

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 National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. 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.

1. Name of Property

Historic name: Beaver River Road Historic District

Other names/site number: N/A

Name of related multiple property listing:
N/A

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

2. Location

Street & number: Beaver River Road, Beaver River Schoolhouse Road

City or town: Richmond State: Rhode Island County: Washington

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

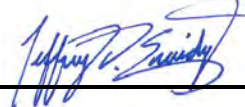
I hereby certify that this x nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property x meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

 national statewide x local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

 x A B x C D

	Interim State Historic Preservation Officer	October 14, 2021
Signature of certifying official/Title:		Date
<u>Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission</u>		
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government		

In my opinion, the property <u> </u> meets <u> </u> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
<hr/>	
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

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

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>11</u>	<u>15</u>	buildings
<u>4</u>	_____	sites
<u>9</u>	_____	structures
_____	_____	objects
<u>24</u>	<u>15</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural field
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuilding
- FUNERARY/cemetery
- _____
- _____
- _____

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

- DOMESTIC/single dwelling
- DOMESTIC/secondary structure
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural field
- AGRICULTURE/SUBSISTENCE/agricultural outbuilding
- FUNERARY/cemetery
- VACANT/NOT IN USE
- _____
- _____

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EARLY REPUBLIC/Federal

MID-19TH CENTURY/Greek Revival

OTHER

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: STONE, WOOD/clapboard and shingle,
METAL, ASPHALT, CONCRETE

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Note: The Beaver River Road Historic District received a formal Determination of Eligibility (DOE) by the Keeper of the National Register for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 1995 (Adams and Hollister, 1995). This nomination presents essentially the same historic district area as the 1995 DOE, with a small boundary revision at the northeast corner to include property on the east side of the road and north of Beaver River Schoolhouse Road that is visually and historically associated with the district. In addition, the inventory in Section 7 of this nomination includes a total of 18 resources not inventoried in the DOE: some are within the boundary revision area; some were built after the DOE was prepared; and some, including several notable landscape features, were not mentioned in the DOE.

Summary Paragraph

The Beaver River Road Historic District (the “district”) is a small, primarily agricultural district in the town of Richmond within predominantly rural, southwestern Rhode Island. The district is oriented north–south along Beaver River Road and extends for nearly 1.5 miles from Shannock Hill Road north to a point beyond Beaver River Schoolhouse Road (Figures 1, 2, and 3). The Beaver River runs parallel to the road on the east, flowing south. The district is characterized by a spine of flat, alluvial terrain with open, cultivated fields and pastures flanking the road that are enclosed and edged by woodlands. Trees line the banks of the Beaver River along the east edge

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of the fields and the district. Along the west side of the district, an increase in elevation and change in soil types creates low tree-covered hills. The north extent of the district also marks a transition to higher and wooded land. Low-lying wetlands bound the edges of the south end of the district near the junction of Shannock Hill Road. The district consists primarily of three farmsteads, with dwelling houses, agricultural fields, barns, sheds, and associated structures. Resources date from the 19th through the mid-20th centuries. Much of the land in the district is still cultivated today, with a hedgerow and ditch or stone wall separating farms, and stone walls around farm buildings in some places. The gently winding Beaver River Road, lined in several places with allées of mature maple and tulip trees, recalls a 19th-century agrarian landscape once typical of many locations in the town of Richmond and this area of Rhode Island. The district contains a total of 39 resources, 24 of which (11 buildings, 9 structures, and 4 sites) contribute to its architectural and historical significance. The Beaver River Road Historic District is a well-preserved agricultural historic cultural landscape that retains a strong sense of place and exhibits a high level of integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association.

Narrative Description

Setting

The historic cultural landscape qualities that characterize the district are its agricultural context and continuity of use; its presentation as a visually cohesive, agrarian rural landscape with a river valley floodplain and road flanked by three farmsteads with buildings, broad cultivated fields, and pastures enclosed by woods on both sides of Beaver River Road; and the lack of significant intrusions. The Beaver River to the east is not visible from the road through a band of trees, but defines the meandering east boundary of the fields. The fields, pastures, and river forming the level part of the district lie at elevation 100 feet above sea level. The wide swath of woodland, belonging to the historic farm parcels, on the west side of the district covers low hills that rise to 190 feet. The hilly section is part of a ridge system that extends outside the district between Wilbur Hill (elevation 295 feet) on the north and Shannock Hill (287 ft) on the south. Two ponds, one man-made and one natural, are on the east side of Beaver River Road north and south, respectively, of Beaver River Schoolhouse Road. A third small natural pond is in the woods west of Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore. The southwest corner of the district contains wetlands of the Beaver River.

The agricultural fields that surround the district's 19th-century farm complexes flank Beaver River Road. Their irregular edge line on the east and west sides indicates that their extent follows the natural flat topography and the extent of arable soils known to be highly suitable for agriculture. The level expanses of fields were originally used for subsistence farming and then for dairy and potato production, and now are used primarily for sod/turf farming. They are divided by hedgerows, stone walls, and tree allées along the roads, and connected in places by a former driftway network. The wooded lands along the west side of the district similarly reflect the underlying irregular geology and thin, stony soil types suitable for use as farm woodlots.

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The northern boundary of the district begins approximately 0.6 miles south of Route 138 at the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm (Map Nos. 1–9), an early 19th-century farm complex consisting of a one-and-one-half-story house, one barn converted to a residence, three outbuildings, and a small family cemetery. The land rises steeply at the western edge of the complex; surrounding the complex on the northwest and southwest are three lots with late 20th-century/early 21st-century houses subdivided from the original farmlands. The open fields and pastures that bracket the complex minimize the impact of suburban single-family development to the north, east, and west.

South of the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm is the Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore (Map Nos. 22–31), which consists of a mid-19th-century, two-story house on the west side of Beaver River Road at the base of a small, hilly rise and at a bend in the road; two early 20th-century barns; an early-to mid-20th-century dairy barn; a mid-20th-century corn crib; and an animal pen. Large, cultivated fields used as turf farms are edged by mature maple and tulip trees and lie south of the farmstead on both sides of the road.

At the southern end of the fields, delineated by a tree-lined hedgerow and ditch, is the Jamesford Farm (Map Nos. 32–37). The complex consists of a ca. 1800 farmhouse, an early 20th-century barn, a ca. 2000 garage, a mid-20th-century mobile home on the west side of the road, and a late 19th- to early 20th-century barn that has been converted into a residence on the east side of the road. South of the farmhouse is a large, open pasture bounded by a dense growth of trees and low-lying wetland; the east side of the road is occupied by a large, cultivated field bounded on the east and south by dense stands of trees through which the Beaver River runs. Beaver River Road continues south for about 800 feet through a low-lying wooded area and terminates at Shannock Hill Road just west of the Beaver River.

The district's significant landscape features in the level linear spine are the flat, cultivated fields that line both sides of Beaver River Road, the distinctive allées of maple and tulip trees along both sides of the road between the north end of Walnut Hill Farm and Jamesford Farm, the extant driftway at Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore, and the periodic hedgerows and stone walls perpendicular to Beaver River Road that define property and field lines. The generally level terrain, relatively straight road alignment, and managed open fields provide broad and deep scenic vistas across the district landscape. The edges of the fields are delineated by other significant landscape features: the undulating course of the Beaver River incised in the level land on the east and the higher relief of the wooded ridge on the west. The ridge was considered part of Shannock Hill in the mid-19th century. Based on historic maps and the earliest known aerial photography, the circulation systems were in place in the 19th century, and overall land use in the district has changed little since 1939 (Figures 4, 5, 6, and 7).

The district is bounded on the north by a development of modern, single-family dwellings on suburban-scale lots in a heavily wooded setting north of Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and a small property on the north side of Beaver Schoolhouse Road. This type of development extends northward to Route 138 and encompasses the land of the fourth historic farm that existed on

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Beaver River Road, the Hoxsie Farm.¹ The Hoxsie farmhouse and outbuildings, which were located immediately south of Route 138 on the east and west sides of the road, were demolished in the 1980s. South of Beaver River Schoolhouse Road, the district boundary is defined on the west by the change in topography and land use west of the farm fields, and on the east by the tree line at the edge of the fields and the Beaver River, extending to the district's southern boundary at Shannock Hill Road.

Resource Descriptions

The following properties constitute the three extant 19th-century farmsteads and related properties and landscape elements in the district; the individual resources are described generally north to south. District map numbers correspond to those on the District Data Sheet. Resources are considered contributing if they fall within the district's period of significance (1763–1970) and retain sufficient integrity. A few resources constructed during the period of significance are not visible from a public way and access to them could not be secured; since it was not possible to evaluate their integrity, they are considered non-contributing.

Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm, 79 Beaver River Road

The Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm is located near the northern boundary of the district. The farm complex sits on the west side of Beaver River Road, in a clearing at the foot of a rising piece of wooded land. The Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm has the most irregular terrain of the district farms. The tree line here is closer to the road than elsewhere in the district, and there are small fields north and southeast of the farm complex. Across the road to the east, the land slopes down sharply and then rises and levels out at the Beaver River. In the 19th century, the farm consisted of 120 acres. Portions of the historic farm have been allocated to one mid-20th-century house on the east side of the road and three late 20th- to early 21st-century houses on the northwest and southwest sides of the farm property, which are not visible from the road.

The **Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm House, 79 Beaver River Road (ca. 1800, contributing building, Map No. 1, Photo 1, Figure 8)** is a one-and-one-half-story, three-bay-by-two-bay, south-facing, gable-roof, Federal-style Cape with an off-center brick chimney. A one-story, gable-roof ell has been added on the rear (north) elevation, and a one-story, gable-roof wing has been added to the west side of the main block. All three roofs are covered in asphalt shingle. The main block rests on a stone foundation and has exterior walls that are sheathed in wood clapboard on the south facade and in wood shingle on the side elevations. The principal entrance is centered on the facade and consists of a vertical plank wood door with a single light in a plain narrow surround flanked by windows. Fenestration consists of 12-over-12 double-hung wood windows on the facade and six-over-six, double-hung, replacement wood sash on the side (east) elevation. The ell's exterior walls are clad in wood shingles and fenestration consists of six-over-six double hung wood windows on the east elevation and six-over-one windows on the north

¹ The Hoxie Farm is so-called in the *Historic and Architectural Resource of Richmond, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report* (RIHPC 1977); however, historic maps and land records refer to the family as Hoxsie, which is used within this document.

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elevation. An undated photograph depicts the side elevation with two-over-two windows (Figure 8). A secondary entrance, similar to the main entrance, is in the southernmost bay of the ell's east elevation, with two windows to the north. The wing is sheathed in wood clapboard and has two-over-two, double-hung windows. An entrance to the wing is located in the west bay of the south elevation, with two windows to the east; the entrance is similar to the others.

