for some time prior to European contact. Unfortunately, no specific Late Woodland period sites are known for the Mashpee area. However, known sites of this period are present in Barnstable and occupy site locations similar to potential areas in Mashpee. The Waquoit Bay and Popponeset Bay areas and their associated estuaries represent potential areas for site locations. In addition, surface collections from the Falmouth side of Waquoit Bay also indicate a Late Woodland settlement locus in that area. Thus, while known Late Woodland and Contact period sites may not be present, their absence may simply be the result of the underreporting of sites rather than their absence.

While exact Contact period village locations are unknown, Native American place names provide clues to the extent to which natives either inhabited and/or used the Mashpee area. For example, Mashpee itself is a native name which, during colonial times was often spelled Marshpee, Massapee, Mashpoag, and Mahtepos. Other names for various landforms and wetlands are also derived from Native American roots. These include Santuit, Ashumet, Popponeset, Quashnet, and many more.

Thus, while specific Woodland and Contact period sites are unknown for the Mashpee area, local environments in the town, known site locations in neighboring towns and native place names for the Mashpee area indicate a high probability that the area was used by Native American populations. Furthermore, known native populations occupied the area during the later Plantation and Colonial periods. Late Woodland and Contact period sites should be found in this area. Specifically, site locations should follow regional trends for settlement in coastal areas such as tidal rivers, estuaries, and ponds. Areas near shellfish beds and anadromous fish runs may prove particularly good locations. Inland areas near ponds and rivers may also prove good site locations as well.

### D. Subsistence Pattern

Since European settlements were not present in the Mashpee area during this period, European subsistence probably followed that of  
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the Native American inhabitants in the area. While some food was undoubtedly carried with early explorers, traders, and fishermen, the bulk of their subsistence was probably secured through hunting, fishing, and the gathering of wild plants, shellfish, and the trading, stealing, or purchase of agricultural products (corn, beans, etc.) from the local Native Americans.

Native American subsistence during the Contact period in the Mashpee area was probably similar to that practiced in other Cape areas. The combined use of wild and domesticated food resources formed the basis of the subsistence system. It is unknown at present exactly when agriculture, or more specifically, horticulture, was introduced to the Native Americans of the Cape area. However, by the Contact period, sufficient quantities of corn, beans, and squash were being produced for storage and, at times, for sale or trade to English settlers. Shellfishing, fishing, and hunting were also important subsistence pursuits. In Mashpee, along the Nantucket Sound, several areas of shellfish concentrations are present. Among them, the Waquoit Bay and Popponesset Bay are the most noteworthy. Waquoit Bay contains mixed shellfish beds as well as larger concentrations of quahaug (*Mercenaria mercenaria*) and bay scallop (*Argopectin irradians*). Popponesset Bay also contains mixed shellfish beds and concentrated areas of soft shelled clam (*Mya arenaria*), quahaug, bay scallop, and oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*). Popponesset Bay has been reported to have some of the finest oyster grounds on the southern shore of the Cape. The lower reaches of the Mashpee and Santuit rivers also contain significant oyster beds. In addition to shellfish beds, the southern coastline of Mashpee also presently contains a number of anadromous fish runs as well. Alewife runs may be found in the Quashnet River and John's Pond, the Mashpee River, and Mashpee/Wakeby ponds and the Santuit River and Santuit Pond. Numerous runs may also have existed in other areas as well.

In addition to alewives, other species of fish were also available in the Mashpee area, both in fresh and salt water. In freshwater streams and ponds, trout, bass, pickerel, and other species would have been available. At one time Mashpee trout were reported to demand a higher price than others in the New England area. In saltwater areas such as tidal ponds, coves, Nantucket Sound, and possibly offshore areas, numerous species of fish would have been available at various times of the year. These species included sea bass, striped bass, eel, tautog, bluefish, flounder, conners, cod, haddock, smelt, frost fish, scup, and others. In the Nantucket Sound and offshore areas, pelagic species such as tuna and swordfish would also have been available. Sea mammals such as whales and seals would also have been present and available along coastal areas and in the sound.

The wetlands and forested areas of Mashpee provided numerous species of mammals for hunting. Wolves were present as well as deer, muskrat, otters, mink, raccoon, and other furbearers. Mashpee has always been known for excellent hunting and fishing.

## V. PLANTATION PERIOD (1620-1675)

### A. Transportation Routes

Contact period routes remained in use by natives and by Europeans as connectors between surrounding towns. Main routes included Sandwich-Cotuit Road, Sandwich-Falmouth Road, and Old Barnstable Road.