The **House/Former Barn (79b Beaver River Road, late 19th-early 20th c., noncontributing building, Map No. 2)** is a side-gable-roof barn with ridgeline oriented north-south, sliding barn doors on the east side, wood-shingle siding, and an asphalt roof. Before 1995, the building was converted to a residence, and a shed dormer on the east elevation, a single brick chimney, and sash windows have been added to the side walls. The building is not visible from a public way and access to it could not be secured. There is a grouping of three small sheds on the property, north and northeast of the house. **Shed #1 (late 19th-early 20th c., contributing building, Map No. 3, Photo 2, Figure 9)** is a small, end-gable-roof building on low stone piers with wood-shingle siding, an asphalt roof, 12-over-12 double-hung windows, and a glazed door with a 6-light window above in the gable. Between ca. 1980 and 1995, the window was added and after 1995, the wood plank door was replaced with the extant glazed door. **Shed #2 (early 20th c., noncontributing building, Map No. 4)** is a small, gable-roof building with horizontal wood siding, an asphalt-shingle roof, and two-over-two double-hung windows. **Shed #3 (early 20th c., noncontributing building, Map No. 5)** is a small, gable-roof building with a metal roof and plywood sheathing. Shed #2 and Shed #3 are not visible from a public way and access to them could not be secured. A second mid-19th-century barn that was northeast of the house was removed sometime after 1995 (Figure 10). Its location is indicated on the district map.

The **Sarah and William Greene Lot/Hoyle Family Cemetery (mid-19th-late 20th c., contributing site, Map No. 6, Photo 3)** is set in trees, approximately 375 feet southwest of the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm House, and is not visible from the road. The 30-by-20-foot burial ground is enclosed by granite posts with steel pipe railings and contains eight granite headstones and two footstones. Six of the stones have inscriptions memorializing Hoyle family members: John Hoyle (1835–1890), Sarah Hoyle (1830–1913), Eric Anthony Haring (1959–1979), H.R. Jack Haring (1942–2008), Rosalind Kenyon Hoyle Haring (1925–2010), and John Cyrus Hoyle (1930–2018) and Sarah Stedman Hoyle (b. 1930) (share one stone). Two stones dating to the mid- and late 19th century are for members of the Greene family, who owned the farm before the Hoyle family. Husband and wife William (1805–1886) and Sarah (d. 1889) Greene share one stone. William Greene, son of Samuel and Mary, died in 1855 at age 23 and is marked by the other, the oldest stone in the burial ground.

The **Longdenhoyle/Hoyle Farm Stone Walls (early to mid-19th c., contributing structure, Map No. 7)**, dry laid, uncoursed fieldstone walls, surround the cemetery on the north, east, and south and connect with two parallel lines of walls running north-south between the cemetery and Beaver River Road. The south ends of the latter walls terminate near the west-east **Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Boundary Stone Wall (early to mid-19th c., contributing structure, Map No. 8)** marking the historic boundary between the two farm complexes. The land flanking Beaver River Road between the north boundary of the

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district and southern extent of the farm are the **Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Agricultural Fields (early to mid-19th c., contributing site, Map No. 9, Photos 4, 5, 7).**

Four residences (one contributing and three noncontributing) were set off on lots from the Longdenhoyle/Hoyle Farm between the mid-20th and early 21st centuries. The oldest of these properties is east of the historic Longdenhoyle/Hoyle Farm complex and retains an agrarian landscape setting. The **John and Sarah Hoyle House, 84 Beaver River Road (ca. 1968, contributing building, Map No. 10, Photo 5)** is a north-facing, one-and-one-half-story, five-bay-by-two-bay, side-gable, wood-frame Cape. It is set well back from the road atop a small hill and is surrounded by rolling lawn and pastures to the north and south, and woodland along the Beaver River to the east. A recessed hyphen extends from the east elevation of the house and connects to a large, front-gable, two-car garage. A screened-in porch addition extends from the south elevation of the house. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles, the exterior walls are clad in wood shingles and the foundation is poured concrete. The north facade contains a central entrance with paired windows to either side. A secondary entrance is in the wing beneath a porch. Fenestration consists of eight-over-eight windows that appear to be wood. A man-made **Pond (between 1963 and 1970, contributing structure, Map No. 11, Photo 6)** is at the bottom of the hill in the pasture north of the house, and a former agricultural field, now pasture, is south of the house (Photo 7).

Three newer residences have been built on the west side of Beaver River Road northwest and southwest of the Longdenhoyle/Hoyle Farm complex, on subdivided parcels.² They are noncontributing resources due to their recent dates of construction; however, because they are set on large parcels, surrounded by woods and two of them are not visible from the public way, they do not detract from the historic character of the district. **71 Beaver River Road (1986, noncontributing building, Map No. 12)** is a two-story residence with a freestanding **garage (ca. 1986, noncontributing building, Map No. 13)**. **87 Beaver River Road (1990, noncontributing building, Map No. 14)** is a two-story residence in a wooded lot. **95 Beaver River Road (2013, noncontributing building, Map No. 15)** is a two-story residence set well back from the road south of the historic portion of the Hoyle Farm.

The stretch of Beaver River Schoolhouse Road that runs through the district shares the rural, agricultural character of Beaver River Road. South of the John and Sarah Hoyle House and along Beaver River Schoolhouse Road are fields of pasture and new-growth forest (Photo 7). The property at **7 Beaver River Schoolhouse Road (1985, noncontributing building, Map No. 16)**, located on the south side of the road, is a two-story, gambrel-roof house with a **garage (1985, noncontributing building, Map No. 17)**. Both buildings are set far back from the road and surrounded by woods. The property does not impact the integrity of the district due to its compatible scale and discreet location.

South of the Longdenhoyle/Hoyle Farm, on both sides of Beaver River Road, are two houses built in the mid-20th century and one in the early 21st century, all on land historically associated with the Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore. The northernmost is the **Pauline and Michael Testa**

² The construction dates for these residences are recorded in Town of Richmond Assessor's records.

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House, 97 Beaver River Road (ca. 1950, noncontributing building, Map No. 18, Photo 8), an east-facing, one-story, three-bay-by-two-bay, wood-frame Cape-type house. It is set back from the road on a wooded lot with a lawn and circular drive in front. The side-gable roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and pierced by a brick chimney on the west slope. The exterior walls are clad in vinyl siding and rest upon a poured concrete foundation. The east facade contains an entrance with paired windows to the south and a single window north of the door. The entrance is a half-light metal door, and fenestration consists of replacement one-over-one windows. The house retains very little historic material and is therefore non-contributing due to lack of integrity. A one-car **garage (ca. 1950, noncontributing building, Map No. 19)** is south of the house.

The house at **121 Beaver River Road (2017, noncontributing building, Map No. 20)** is located at the end of a long driveway that extends off the west side of Beaver River Road, running through a heavily wooded area. It is not visible from the public right-of-way. The last of the three dwellings constructed on lots set off from Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore is located just north of the main farm complex on the east side of Beaver River Road. The **Rosanna Perrault House, 122 Beaver River Road (ca. 1946, contributing building, Map No. 21, Photo 10)** is a west-facing, one-story, three-bays-wide, side-gable, wood-frame Cape. It is set close to the road on a wooded lot. A large one-story, side-gable three-season porch extends from the south elevation, and a one-story, gabled ell extends from the east elevation. A one-story, recessed breezeway extends from the north elevation and connects to a side-gable, two-car garage (with a single, double-width door). The roof of the house is sheathed in asphalt shingles and a brick chimney pierces the roof near the ridge line, where the main block and the three-season porch meet, and a chimney pierces the rear (east) roof slope. The exterior walls are clad in wood shingles, and the building is constructed on a poured concrete foundation. The west facade contains a central entrance flanked by windows. The entrance consists of a glazed wood door in a plain surround and a shallow entry portico with simple wood posts. The south wing contains a central entrance on the south elevation flanked by windows. Triple windows are also located on the west elevation of the wing. Fenestration consists of six-over-six double-hung windows on the main block and one-over-one replacement windows on the wing.

Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore, 133 Beaver River Road

The Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore comprised 150 acres in the late 19th century. The property includes large, cultivated fields – the **Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Agricultural Fields (early to mid-19th c., contributing site, Map No. 22, Photo 9)** – bordering both sides of Beaver River Road, which extend southward to Jamesford Farm and reach 500 or more feet west and east to the tree lines. This portion of Beaver River Road is flanked by the primary section of the **Tree Allée (ca. 1900, contributing structure, Map No. 23, Photo 21, Figure 11)**, which consists of regularly spaced trees planted at approximately 10-foot intervals edging the fields and overhanging the roadway along both sides of significant stretches of Beaver River Road. They were planted by Lewis Moore of Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore. The allée trees are impressive, mature maple and tulip trees that provide a canopy and shade. Some of the trees are tapped in the spring to make maple syrup. The allée is a distinctive landscape feature of Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore and the district; it is visible in 1939 and 1951 aerial photographs, in close to its current configuration. The allée runs for about 400 feet along the east side of Beaver River Road

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immediately south of Beaver River Schoolhouse Road, and picks up again, on both sides of the road, just south of the Dairy Barn, extending for about 500 feet to the main farm complex. Just south of the complex, it resumes and continues south on both sides of the road for about 1,700 feet, extending just past the hedgerow at the boundary with Jamesford Farm.

The Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore house and farm buildings are on the west side of the road at the north end of the property, where the land begins to be rocky and to slope upward. The **Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore House, 133 Beaver River Road (ca. 1860, contributing building, Map No. 24, Photo 11, Figures 12 and 13)** is set back from the road and reached by a loop drive visible in historic aerial photographs. It is a one-and-one-half-story, south-facing, five-bays-wide, side-gable, Greek Revival-style house set gable end-to-road. A large, one-and-one-half-story, two-bay-long, gable-roof ell, constructed by 1895 (see Figure 6), extends off the north side of the house and has one-story additions on its east and west sides (see Figure 13). The main block has a side-gable, asphalt-shingled roof and two brick chimneys: one exterior end chimney on the west elevation and one that pierces the ridge near the east end of the building. The exterior walls are clad in wood clapboard with plain corner boards and rest upon a granite foundation. The south facade contains a central entrance consisting of a six-panel wood door framed by sidelights with a simple wood surround of flat boards forming an entablature. Fenestration on the main block consists mostly of six-over-six double-hung wood windows in plain flat wood surrounds, including pairs of windows that flank the central entrance; three windows in the first story of the east elevation and two in the second story; and two windows in both the first and second stories of the west elevation. The upper level of the south facade has three-over-one wood sash set into smaller, roughly square window openings near the cornice line. The first story of the ell's east elevation is obscured by the addition, which contains an entrance and paired windows. Two windows are in the second story. The north elevation of the ell has paired windows and a single window set into the first story and a single window in the gable.

Northwest of the Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore House are two early 20th-century barns that were connected to each other after 1995. **Barn #1 (early 20th c., contributing building, Map No. 25, Photos 12–14)** is a wood-frame, wood-shingle-sided, two-story, gable-roof barn with the entrance in the west elevation and a hayloft door above. The corrugated metal roof has a small ca. 1980 cupola, and a lean-to addition with a shed roof on the north elevation. A two-story, wood-frame addition, added after 1995 on the east elevation, connects Barn #1 to **Barn #2 (early 20th c., contributing building, Map No. 26, Photo 14)**, a small, end-gable-roof barn with painted wood-shingle siding and a corrugated metal roof. A hayloft with hatch and hoist is set into the gable peak on the north elevation, and a gable-roof ell is on the west elevation. A similarly sized gable-roof addition has been added to the south facade of the main building, which has a corrugated metal roof and corrugated metal siding. Poured-concrete surface and retaining walls form a corral north of the barns with a small rocky pasture to the north.

Northwest of the barns is a **Driftway (mid-19th c., contributing structure, Map No. 27, Photo 15)**, which consists of a dirt and grass lane edged by stone walls and trees that may have connected to the Dairy Barn (see below) or to adjacent farms as part of a driftway network that once linked agricultural fields.

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North of the Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore House is a wood-frame **Animal Pen (early 20th c., contributing building, Map No. 28, Photo 16)** built into the hillside with boulder side walls and an asphalt-shingled, gable roof. A wood-frame **Corn Crib (mid-20th c., contributing structure, Map No. 29, Photo 17)** is just northwest of the Animal Pen. A series of stone walls that are a portion of the **Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Stone Walls (19th c., contributing structure, Map No. 30, Photo 18)** run between the Animal Pen on the east and the west edge of the parcel line and extend westward from the west side of Beaver River Road north of Barn #1 and Barn #2.

A short distance north of the other outbuildings, located at a bend in the road in a wooded area, is a large, side-gable-roof **Dairy Barn, 123 Beaver River Road (early to mid-20th c., contributing building, Map No. 31, Photos 19-20)**. Built into the hillside, the building has an exposed concrete foundation and a single large opening on the east long elevation at the road grade. The building has corrugated metal siding and roofing with two prominent metal ventilators along the ridge. It is now on a separate parcel from the main Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore complex.

The woods overlaying the low hills in the west part of the property are part of the historic farmstead and contain a few identified stone walls running west-east; additional walls may be present under the tree cover.

Jamesford Farm, 165 Beaver River Road

Jamesford Farm is south of Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore on either side of the southern end of Beaver River Road. The historic boundary between Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore and Jamesford Farm is demarcated on the west side of Beaver Road by the **Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore and Jamesford Farm Boundary Stone Wall (early to mid-19th c., contributing structure, Map No. 32)** which transitions to a **Hedgerow and Ditch (early to mid-20th c., contributing structure, Map No. 33, Photo 25, Figure 11)**, crosses the road, and continues on the east side of the road to near the Beaver River. This may be a water feature referred to as “Muddy Brook” in 19th-century deeds. By the late 19th century and into the 20th century, the farm consisted of 100 acres on both sides of the road that extended south to Shannock Hill Road. Cultivated fields, the **Jamesford Farm Agricultural Fields (early to mid-19th c., contributing site, Map No. 34, Photos 22 and 25)**, start at the hedgerow and ditch on the north and run the length of the property, on both sides of the road, to dense trees at its south boundary. The fields on the east side are up to approximately 900 feet wide between the road and the tree line along the Beaver River (Photo 22). A smaller, uncultivated field is on the west side of the road, bordered on the west by dense trees; the farmhouse and two outbuildings are located within the west field next to the road. A former barn or outbuilding that has been converted to a residence is on the east side of the road, south of the site of the former large dairy barn (demolished).

The **Jamesford Farm House, 165 Beaver River Road (ca. 1800, contributing building, Map No. 35, Photo 23, Figures 14 and 15)** is a south-facing, one-and-one-half-story, five-bay-by-three-bay, Federal-style Cape with an asphalt-shingle, side-gable roof. The building has a center brick chimney, unpainted wood-shingle siding, a small one-story lean-to addition with a shed-roof and exterior concrete-block chimney on the west elevation, and a one-story entry vestibule

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(post-1953) centered on the north elevation. The exterior walls rest on a stone foundation. The center entrance on the south elevation has a simple, modern replacement surround, and the sidelights and door are modern metal replacements. Fenestration primarily consists of six-over-six vinyl replacement windows within wood surrounds.

North of the Jamesford Farm House is a small, gable-roof **Barn (early 20th c., contributing building, Map No. 36, Photo 24)**. The building has an asphalt-shingle roof with a small cupola and unpainted wood shingle and vertical siding. A single vertical plank vehicle bay door faces onto the road on the east facade. West of the Jamesford Farm House is a small, gable-roof two-bay **garage (ca. 2000, noncontributing building, Map No. 37)**.

Northwest of the Jamesford Farm House, set within a thick grove of trees and screened from view, is a **Mobile Home, 159 Beaver River Road (ca. 1960, noncontributing building, Map No. 38)** with a metal wall system.

A late 19th to early-20th century Barn, which was later converted to a residence, stood until recently on the east side of the road, south of the Jamesford Farm House. A large, late 19th- or early 20th-century Dairy Barn (Figures 14 and 16) was located to its the north, but was demolished between 2002 and 2006 after a period of deferred maintenance and deterioration. The site is now overgrown with a dirt path leading east from the road to the agricultural fields, and no foundation walls are visible. The locations of these buildings are indicated on the district map.

The woods overlaying the low hills in the west part of the property are part of the historic farmstead. To the south of the Jamesford Farm complex, agricultural fields, wetlands, and new growth forest continue along Beaver River Road until it terminates at Shannock Hill Road, the southern boundary of the district.

Statement of Integrity

The Beaver River Road Historic District as a whole, and key individual resources within it, retain integrity in terms of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. The historic architecture and landscape character reflect the district's early 19th- to mid-20th-century agricultural and rural history. The contributing buildings, structures, and sites generally retain their historic massing, stylistic elements, and materials. The agricultural fields and perimeter woodlands; remnants of a historic driftway, tree allées, and stone walls; and surrounding rural setting are integral to the ambience of the historic district. The mid-20th-century development of modest-style houses surrounded by woodland or farmland do not interfere with the district's agricultural character. Some individual contributing resources have been altered through the construction of additions and the installation of replacement windows. However, the historic rural appearance of the district has been well preserved through screened low-density development, the lack of major intrusions, the retention of landscape features, and the continued use of farm complexes surrounded by cultivated agricultural fields and farm-related woodlands. The historic relationships between the landscape and buildings, which shaped the development pattern along both sides of Beaver River Road and east to the Beaver River, remain clearly visible and evocative of the past.

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Beaver River Road Historic District Data Sheet

Map No.	Address	Historic Name	Date of Construction	Architectural Style/Type	Resource Type	NR Status	Assessor Number	Photo No.
1	79 Beaver River Road	Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm House	Ca. 1800	Federal	Building	C	07E/002/C02	1
2	79b Beaver River Road	House/Former Barn	Late 19th to early 20th century	No Style	Building	NC	07E/002/C03	No photo
3	79 Beaver River Road	Shed #1	Late 19th to early 20th century	No Style	Building	C	07E/002/C02	2
4	79 Beaver River Road	Shed #2	Early 20th century	No Style	Building	NC	07E/002/C02	No photo
5	79 Beaver River Road	Shed #3	Early 20th century	No Style	Building	NC	07E/002/C02	No photo
6	79 Beaver River Road	Sarah and William Greene Lot/Hoyle Family Cemetery	Mid-19th to late 20th century	No Style	Site	C	07E/002/C02	3
7	79 Beaver River Road	Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Stone Walls	Early to mid-19th century	N/A	Structure	C	07E/002/001 07E/002/003	No photo
8	79 Beaver River Road	Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Boundary Stone Wall	Early to mid-19th century	N/A	Structure	C	07E/002/001, 07E/002/003, 07E/016/000 07E/017/00 08E/004/001	No photo
9	Beaver River Road	Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Agricultural Fields	Early to mid-19th century	N/A	Site	C	07E/002/002, 07E/002/001, 07E/002/003 07E/019/005 07E/018/000 07E/017/000	4, 5, 7

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Map No.	Address	Historic Name	Date of Construction	Architectural Style/Type	Resource Type	NR Status	Assessor Number	Photo No.
10	84 Beaver River Road	Hoyle, John & Sarah, House	Ca. 1968	Cape	Building	C	07E/018/000	5
11	84 Beaver River Road	Pond (man-made)	Between 1963–1970	N/A	Structure	C	07E/018/000	6
12	71 Beaver River Road	House	Ca. 1986	No Style	Building	NC	07E/002/002	No photo
13	71 Beaver River Road	Garage	Ca. 1986	No Style	Building	NC	07E/002/002	No photo
14	87 Beaver River Road	House	1990	Contemporary	Building	NC	07E/002/001	No photo
15	95 Beaver River Road	House	2013	No Style	Building	NC	07E/002/003	No photo
16	7 Beaver River Schoolhouse Road	House	1985	No Style	Building	NC	07E/004/000	No photo
17	7 Beaver River Schoolhouse Road	Garage	1985	No Style	Building	NC	07E/004/000	No photo
18	97 Beaver River Road	Pauline and Michael Testa House	Ca. 1950	Cape	Building	NC	07E/003/000	8
19	97 Beaver River Road	Garage	Ca. 1950	No Style	Building	NC	07E/003/000	No photo
20	121 Beaver River Road	House	2017	No Style	Building	NC	08E/004/001	No photo
21	122 Beaver River Road	Rosanna Perrault House	Ca. 1946	Cape	Building	C	08E/005/000	10

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Map No.	Address	Historic Name	Date of Construction	Architectural Style/Type	Resource Type	NR Status	Assessor Number	Photo No.
22	Beaver River Road	Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Agricultural Fields	Early to mid-19th century	N/A	Site	C	08E/006/000, 08E/004/000	9
23	Beaver River Road	Tree Allée	Ca. 1900	N/A	Structure	C	08E/006/000, 08E/004/002, 08E/018/000, 08E/004/000	22
24	133 Beaver River Road	Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore House	Ca. 1860	Greek Revival	Building	C	08E/018/000	11
25	133 Beaver River Road	Barn #1	Early 20th century	No Style	Building	C	08E/018/000	12-14
26	133 Beaver River Road	Barn #2	Early 20th century	No Style	Building	C	08E/018/000	14
27	133 Beaver River Road	Driftway	Mid-19th century	No Style	Structure	C	08E/018/000	15
28	133 Beaver River Road	Animal Pen	Early 20th century	No Style	Building	C	08E/018/000	16
29	133 Beaver River Road	Corn Crib	Mid-20th century	No Style	Structure	C	08E/018/000	17
30	133 Beaver River Road	Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Stone Walls	Early to mid-19th century	N/A	Structure	C	08E/018/000, 08E/004/001, 08E/004/000	18
31	123 Beaver River Road	Dairy Barn	Early to mid-20th century	No Style	Building	C	08E/004/002	19-20