### B. Population

Little direct evidence is present on which systematic estimates of Plantation period populations can be made. Few, if any, Europeans lived in Mashpee. Richard Bourne owned land in Mashpee in 1661, but probably lived on his farm in Sandwich. Native American populations were present. In 1672, 237 Indians or "natives" were reported. Also, in 1674, 90 Indians were reported as baptized with 27 listed as in full communion as church members. Other natives were undoubtedly present who were not baptized and in communion.

### C. Settlement Pattern

Europeans did not own land in Mashpee until late in the Plantation period (1661) when Richard Bourne purchased land from the natives on Waquoit Harbor and parcels east and south of Mashpee Pond. However, this purchase did not establish a trend of European settling in the area. Prior to this date, Bourne was a land tenant in the Mashpee area; other Europeans may have been tenants also.

While exact village sites are unknown, Native American populations were present in the Mashpee area throughout the 17th century. However, it is possible natives in the Mashpee area were under the political authority of leaders in other areas. It is reported that during the mid 17th century much of the Mashpee area was under the leadership of Poupunnuck, the village headman of Cotachesset, located on Oyster Island, now called Oyster Harbors in the southwestern corner of the town of Barnstable (Hutchins 1979: 19-21).

Mashpee was established as a Native American reservation or praying town through the efforts of Richard Bourne. Bourne began preaching to the Mashpee or South Sea Indians in 1658. At that time, Bourne was instrumental in having the Mashpee area set aside for Indian settlement, settling the boundary line between the proprietors of Barnstable and natives of Mashpee. The town was originally six miles larger in size until 1700, when land was annexed by Falmouth. Later land was also added to Sandwich and Barnstable. All lands to the Mashpee Indians were originally held in common.

In 1670 Bourne was ordained pastor of the Indian church established northeast of Santuit Pond. It was Bourne's intent to use the church as a focal point for a Native American town in

which he could centralize his converts to Congregational Protestantism.

At the close of the Plantation period, ca. 1675, the Mashpee area was used as a type of Native American concentration camp during the King Philip's War.

#### D. Economic Base

Hunting and fishing have been reported as the primary occupation of the Mashpee Native Americans throughout the Plantation period. It appears likely that some form of agriculture was also pursued. However, authors such as Deyo (1890: 714) report that it was not until 1834 that the inhabitants of Mashpee turned to farming. Corn, rye, and potatoes are reported as important crops to the Native Americans.

Little if any evidence is present describing the activities of European tenants in the Mashpee area. Some farming and haying may have been pursued, but little evidence supports this observation.

### VI. COLONIAL PERIOD (1675-1775)

#### A. Transportation Routes

Earlier roadways continued in use, with some focus at native meetinghouse site on Mashpee River corridor after 1717.

#### B. Population

The types of population statistics reported in different accounts vary, but the overall number of residents appears to remain fairly stable, in the 200-300 range, not only for the Colonial period, but for most succeeding periods as well. 237 natives reported in 1672; "141 Praying Indians" reported 1685 (over age 12); 263 reported 1698 (over age 10). In 1765, the Massachusetts census reported 230 Indians, 31 "Negroes," and 77 whites -- the latter category probably in the Waquoit Bay area, now part of Falmouth.

The legislation of 1763 conferring "district" status on Mashpee opened settlement to outsiders, though population figures suggest that whites were the largest group to take advantage of the new status. Between 1765 and 1790, the number of whites doubled, while that of nonwhites declined.

#### C. Settlement Pattern

The Mashpee church had been organized in 1670 northeast of Santuit Pond as the focal point for the praying town. By 1674 Mashpee was ahead of Sandwich in terms of baptized church members and members in full communion. By 1684 a meetinghouse was erected in the east part of town on the road from Cotuit to Sandwich.

In 1685, the General Court enacted a law that no lands could be sold by the natives without the permission of the court.

Subsequently, in 1693 guardians were appointed by the state

subject to commissioners which lasted until 1763, when Mashpee was constituted as a Plantation. Mashpee Indians were in general dissatisfied with their oppressive condition, for in 1760 a Mashpee Indian went to England with complaints to the king, resulting in permission for the Mashpees to elect their own officers. Mashpee was not incorporated as a district until 1834.

It was not until 1725 that the Mashpee Indians could employ persons to build residences on the reservation. As a result, by 1767 only 21 shingled homes existed, about one-third of all residences. Several native homes or "wigwams" were still in existence. By 1800, about 80 houses were present with some "wigwams" still reported.

#### D. Economic Base

Little documentation of specific activities. Subsistence hunting and fishing economy primarily with some agriculture practiced. Small lots produced corn, "a third as much rye," potatoes. No mills known in this period, though their appearance by the 1790s is probably due to outsiders and effects of "district" status.

#### E. Architecture

Residential: Only one town building appears to survive from this period. The Gooch House is 1 1/2 stories with a side entry placed close to the corner of the long side, with a perpendicular ell from the opposite corner. Several other buildings of the town present this form, but are undated. The town's small population and the persistence of Native American building forms contribute to this low survival rate. In 1767, the town held 52 wigwams and 21 (English) houses; in 1776, 39 wigwams and 42 houses.