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Map No.	Address	Historic Name	Date of Construction	Architectural Style/Type	Resource Type	NR Status	Assessor Number	Photo No.
32	Beaver River Road	Walnut Hill Farm/ Cliffmoore-Jamesford Farm Boundary Stone Wall	Early to mid-19th century	N/A	Structure	C	08E/004/000, 08E/004/001, 08E/006/000, 08E/002/000, 08E/012/000	No photo
33	Beaver River Road	Hedgerow and Ditch	Early to mid-20th c.	N/A	Structure	C	08E/006-000, 08E/004-000, 08E/012-000, 08E/002-000	25
34	165 Beaver River Road	Jamesford Farm Agricultural Fields	Early to mid-19th century	N/A	Site	C	08E/002/000, 08E/012/000	22, 25
35	165 Beaver River Road	Jamesford Farm House	Ca. 1800	Federal / Cape	Building	C	08E/003/000	23
36	165 Beaver River Road	Barn	Early 20th century	No Style	Building	C	08E/003/000	24
37	165 Beaver River Road	Garage	Ca. 2000	No Style	Building	NC	08E/003/000	No photo
38	159 Beaver River Road	Mobile Home	Ca. 1960	No Style	Building	NC	08E/002/000	No photo

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

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

- A. Owned by a 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 old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1763-1970

Significant Dates

1763 – first major land division

ca. 1800 – construction of Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm House

ca. 1800 – construction of Jamesford Farm House

ca. 1860 – construction of Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore House

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

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Note: The Beaver River Road Historic District received a formal Determination of Eligibility by the Keeper of the National Register for listing in the National Register of Historic Places in 1995 (Adams and Hollister 1995). Section 8 of this nomination differs from the Determination of Eligibility in two respects: it does not include community planning and development as an area of significance, focusing instead on agriculture and architecture, and it adjusts the period of significance from ca. 1780-1945 to 1763-1970, as described below.

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The Beaver River Road Historic District (the “district”) is significant at the local level as an especially intact example of a historic cultural landscape and the agricultural heritage of the town of Richmond. The district encompasses a little-altered agricultural landscape of open fields and woodlands and contains three of the four principal farms that occupied Beaver River Road in the 19th and 20th centuries. (The fourth was the Hoxsie Farm, the farmhouse and outbuildings of which were demolished in the 1980s.) It satisfies Criterion A in the area of agriculture as a distinctive group of farm complexes that evolved from 19th-century subsistence farms to 20th-century production farms, reflecting changing patterns of farming in Richmond and is among the best preserved such landscapes in the town. Continuity of agricultural use and character carried through changes in the state’s economy and demographics in the mid-20th to early 21st centuries. At that time, some of the farms were partially subdivided, with the residences and farm buildings set aside on smaller lots while larger parcels were still used for agriculture. Three mid-20th-century residences were built, all of which were constructed for family members; set back from the road, largely screened from view, and of a scale and style that is compatible with the district’s character, they do not detract from the district’s integrity. The farms derive additional significance from their long-term ownership by locally important families who contributed to the local farming community, including the local grange, and helped to shape and maintain the district’s rural character. The district satisfies Criterion C in the area of architecture for its distinctive collection of farmhouses and agricultural outbuildings within a rural agrarian landscape setting. These buildings represent good local examples of modest rural residences designed in the Federal and Greek Revival styles popular in the early to mid-19th century, and related utilitarian farm buildings. The Hoyle Family Cemetery is a good example of a small, multi-generational family burial plot, a common type in Rhode Island. The Beaver River Road Historic District’s period of significance begins in 1763, the year of the first major division of the land, and ends in 1970, the date of construction of the contributing pond.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

CRITERION A – AGRICULTURE

The Beaver River Road Historic District is significant under Criterion A in the area of agriculture at the local level for its more than 250-year association with small-scale farming in

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the town of Richmond. Beaver River Road, which traverses north–south and parallels the Beaver River, was laid out in the early 19th century as land allocated in 1763 was developed. The area has been farmed since at least 1850, but likely has been farmed since the late 18th to early 19th centuries when agriculture was the leading economic activity in Richmond (U.S. Census 1850; RIHPC 1977). The district is also notable for the associated families’ relationship with and contributions to the community of Richmond. A general overview of the district’s agricultural history and significance is presented below, followed by summaries of the historical development of the three farms.

The Beaver River, which creates the underlying landscape characteristics that shaped the history and development of the district, rises at James Pond in the town of Exeter. It flows approximately 11 miles south through Exeter and Richmond to the Pawcatuck River in the village of Shannock. Along most of the river, especially its northern section, the adjacent land is undeveloped and heavily forested. In contrast, within the district the Beaver River valley has prime agricultural soil cultivated for more than 170 years (Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers 2020; USDA 2017; Richmond 2016). The soil consists mostly of stratified sand and gravel outwash deposits deposited by glacial melt-water streams or loess (windblown material of silt loam) over outwash deposits. The fine surface loess in sections of Richmond makes the soil especially amenable to farming, and the areas south and east of Beaver River Road (outside the district) are also considered prime farmland (Payne 2012). The relatively stone-free soils help explain the minimal presence of dry-laid stone walls and the use of hedgerow and ditch delineation, and also the continuous agricultural use of the area. The low hilly ridge that defines the west edge of the district and encloses the expanses of fields served as an important component of 19th-century diversified small-scale farming; the farm woodlots provided fence rails, firewood, and building timber, and when cleared, the irregular terrain became usable for livestock pastures and orchards.

The land within the district was originally part of the Shannock Purchase of 1709, which granted to 27 buyers most of the present-day town of Richmond (RIHPC 1977:3).³ One of the buyers, George Babcock, acquired much of the land south of Shannock Hill, and in 1763 Thomas Lillibridge purchased a large parcel of land north of present-day Shannock Hill Road. Settlement of Richmond during most of the remainder of the 18th century continued to be dispersed, with mill sites developing along the numerous rivers and streams, and agriculture the leading occupation.

The district lies approximately two miles north of two early grist and saw mill sites along the Pawcatuck River that developed into villages in the late 18th and 19th centuries – Shannock (Shannock Village Historic District, NR listed 1983) and Kenyon – and likely was primarily oriented to those settlement nodes. Also nearby are the villages of Carolina (Carolina Village Historic District, NR listed 1974) on Route 112 and Usquepaug (Usquepaug Road Historic District, NR listed 1987), on the Usquepaug River and Usquepaug Road (State Route 138),

³ Once a part of the town of Westerly, Richmond was incorporated in 1747.

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approximately three miles to the southwest and northeast of the district, respectively (RIHPC 1977; Adams and Hollister 1995).⁴

The district's distinct enclave of adjacent farms developed in the context of the surrounding agricultural area, which includes the late 17th- to early 20th-century Samuel Clarke Farm (NR listed 2018) immediately to the south (Cavanaugh 2018). At the beginning of the 19th century, a number of the large farms in Richmond were subdivided, and growth in the district occurred in the area between Route 138 and Shannock Hill Road. In 1826, some of Thomas Lillibridge's 1763 land purchase was sold by his daughter, Thankful, to George S. James. The land, which amounted to 200 acres with a dwelling house, was on the north and south sides of present-day Shannock Hill Road and included the present-day Jamesford Farm, which was owned by the James family until 1880. The central farm in the district, Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore, was owned by one family, the Moores, starting with John Moore in 1704, and was passed down through multiple generations through the 18th and 19th centuries to the early 20th century.

In the northern part of the district, the 18th-century homestead (not extant) of S. Hoxsie (likely Stephen) at the junction of Route 138 and Beaver River Road was subdivided at the beginning of the 19th century, and the farm that comprises the Hoyle property and surrounding lots was also developed at that time. In 1807, Lawton Foster purchased 80 acres with a dwelling, and a year later Oliver Mumford purchased 20 acres on what is now the Hoyle Farm. By 1824, John Slocum had consolidated these two parcels into a single 120-acre lot. William Greene owned the property from 1853 to 1881 (Adams and Hollister 1995).

As Rhode Island's economy shifted from an agricultural base to manufacturing in the early 19th century, many small, rural hydropower privileges that had supported locally focused grist and saw mills became the site of mechanized cotton and wool mills. While Richmond developed about a dozen such villages along its several rivers, including Shannock, Kenyon, and Carolina, its population remained steady at about 1,700 residents between the late 18th century and 1850. Wider access to regional markets would have been available for farmers starting when the New York, Providence and Boston Railroad, the main route between Boston, Massachusetts, and New York City, was built through Shannock Village in 1837 and completed in 1858 (Christensen 1983:12). However, the 1860 U.S. Census Schedule of Agriculture indicates that all the farmers in the district area—Benjamin B. and David C. Moore, George S. James, and William Greene—were operating small to medium-scale subsistence farms with a few livestock and producing small amounts of corn, oats, hay, and potatoes. Typical of most Rhode Island farms in the mid-19th century, farmers produced mostly for their own consumption, and sold any excess locally, including to mill workers in the nearby villages.

By the 1880s and through the 1920s, four principal families owned the farms along Beaver River Road (north to south): the Hoxsies, the Hoyles, the Moores, and the Jameses. Beaver River Road appears on atlas maps from 1855 and 1870 as a dashed line, indicating a farm passage or "driftway" through contiguous farms rather than a road from Route 138 to Shannock Hill Road,

⁴ Shannock, Kenyon, and Carolina are in Richmond along the Pawcatuck River near its border with the town of Charlestown; Usquepaug is in Richmond and the town of South Kingstown.

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but by 1895, it was depicted as a true road (Figures 4, 5 and 6). Ownership of driftway sections was defined by gates. All farm families and travelers along Beaver River Road were expected to open and shut the gates as they passed along the driftway. In the 19th century, there were eight gates from Route 138 to Shannock Hill Road. Today, hedgerows and stone walls clearly define the historic boundaries between the three farms and indicate probable locations of gates (Tootell 1977:45). The farms all had internal unpaved cart ways accessing the far eastern and western extents of the farmlands used for different purposes. At Walnut Hill Farm Cliffmore, the largest of the three farms, a long cartway meandered southwest.⁵

In the mid- to late 19th century, agricultural operations in Rhode Island shifted from subsistence farming to larger-scale production and market farming. This trend was consistent with farming nationwide. “Tremendous change in agricultural theory and practice” occurred from about 1850 to 1940 and led to “the opening of vast acres of rich farmland in the west and plains states...and locally inspired the development of large-scale commercial farms” (RIHPHC 2001:57). Historic maps and deeds for the district do not indicate past land use such as pasture, field, or wood lot, and it is possible, based on traditional New England farming practices, that some of the currently wooded upland was cleared in the 19th century. However, historic aerial photography dating back to 1939 shows that the distribution of open fields and wooded areas in the district farms has remained constant for at least 80 years. The flat, stone-free lowland fields and hilly upland woods and pastures of the district made potato farming and dairying profitable enterprises by the end of the 19th century and were practiced at the Beaver River Road farms.⁶ A small orchard in the upland portion of Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmore was present by 1939, but was no longer cultivated by the early 1960s.⁷

During the early 20th century, Beaver River Road farmers continued to practice dairy farming, as evidenced by the presence of pastures and corn fields, and potato farming. At the same time, some additions were made, including new barns, at existing farms along Beaver River Road. Two dairy barns were constructed at Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore and Jamesford Farm (not extant). The extant dairy barn at Walnut Hill Farm is consistent with trends of the day; being constructed of concrete and at ground-level, the building reflects the desire for improved sanitation (Visser 1997:97). There were some changes in ownership in the late 1920s and early 1930s. Jamesford Farm was sold to Gale D. Wheeler, who operated a dairy farm with “Wheeler Dairy” painted on one of the silos of the barn that is not extant (see Figure 16), and Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore was sold to Louis Perrault. In the 1940s, potato chips became popular and demand for “chipping” potatoes grew. Perhaps not coincidentally, Perrault ceased dairy farm operations after World War II and started to grow potatoes.