Institutional: The only building known to survive is the Meeting House built on Santuit Pond in 1684 and moved to its present site in 1717 and enlarged. Its present appearance is influenced by a remodeling in 1854, and restoration in 1965-69. The gable entry originally had twin doors, replaced by a single during restoration; there are two windows on the second floor front and on the side, the corners have plain pilasters, and the front is clapboard.

### VII. FEDERAL PERIOD (1775-1830)

#### A. Transportation Routes

The primary Colonial period highways and local roadways continued in use. An alternate Falmouth-Barnstable route was established southwest of the meetinghouse, east of the Quashnet River corridor.

#### B. Population

Population remains stable in the 300s for nearly the entire period of Mashpee censuses between 1765 and 1930. The only significant aberration occurred in the census years 1800, 1810, and 1820, when figures of 155, 139, and 150 respectively are reported. This is

probably the result of a calculated omission on the part of census takers; 1802 and 1808 population counts report 380 and 357 respectively.

The only further breakdown of the population in this period is by the Federal census, but its figures vary with an unpredictability verging on the totally unreliable.

In the early years of the period, the town's atmosphere of openness to Black and Native Americans, as well as a range of foreigners, continued; interracial marriages resulted from the imbalance between the two primary groups as male Blacks were more numerous in the region while male Native Americans were away engaged in whaling. In 1788-89 the status of the town reverted from district to plantation with state wards. Attempts were made to limit to Mashpee descendants the role of proprietor in the town, as well as discouraging the influx of fugitive slaves. The town developed an unsatisfactory relationship with their assigned minister. Baptists operated briefly in the town (1794-1807).

#### C. Settlement Pattern

Dispersed settlement continued, with the greatest concentration of native residences on Great Neck between Popponeset Bay and Waquoit Bay. Most cleared land was located on necks, near harbors, and on the banks of rivers and lakes.

#### D. Economic Base

Extension of hunting and fishing subsistence economy of previous period, though two grist mills (on Mashpee and Santuit rivers) were established by 1794, probably by whites as a result of 1763 legislation admitting outsiders.

Mashpee's chief article of export appears to have been its cordwood. In 1802, 300-400 cords of wood were reported annually exported to Nantucket and elsewhere. Probably in this period, wood was also beginning to be poached from Mashpee woodlots by neighboring towns. Small amount of saltmaking probably also undertaken, over which Hessians were said to have presided, though this was not significant enough to have been reported in the 1832 report of salt-making activity in the county.

Nantucket and the sea also attracted Mashpee residents as well as its cordwood, and many young men went to sea as whalers in this period.

#### E. Architecture

Residential: The number of wigwams in the town dropped substantially before 1800. The buildings that survive from this period are primarily 1 1/2-story interior chimney, double pile dwellings; three-, four-, and five-bay examples each survive. One four-bay example appears to be single pile.

## VIII. EARLY INDUSTRIAL PERIOD (1830-1870)

### A. Transportation Routes

The early 19th century roads continued in use. No rail connections were established to town.

### B. Population

Very little change in population, which remained between 309 and 348 throughout the period. Ratio of whites to nonwhites rose from one in twenty in 1840 to one in eight by 1870. The removal of Waquoit to the town of Falmouth in 1841 is not evident in the population figures.

The Baptists experienced a resurgence after 1830 under Blind Joe Amos and Pequot William Apes, and the church shifted from Congregationalism. Apes became the leader of a movement for greater independence and began calling the population a tribe. The status was returned to district in 1834, control of the church gained in 1840. Resistance to sale of land to new proprietors continued, and a new status developed for "colored non proprietors." More former residents returned and land became scarce and the town voted 1841-42 to divide the land (total of 10,000 acres) into 60-acre lots; sales could only be made to other proprietors. The commission was abolished in 1853, and in 1868 agitation began for complete independence; interest was primarily in voting privileges, but not on free alienation of land. The town was incorporated in 1870. Two schools operated in the town during the period; there was also a Sunday School and temperance society.

### C. Settlement Pattern

Dispersed settlement continued, with a small focus south of Mashpee Pond and extending eastward toward the Santuit River mill. A smaller concentration developed southwest of Ockway Bay. No development occurred around the meetinghouse. Small clusters developed by period's end on the east side of John's Pond, the southeast shore of Ashumet Pond, and the northeast shore of Wakeby Pond. Cranberry bogs were developed after the 1830s. Five thousand acres remained common lands through the period.