⁵ The cartway is clearly visible in historic aerial photography and Lidar-derived hillshade mapping (RIGIS 1939, 2011).

⁶ Research into the specific agricultural activities in the district during the late 19th century was hampered by the closure of research repositories during the COVID-19 pandemic. For example, U.S. Census agricultural schedules, which could not be consulted, might yield additional information.

⁷ The orchard is clearly visible in historic aerial photography and Lidar-derived hillshade mapping RIGIS 1939, 2011).

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Between 1850 and 1940, the number of farms in Rhode Island decreased by 44 percent, and the area of land in agricultural use declined from more than 80 percent of the state's arable land to just over 25 percent. Moderate-sized farms of 20–500 acres saw “the greatest diminution of agricultural activity” (RIHPHC 2001:72). The mid-sized, 100- to 150-acre farms on Beaver River Road, however, continued to operate, adjusting their products for new markets. For example, in the mid-20th century many of the farms abandoned dairy and potato farming for specialized turf farming, an industry that was underway as early as the late 1920s in Rhode Island, likely in response to a demand for turf for new suburban developments. It became more popular after 1940, growing further in the post-World War II building boom and becoming a significant industry in the 1970s (RIHPHC 2001:72). Turf farming is very sensitive to building cycles, and the economic recession in the late 1980s and 1990s caused some of the farmers in the area to return to potato farming. By the 21st century, however, some of the district's farmers had taken up turf farming again; indeed, most of the farmland within the district is being farmed for turf today, as is land to the east and south of the district. An exception is the Jamesford Farm, which in the early 1980s began producing market vegetables and sweet corn. Sweet corn was grown at Jamesford until 2018, after which the land was allowed to go fallow.

Due to the persistence of farming, very limited residential development has occurred along Beaver River Road. In the mid-20th century, three new houses were built within the district, all for family members of farmstead owners. Around 1946, Louis Perrault built a house for his mother, Rosanna Perrault, at 122 Beaver River Road, on a parcel carved out of the Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore. He then created a parcel for his sister, Pauline V. Testa to build the house at 97 Beaver River Road around 1950. Similarly, a portion of Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm was set off for the construction of the ca. 1968 house at 84 Beaver River Road, which was built for Sarah and John Hoyle. John was the grandson of Sarah and John Hoyle who purchased the farm in 1881. The houses are adjacent to the family farms and were constructed in the Minimal Traditional style in the Cape form, which was popular in the mid-20th century, and are similar in scale and materials to the historic farmhouses.

In the late 20th and early 21st centuries, each of the three farm complexes was further subdivided to create a smaller parcel containing the house and farm buildings and separate parcels of farmland, possibly for land use and tax reasons. Additionally, several residential buildings were constructed on smaller parcels at the wooded perimeter. Although much of the land around the building lots is held by different trusts or corporations that farm the land, the visible relationship between the farm buildings and the farmland remains and is a significant feature that defines the rural agricultural setting along Beaver River Road (RIHPHC 2001:57; Richmond Town Tax Assessor 2020). The continued use of the land for agricultural purposes is striking given the drastic decrease in the number of farms and amount of farmland in the state. In 1900, there were 5,498 farms in Rhode Island with 455,602 acres used for agriculture (U.S. Census 1900b); in 2017, those numbers had decreased to 1,043 farms and 56,864 acres in the state with 319 farms and 19,866 acres in Washington County (USDA 2017). Nevertheless, the area along Beaver River Road has retained its agricultural function and setting. Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and turf sales constituted over \$13.5 million of the approximately \$17 million in sales for all crops in Washington County in 2017 (USDA 2017). Despite the periodic fluctuations in the

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choice of crops, the rich, flat river bottomland of the Beaver River Road area has continued to be prime agricultural land. It has been more profitable to farm than to sell the land for development, and retaining it has served as an economic mainstay for generations of Richmond farmers.

The Beaver River Road Historic District embodies an exemplary record of the essential land use, economic, and lifeway themes in the history of the rural town of Richmond, a farming and forestry community with small mill villages along rivers and streams that remained largely agrarian well into the 20th century. The district today is one of the last remaining rural sections of Richmond with an intact open farming landscape, which in this rare case includes fields, wood lots, landscape features like stone walls, and historic farmstead clusters. Like other rural areas of Rhode Island and New England, although once largely cleared of trees in the 18th and 19th centuries for cropland, pasture, and meadow, most of Richmond is now wooded. A few noteworthy mixed field, pasture, and woodland landscapes are present at individual farms, especially the 40-acre Samuel Clark Farm (National Register-listed), which is directly south of the district across Shannock Hill Road. Another farm known as Cherry Croft Farm on the north side of Shannock Hill Road retains some of its boulder strewn historic landscape, but there have been changes to the farmstead buildings. The John Hoxsie House (National Register-listed) is on farm of 60 acres west of the district near Taney Brook. Expanses of level fields that comprise a distinctive agricultural landscape are east of the district on Heaton Orchard Road north of Route 2 and extending south of Route 2. Now used mostly as turf farms and covering perhaps eight times the acreage of the Beaver River fields, this area lacks any historic farmsteads. No other area in the town conveys the sense of agrarian place and time captured in a cluster of neighboring farms dating back to the 18th century (Cavanaugh 2018; Doherty 1977; RIHPC 1977).

Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm, 79 Beaver River Road

By 1849, Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm consisted of a 120-acre farm with a dwelling house sold by John Slocum to Cary Slocum (details of the transaction are described below). Earlier history of the property could not be definitively confirmed because of discrepancies in descriptions of the property in the deeds, but is likely that in 1807, the land of present-day Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm was occupied by Lawton Foster, who owned an 80-acre parcel with a dwelling house.⁸ In 1812, Lawton Foster sold an 80-acre farm with a dwelling house to Joseph W. Watson of Richmond for \$1,000, likely the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and the ca. 1800 house standing today (Richmond 1812:5/97). In 1824, Joseph Watson, then of Greenwich, New York, sold two parcels to John Slocum including a 100-acre parcel with a dwelling and other buildings (Richmond 1824:7/6). This may be John Slocum (1790–1856), a stone cutter, who lived in Richmond in 1850 with his wife Sarah Whitehorn Slocum (1799–1883) and their many children (U.S. Census 1850; Find a Grave 2009). In turn, in 1849, John Slocum sold Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm, then a 120-acre farm described as south of Stephen Hoxsie's land and north of Nathan Moore's land, and a wood lot to Cary Slocum, likely his brother, Cary Dunn

⁸ The farm's historic name, Longdenholme, and the date of construction was included in the *Historic and Architectural Resource of Richmond, Rhode Island: A Preliminary Report* (RIHPC 1977). Further details of the name's origin are unknown.

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Slocum (1795–1859) (Find a Grave 2009). The sale of the property was to pay for John Slocum's debts, and it included the dwelling house and other buildings as well as all his livestock and tools. The livestock consisted of two heifers, oxen, and ten sheep or lamb (Richmond 1849:8/318). In 1850, Cary lived in South Kingstown with his children, was a farmer, and owned \$900 in real estate (U.S. Census 1850). In 1853, Sarah Slocum, the widow of John Slocum, and Cary Slocum sold the two parcels and rights of dower to William Greene of North Kingstown (Richmond 1853:8/508).⁹

William Greene (1805–1886) owned the property from 1853 to 1881, though he apparently did not reside there until after 1860. William and his wife Sarah Greene (~1812–1889) were born in England. In 1860, the couple lived in South Kingstown near the Peace Dale Post Office. William worked as a wool dyer and they owned \$1,750 in real estate. A map from 1855 includes the farm, but does not indicate an owner, which also suggests that they did not reside there initially (Walling 1855). In 1870, the family is recorded as living in Richmond with William employed as a farmer and they owned \$2,000 in real estate and \$500 in personal estate (U.S. Census 1870). They had at least one child, George H., who worked in a cotton mill but resided with them in Richmond by 1880 (U.S. Census 1860a, 1880). William and Sarah are buried in the Sarah and William Greene Lot/Hoyle Family Cemetery, established in the mid-19th century to the south of the farmhouse.

In 1881, John Hoyle (1835–1890) and his wife, Sarah (1830–1913), purchased the 120-acre farm with a dwelling, barn, and other buildings from William Greene for \$1,700 (Richmond 1881:11/281). Earlier that year, John, Sarah, and their four children had immigrated to the United States from Yorkshire, England (U.S. Census 1910), where John had worked as a cotton spinner. After John's death in 1890, their sons took over the farming with Sarah as head of the household (U.S. Census 1900a, 1910). Sarah and John's children and grandchildren continued to reside at the house, and the property stayed in the Hoyle family until at least 1995, although it has been subdivided and several recent houses have been built for family members, including the John and Sarah Hoyle House at 84 Beaver River Road (ca. 1968) and the houses at 71 Beaver River Road (ca. 1986) and 87 Beaver River Road (1990) (Adams and Hollister 1995; Richmond Town Tax Assessor 2020).

The Hoyle family were active members of the Usquepaug and Shannock communities, and Albert Hoyle was one of the 23 charter members of the Richmond Grange in 1887. He is listed as Lecturer, John Hoyle as Steward, and Agnes Hoyle as Lady Assistant Steward (Hopkins 1939:102). Albert was also a deacon and clerk at the Queen's River Baptist Church (1918), and later wrote the church history to celebrate its 100th anniversary (Tootell 1977:198).

Hoyle family members are buried in the Sarah and William Greene Lot/Hoyle Family Cemetery. In rural areas of the state, including in Richmond, some families had their own burial areas on their farm, or else had a plot in a nearby cemetery. Most members of the Moore family associated with Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore, for example, are buried in the Usquepaug

⁹ William Green is also referred to as William Greene.