### D. Economic Base

The return to "district" status in 1834 brought some outside investment and organization to Mashpee's rural economy. Many former Mashpee residents returned home and became active in town affairs. Mashpee Manufacturing Company organized by natives in 1834 to manufacture brooms, but the company was not a success; its rights were soon sold to outsiders and its property converted to the raising of cranberries. Although farming was reported to have improved after the community's organization as a district (Deyo), subsistence agriculture remained the norm. Cordwood probably remained the chief article of export. The small mills on the

Mashpee and Santuit rivers remained in operation for most of the period.

#### E. Architecture

Residential: The town holds several examples of the popular 1 1/2-story, three-bay, side entry, interior chimney, double pile house; one example has a side ell. One house has entry on the long side, but three-bay gable end presented to the street. A single example of the Second Empire style survives in South Mashpee, two stories under a mansard roof with a two-bay projecting entrance.

Institutional: A Temperance Society Hall, of unknown appearance, was constructed, which later served as a chapel; it burned in 1935.

### IX. LATE INDUSTRIAL PERIOD (1870-1915)

#### A. Transportation Routes

The 19th century road system remained in use.

#### B. Population

Slight decline in population from 348 in 1870 to 263 in 1915 -- most of which occurred in the last decade, 1905-15. Ratio of whites to nonwhites moved from one in eight to one in four by 1915.

#### C. Settlement Pattern

More intensive linear development occurred along the Sandwich-Cotuit Road east of the North Village. At the North Village,, a Baptist chapel was in use, and residential development extended south on Waquoit Road.

#### D. Economic Base

Incorporation as the town of Mashpee in 1870 removed restrictions on land sales by Mashpee residents to outsiders. Large landowners were quick to seize opportunities, and large quantities of woodland, swamps (for cranberry raising), and oceanfront property were sold to outsiders by the end of the 1870s. Though these new property owners for the most part were absentee owners, the outside capital provided a new source of job opportunities in summer houses, as hunting and fishing guides, and in cranberry raising. By 1890, 50 acres of bogs were under cultivation for cranberries.

#### E. Architecture

Residential: Two unusual buildings survive from this period: three-bay houses with center entries, two stories in height with the second lit by dormers in a gambrel roof; single pile with a shed service ell in the rear. Larger examples, with more elaborate additions, survive in Bourne.

## X. EARLY MODERN PERIOD (1915-1940)

### A. Transportation Routes

Falmouth Road was improved by the mid 1920s as part of Route 28 from Falmouth to Hyannis. Forestdale Road from Sandwich in the northwest was upgraded as Route 130.

### B. Population

Mashpee remained the smallest town in the county. Population decline begun in 1905 continued through 1920, reaching 242 in the latter year. Through the 1920s and '30s, the number rose, probably as a result of increased automobile traffic, reaching 434 by 1940. Ratio of whites to nonwhites varies between 1:3 (1930) and 1:6 (1940). Not until the post World War II period did the number of whites begin to approach that of natives. Between 1950 and 1960, the population doubled, and only at the latter date did white outnumber nonwhite.

### C. Settlement Pattern

A Pentacostal church was built east of North Village on Route 130 in 1930. The Baptist church in North Village was rebuilt after a fire in 1935. Some cottage development occurred on southeast shore of Mashpee Pond. By the end of the period, cottage development took place in the south along Nantucket Sound at Rock Landing, along Shore Drive, south and southeast of Dean Pond, and south of Popponeset Creek.

### D. Economic Base

The cultivation of cranberries was the principal occupation of the residents, who also engaged to some extent in fishing and farming. The extent of the cranberry bogs, however, mostly owned by nonresidents, did not begin to approach that of neighboring cranberry towns.

By 1920, the number of summer residents was sharply on the increase. By the end of the decade, their property was taxed at \$700,000, while resident property taxes amounted to only \$48,000. Town expenses were thus largely borne by its visitors.

### E. Architecture

**Residential:** The small number of buildings that survive include a three-bay, two-story pyramidal roofed example, and a Craftsman bungalow.

**Institutional:** The Second Baptist Church built their second church in 1930. This small gable roofed structure is entered through a round headed door in a gabled porch at one end and a secondary entrance at the opposite end of the long side of the building; a small bell tower and round headed window in the gable end add ornamentation. In ca. 1932 a brick Colonial Revival school building was constructed, named for a major donor to the

town, Samuel G. Davis; it is now the town's public library. A large, gable front, single-story, utilitarian Town Hall was built in 1940.

#### XI. SURVEY OBSERVATIONS

The town's inventory is quite small, but it is difficult to determine the extent to which it accurately assesses the town's historic structures. The town's population remained quite small throughout the period under consideration; from the Revolution period through 1940 the total fluctuated around 300, necessitating only about 60 dwellings. The rapid growth of the post-World War II period, particularly in the south of the town, has obscured, if not destroyed, an unknown number of the town's older buildings.

#### XII. SOURCES

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