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Cemetery. The small burial lot is well preserved and reflects common, rural burial practices of the 19th century. Inscriptions on the headstones indicate that interments occurred from at least 1855, when William Greene was buried, and continue to the present. The cemetery retains typical late 19th- and early 20th-century features, such as granite headstones. The William and Sarah Greene marker is the most ornamental, incorporating a pedestal with a floral design motif topped with an urn. All the other markers are engraved with only text and some simple corner carvings.

Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore, 133 Beaver River Road

In the late 19th century, Walnut Hill Farm, encompassing about 150 acres, was called Cliffmoore, after the Moore family who owned the property through multiple generations. Moore-family ownership of the land can be traced back to 1704, when it belonged to John Moore (1688–1753) who was born in England. The original house, likely constructed in the early 18th century, was still standing in 1925 (see below), but has since been demolished. John Moore married Mercy Easton Moore (dates unknown), and they had one child, David Moore (1721–1805), who married Mary Barber Moore (1721–1808). David and Mary also had one child, Silas Moore (1759–1854). Silas was in the Continental Army including the expedition against the British occupation of Newport. He served as town constable, deputy sheriff, and justice of the peace. He married Chloe Phillips Moore (1760–1838), and they had nine children. According to the 1850 U.S. Census and an 1855 map, his son Reverend Nathan Moore, Esq. (1782–1862) and Mary Sheldon Moore (1786–1870) and their three children were living on Beaver River Road between the Hoxsie and James families, likely in the original house. Deed research, architectural style, and a marking of “1860” inscribed on the back of a stair riser in the extant house indicates that the house dates to 1860 and that Benjamin Barber Moore (1827–1903), a son of Nathan and Mary, was the first resident of the building (Sirhal 1990).

Benjamin Moore and Abby Clarke married ca. 1858 (U.S. Census 1860b). In 1860, they resided with Nathan and Mary Moore in Richmond, most likely on Beaver River Road in the older house. The new house possibly was under construction that year because the family was still recorded as living in one dwelling. At the time, Benjamin owned a small amount of real estate and a personal estate worth \$200 and \$300, respectively. In 1870, there were two houses standing near each other, owned by brothers Benjamin B. and David C. Moore (1825–1899) (see Figure 5). In 1870, Benjamin, a farmer, owned \$13,200 in real estate and \$200 in personal estate (U.S. Census 1870). Benjamin and Abby had six children, including sons Nathan Lewis Cass and Bradford Barber Moore who together inherited the farm. In 1900, Benjamin, Lewis, and Bradford were operating the farm with a resident laborer. Bradford, who had been disabled by polio as a child, ran all phases of the farm operation. He married Sarah E. Hoxsie (1860–1916) in 1892. They had one child and lived on the farm until they moved to El Monte, California, in 1914. Lewis was responsible for planting, about 1900, the beautiful allées of maple and tulip trees along Beaver River Road. He deeded his share in the farm to Bradford in 1903 and moved to Florida (U.S. Census 1870, 1900; Find a Grave 2010a, 2010b).¹⁰

¹⁰ See Richmond 19/311, 1925.

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The status of the farm operations between 1914 and 1925 is unclear; it may have been run by Moore family members, or Bradford Moore may have rented out the farm after he moved to California. In 1925, he sold the farm to George E. B. and Elizabeth C. (nee Greene) James,¹¹ who had just sold their neighboring Jamesford Farm, 165 Beaver River Road, immediately to the south, three days earlier. When the farm passed out of Moore-family ownership, it included 150 acres, two houses, two barns, and other buildings.¹² In 1932, Louis and Rosanna Perrault purchased the property, and the property passed to their son Louis E. Perrault in 1935 following Louis's death.¹³ Louis E. Perrault (1905–1982) served in World War II and then as state senator from Richmond from 1949–1964 (RI Department of State n.d.). The Perraults operated the property as a dairy farm until after World War II, and then as a potato farm.

In 1946, Louis E. subdivided the lot at 122 Beaver River Road from the farm and had the modest Cape-type house built for his mother, Rosanna Perrault, who lived there until she moved to West Kingston sometime before her death in 1970 (Tootell 1977:45). In 1949, he also set off the lot at 97 Beaver River Road for his sister Pauline V. Testa (nee Pauline Veraska Perrault). She transferred ownership to herself and her husband Michael A. Testa in 1950, and the house and garage were likely built at that time. The property passed to their son Robert in 1997.¹⁴

The farm was later owned by Louis E.'s son and grandson Roland Perrault Sr. and Jr. In the 1980s, Roland Perrault Jr. was growing potatoes and turf on the property. In 1986, William Sullivan purchased the approximately 8-acre lot containing the farmhouse and its outbuildings, which had been subdivided from the surrounding farmland. In the 1990s, Perrault leased the fields for growing hay and flint corn. The lot with the buildings was purchased by Michael and Pamela Donnelly in 2015, but the surrounding farmland remains in a trust held by the Perrault family (Adams and Hollister 1995; Richmond Town Tax Assessor 2020).

Jamesford Farm, 165 Beaver River Road

The Jamesford Farm was originally part of the Thomas Lillibridge homestead, which was granted by Gideon Hoxsie, sheriff for the town of Richmond, in 1763. The homestead was much larger than the present-day farm and likely extended from the Shannock Hill Road area north as far as Beaver River Schoolhouse Road, thus encompassing almost the entire Beaver River Road Historic District. George Stanton James (1798–1880) purchased the farm with dwelling from Thomas Lillibridge's daughter Thankful in 1826 and farmed and resided here with his wife Ruth and one child, George W. James (1821–1892) for 55 years (see Figures 4 and 5).¹⁵

¹¹ Research to date has not revealed any connection between Elizabeth C. (nee Greene) James and the Greene family at Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm.

¹² See Richmond 19/279, 6/6/1925; 19/311, 6/9/1925.

¹³ See Richmond 20/171, 1932; 20/349, 6/14/1935.

¹⁴ See Richmond 22/332, 1949; 22/411 1950; 110/426, 1997.

¹⁵ The 1995 DOE includes information that John Vallet owned land along Beaver River Road in the early 19th century including a portion of the Jamesford Farm. The research for this nomination indicates that there were land transactions, but the 100 acres with buildings comprising the core of the farm was owned by George S. James from 1826 to 1880.

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In 1880, George S. James sold the 100-acre farm with a dwelling house, barn, and other buildings to Mary Hortense Chappell James (1849–1932), the wife of Edward Kenyon James, George W. James' son (Find a Grave 2018). Edward K. James (1850–1911) is listed as farming 200 acres in Shannock in the 1894 Agricultural Directory, presumably at the Jamesford Farm. In 1895, he was indicated as the owner (see Figure 6). In 1900, he lived there with his wife, Mary Chappell (1849–1932), and six children: Richard (1878–1928), Sarah Lila, Ruth, Marcia, George, and Mary Vira. Edward and Richard were listed as farmers, and Sarah Lila and Marion were schoolteachers. The other children were in school at the time (U.S. Census 1900a). In 1910, Edward and Mary resided at the house along with their children Richard and Helen James Hendrick. Edward was still farming his own land, while Richard was working on another farm (U.S. Census 1910). They employed Frederick Eaton as a farm laborer, who boarded with the family. After Edward's death in 1911, Mary James sold the farm for \$2,000 to her son George E.B. James (1885–1959). At the time, the property included the dwelling house along with two barns and other buildings (Richmond 1911:16/593). The Jameses kept the farm until 1925 when they sold it out of the family to Gale Douglas Wheeler (Richmond 1925:19/279). Three days later, the Jameses purchased the adjacent farm to the north, Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore, and moved there. Like the Hoyles, the Jameses were active farmers and participants in the Grange, and Mrs. Elizabeth C. James, wife of George E.B. James, was Matron for the Richmond Juvenile Grange when it was established in June 1926. In 1933, Stephen D. Wheeler (1899–1984) acquired the property from his father and farmed the land (Richmond 1933:20/373). Stephen lived there with his wife Dorothy C. Wheeler (1899–1960). Wheeler retired from farming in 1960 after operating Wheeler Farm, a dairy and potato farm, for over 35 years (Find a Grave 2013).

In the mid- to late 20th century, the property was subdivided, and a 0.8-acre lot with the original (ca. 1800) dwelling house and some of the outbuildings was created; it is owned by Gail and Andrew Tibbits. William Stamp Jr. is a trustee for the surrounding land (approximately 94 acres) that bounds the building lot on all sides. Under Stamp ownership, farming continued until 2018. After a period of deferred maintenance, the remains of the dairy barn complex were removed between 2002 and 2006 (Adams and Hollister 1995; Richmond Town Tax Assessor 2020).

CRITERION C – ARCHITECTURE

The Beaver River Road Historic District is significant under Criterion C at the local level in the area of architecture for its collection of modest dwellings representing restrained expressions of the Federal Cape-type and Greek Revival styles in the early to mid-19th century. The district also contains several late 19th- and early 20th-century agricultural outbuildings that represent a range of vernacular farm building types and functions. As a group, the buildings symbolize the agrarian history of Beaver River Road throughout the 19th and into the mid-20th century. These built resources are set within an intact, agricultural landscape developed from the early 19th through the mid-20th centuries. The district's collection of rural resources on their original sites within a pristine, agrarian setting that includes intentional ornamental tree planting along the roads is relatively rare in Richmond and in the state. The flat topography and open fields along a straight

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linear spine provide impressive long-distance views of the cultivated landscape edged by dense trees.

The oldest extant buildings in the district are the houses at the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and the Jamesford Farm, both Capes built ca. 1800 in the Federal style. The two houses share distinctive characteristics and features associated with the Cape-type dwelling of modest Federal style expressions in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The Federal style represented a progression of the previous style with more elegant, slender features derived from the work of brothers Robert and James Adam in Great Britain and was especially popular in port cities along the eastern seaboard (McAlester 2013:222, 232). During the Federal period, the first trained architects emerged in the Northeast, notably Charles Bulfinch (1763–1844), who primarily worked in Boston, Massachusetts; Samuel McIntire (1757–1811) in Salem, Massachusetts; and Alexander Parris (1780–1852) in Portland, Maine. However, the most influential transfer of these ideas came to local builders, joiners, and craftsmen through published pattern books starting with Willam Pain's *The Practical Builder, or Workman's General Assistant* of 1774 and especially Connecticut joiner Asher Benjamin's *The Country Builder's Assistant* of 1797. The exact origins of the Cape type is unclear, but it was first noted by Timothy Dwight, president of Yale, when touring Cape Cod in 1800, and described in his 1821 *Travels in New England and New York* (Garvin 2001:106–108; Schuler 1982:5–10). The Federal house plan is similar to its Georgian predecessor, though with a wider variety of interior configurations, a shift from the common center entry/center hall configuration favored by the Georgian style (Garvin 2001; McAlester 2013:218). Federal-style buildings often had a five-bay-wide, symmetrical facade and were two or three stories high, but the style is often also seen in single-story Capes of varying widths, as with the two houses in the district. The majority of early Federal-style houses in New England are wood frame and typically have few exterior elaborations beyond a fanlight, elaborate door surround, and/or decorative cornice moldings seen on the more sophisticated examples.

Both the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and the Jamesford Farm houses exemplify the simplest expression of the Federal style. They are oriented with the gable ridge running west-east and the long elevation facing south to receive optimal solar exposure. The wood-frame, shingle-clad walls rise from low stone foundations, and the broad, side-gable roofs have little rake or eave overhang and a very narrow, or no, cornice, which are hallmarks of the style. The Jamesford House has an additional slight detail of cornice returns above slender corner boards. A large central chimney rises from the roof near the center in both buildings. Reflecting the interior post-and-beam timber framing techniques of the time, and seen most clearly at the Jamesford House, windows on the gable side elevations and the central entrance are framed close to the cornice line. Both houses have six-over-six historic or replacement sash and two windows in the gable peak to bring light to the second floor. The addition of a rear or side addition for expanded living space, often for a kitchen, was common for the small Capes, as the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm House illustrates. These two houses fall within the group of early Capes in Richmond that include the National Register-listed ca. 1784 John Hoxsie House/Old Kenyon Farm off RI Route 112 and other nearby Hoxsie-family houses (Doherty 1977).

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The Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore house, dating from ca. 1860, is a relatively larger house and constructed in the Greek Revival style. It reflects the evolution of American architectural styles over the first half of the 19th century in a rural, restrained manner. Between 1830–1860, the Greek Revival style, a Romantic style that evoked the model of Greek democracy and thus was deemed appropriate for the newly independent United States republic, dominated American architecture (McAlester 2013:247–248). Fully developed Greek Revival-style buildings have low-pitch gable roofs and pronounced molded trim at corner pilasters resembling columns, classical entablature-inspired cornices, and pedimented or flat-top entrance surrounds. Examples such as this are present in Richmond in Carolina, Shannock, and Wyoming villages. The Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore House has a typical Greek Revival-style entrance with half sidelights above paneling and a projecting entablature and has the formality of clapboard siding rather than shingles. The framing allows for a second floor partially expressed in the facade and rear elevation, with small-scale windows, and partially in the attic gable. However, it lacks the corner pilasters, cornice, and end returns typical of the Greek Revival style. This and other aspects of the building continue longstanding patterns of design seen in the earlier Federal style including a rectangular footprint with five-by-three-bay massing, side-gable roof, symmetrical facade, and relatively narrow water table and corner boards. There is one interior chimney at the east end and historic photographs show there were once paired interior end chimneys (see Figure 13), which would likely indicate a center hall plan. The building is raised above grade on its stone foundation, and in the practicality allowed in a rural setting and like the other farm houses in the district, it faces due south with gable end to the street. When constructed it introduced a new style and a new scale to the residential architecture of the farming community and stands as a good example of traditional architecture with a simple popular Greek Revival-style decorative element.

The farming techniques and traditions, and the climate, of southern Rhode Island supported freestanding, rather than connected, arrangements of the house and agricultural buildings. The farms along Beaver River Road show this pattern, in modest configurations that reflect the type of farm most prevalent in Richmond, when compared, for example to the large and diverse building complex at the National Register-listed Samuel Clarke Farm on Lewiston Avenue a short distance to the south of the district (Cavanaugh 2018). The farms are more on the scale of the National Register-listed ca. 1784 John Hoxsie House/Old Kenyon Farm off RI Route 112. The historic agricultural outbuildings in the Beaver River Road Historic District are primarily mixed-use barns or utilitarian sheds dating from the 19th to mid-20th centuries, although there are some examples of specialized buildings and structures, including a dairy barn, animal pen, and corn crib. These buildings possess wood framing, lack of ornament, and practical arrangements of openings and interior spaces reflective of their functions. They all have stone foundations except the corn crib, whose wood sills rest on the ground, and the dairy barn at Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmore, which is concrete. As farming in the district has changed, all the farm buildings have been modified to some extent.

The oldest extant barns are likely Barn #1 and Barn #2, now connected, at Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmore. Barn #1 is an extended English barn, and Barn #2 a gable-front barn set perpendicular to each other and now reconfigured with a connector. Reconfiguring of barns to

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adapt to new farm needs and functions was fairly common in the late 19th and 20th centuries (Visser 1997:73). Barn #1 retains its roof ventilator, gable end hayloft and door, and side elevations window openings, and side shed. Barn #2 has its hayloft door and attached shed. Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmore also retains its Animal Pen with three-sided mortared stone walls and rebuilt upper wood frame structure and roof, and Corn Crib, now in deteriorated condition. Shed #1 at Longdenholm/Hoyle Farm and the small Barn at the Jamesford Farm are good examples of secondary utilitarian outbuildings built for a variety of farm uses. The early-to-mid-20th-century dairy barn at Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore is an example of a single-story truss-roof barn, which were constructed with concrete foundation, stud walls, and truss roof with no hay loft, and in this case built as a bank barn (Visser 1997:102). Two barns on the Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and the Jamesford Farm have been converted to residences, and two barns have been demolished since 1995, also on Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm and the Jamesford Farm.

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Wood-Pawcatuck Wild and Scenic Rivers

2020 Beaver River. Electronic resource, <http://wpwildrivers.org/the-rivers/beaver-river/>, accessed July 2020.

Beaver River Road Historic District
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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 # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): _____

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 367 acres

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates (decimal degrees)

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

Letter	Latitude	Longitude
A	41.482763	-71.631660
B	41.483093	-71.627689
C	41.482152	-71.626796
D	41.482327	-71.624846
E	41.478413	-71.622646
F	41.474237	-71.626051
G	41.469864	-71.623479

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H	41.464271	-71.627980
I	41.468574	-71.629243
J	41.468381	-71.635299
K	41.475147	-71.636259
L	41.475883	-71.633726
M	41.480927	-71.632811
N	41.480959	-71.631405

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- | | | |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 2. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 3. Zone: | Easting: | Northing: |
| 4. Zone: | Easting : | Northing: |

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The Beaver River Road Historic District encompasses parcels on Town of Richmond Assessor's Maps 7E and 8E. Refer to Beaver River Road Historic District – Assessor's Maps and Parcels (Figure 3) and the District Data Sheet in this nomination.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The boundary of the nominated property follows current parcel lines that reflect and roughly correspond to the extent of the three historic 19th-century farmsteads that make up the historic district, which were bounded by the Beaver River on the east, a line through upland ridge on the west, and Shannock Hill Road on the south. The north boundary has been determined by the historic farmstead boundary, a change to hilly topography, and mid- to late 20th-century residential development. The boundary encompasses lands historically associated with the three farms containing buildings, structures, sites, parts of Beaver River Road and Beaver River Schoolhouse Road, circulation patterns, stone walls, agricultural fields, and wood lots that continue to convey the feeling of the agricultural and rural heritage of Richmond.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Virginia H. Adams, Sr. Architectural Historian; Elizabeth Totten, Preservation Planner; Jillian Chin, Assistant Architectural Historian
organization: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. (PAL)
street & number: 26 Main Street
city or town: Pawtucket state: RI zip code: 02860
e-mail: vadams@palinc.com
telephone: (401) 728-8780
date: October 2021

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A **USGS map** or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property:	Beaver River Road Historic District
City or Vicinity:	Richmond
County:	Washington County
State:	Rhode Island
Name of Photographer:	Elizabeth Totten
Date of Photographs:	June 12, 2020 and February 23, 2021
Location of Original Digital Files:	Rhode Island Historical Preservation & Heritage Commission, 150 Benefit Street, Providence, RI 02903
Number of Photographs:	25

Beaver River Road Historic District

Washington, Rhode Island

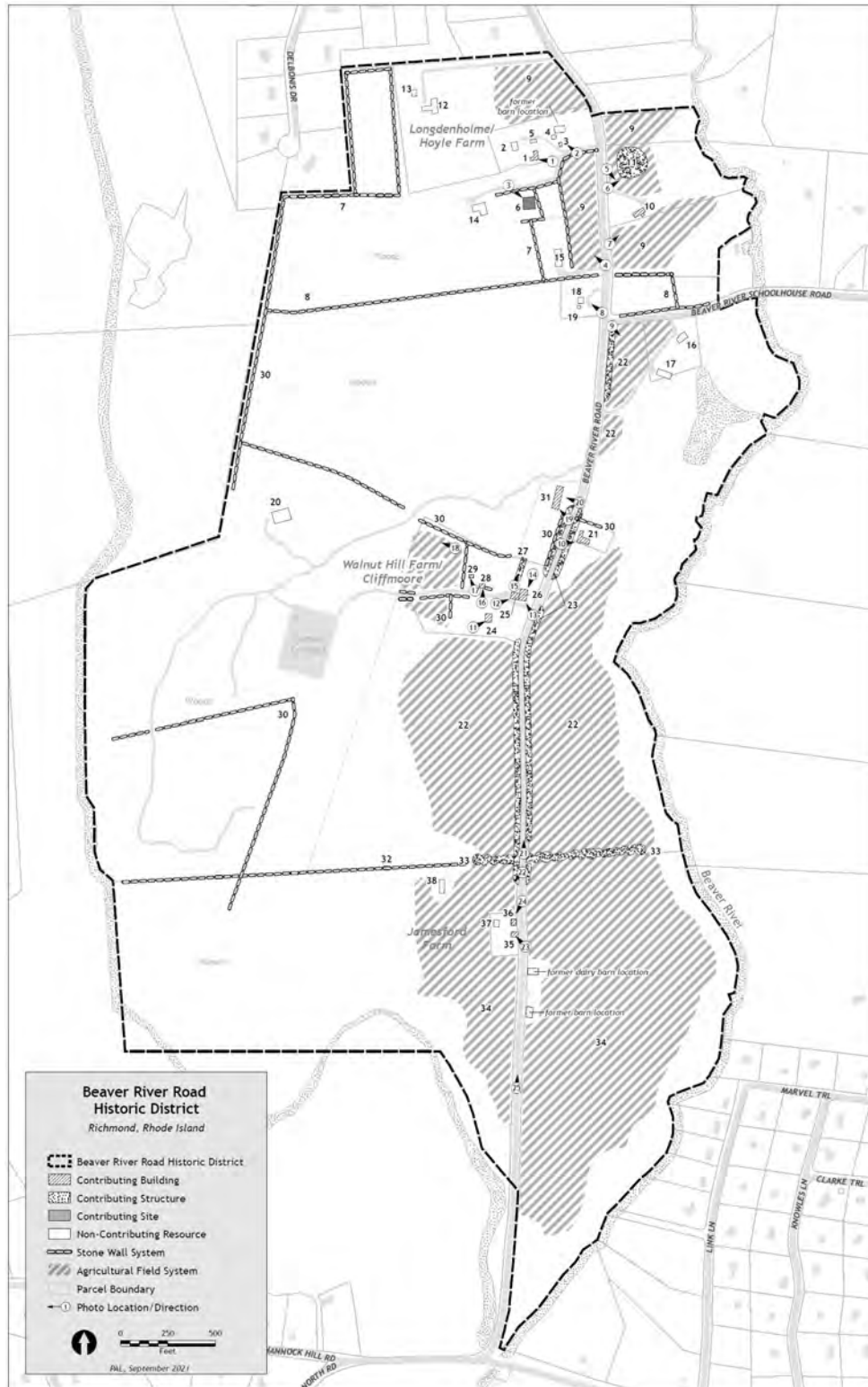
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- Photo 1 Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm House (Map No. 1), 79 Beaver River Road, view west.
- Photo 2 Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Shed #1 (Map No. 3) and Shed #2 (Map No. 4) in background, 79 Beaver River Road, view northwest.
- Photo 3 William Greene Lot/Hoyle Family Cemetery (Map No. 6), view southeast.
- Photo 4 Former Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Agricultural Field (Map No. 9), view northwest.
- Photo 5 John and Sarah Hoyle House (Map No. 10) and former Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Agricultural Field (Map No. 9), 84 Beaver River Road, view southeast.
- Photo 6 John and Sarah Hoyle House Pond (Map No. 11) and former Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Agricultural Field (Map No. 9), 84 Beaver River Road, view northeast.
- Photo 7 Former Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Agricultural Fields south of the John and Sarah Hoyle House (Map No. 9), view northeast.
- Photo 8 Pauline and Michael Testa House (Map No. 18), 97 Beaver River Road, view northwest.
- Photo 9 A portion of the former Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Agricultural Fields (Map No. 22), view southeast along Beaver River Road.
- Photo 10 Rosanna Perrault House (Map No. 21), 122 Beaver River Road, view northeast.
- Photo 11 Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore House (Map No. 24), 133 Beaver River Road, view northeast.
- Photo 12 Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore Barn #1 (Map No. 25), view northeast.
- Photo 13 Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Barn #1, left (Map No. 25) and connector to Barn #2, right (Map No. 26), view northwest.
- Photo 14 Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Barn #1 (right) (Map No. 25), connector, and Barn #2 (left) (Map No. 26), view south.
- Photo 15 Driftway at Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Farm (Map No. 27), view north.
- Photo 16 Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Farm Animal Pen (Map No. 28), view north.
- Photo 17 Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Farm Corn Crib (Map No. 29), view northwest.
- Photo 18 Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Stone Walls (Map No. 30), view northwest.
- Photo 19 Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Dairy Barn (Map No. 31), view northwest.
- Photo 20 Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore Dairy Barn (Map No. 31), view west.
- Photo 21 Tree Allée along Beaver River Road (Map No. 23), view north.
- Photo 22 Former Jamesford Farm Agricultural Field along Beaver River Road (Map No. 34), view southwest.
- Photo 23 Jamesford Farm House (Map No. 35), 165 Beaver River Road, view northwest.
- Photo 24 Jamesford Farm Barn (Map No. 36), view southwest.
- Photo 25 Former Jamesford Farm Agricultural Fields and Hedgerow along south part of Beaver River Road (Map Nos. 33 and 34), view north.

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Beaver River Road Historic District Map and Photo Key (see also large-scale version)

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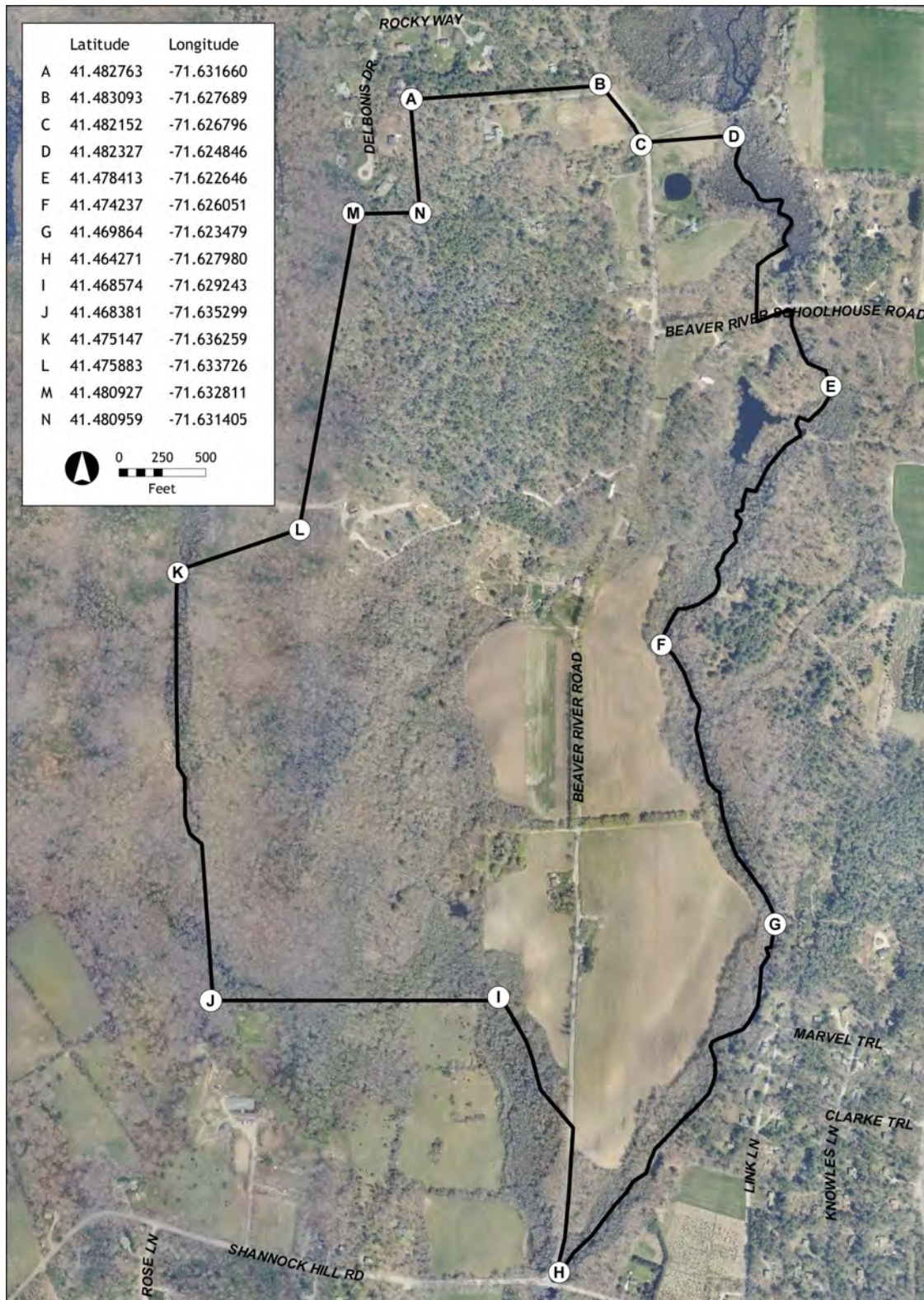


Figure 1. Beaver River Road Historic District Coordinate Map

Beaver River Road Historic District
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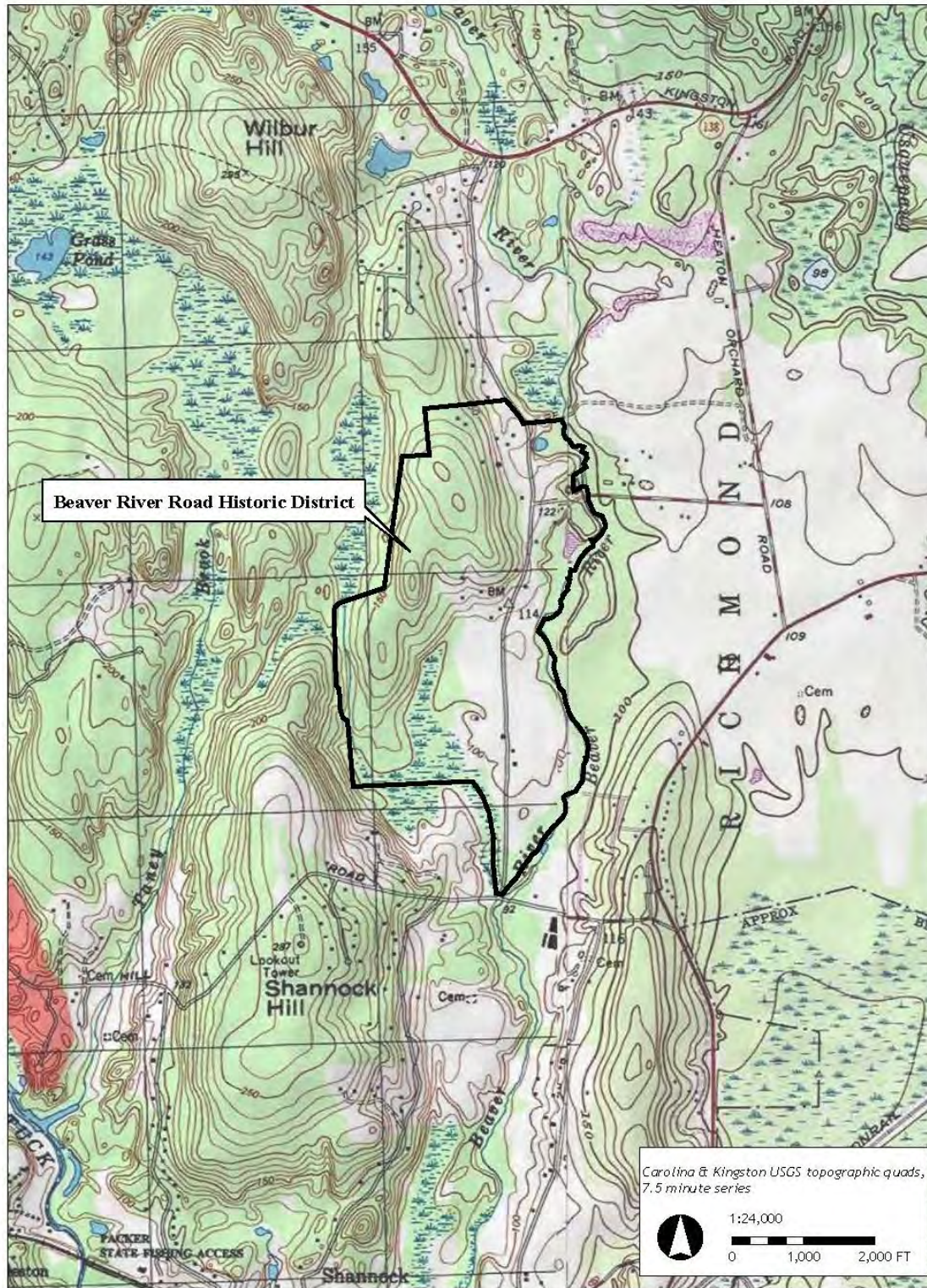


Figure 2. Beaver River Road Historic District Carolina & Kingston USGS Topographic Map 7.5 minute series

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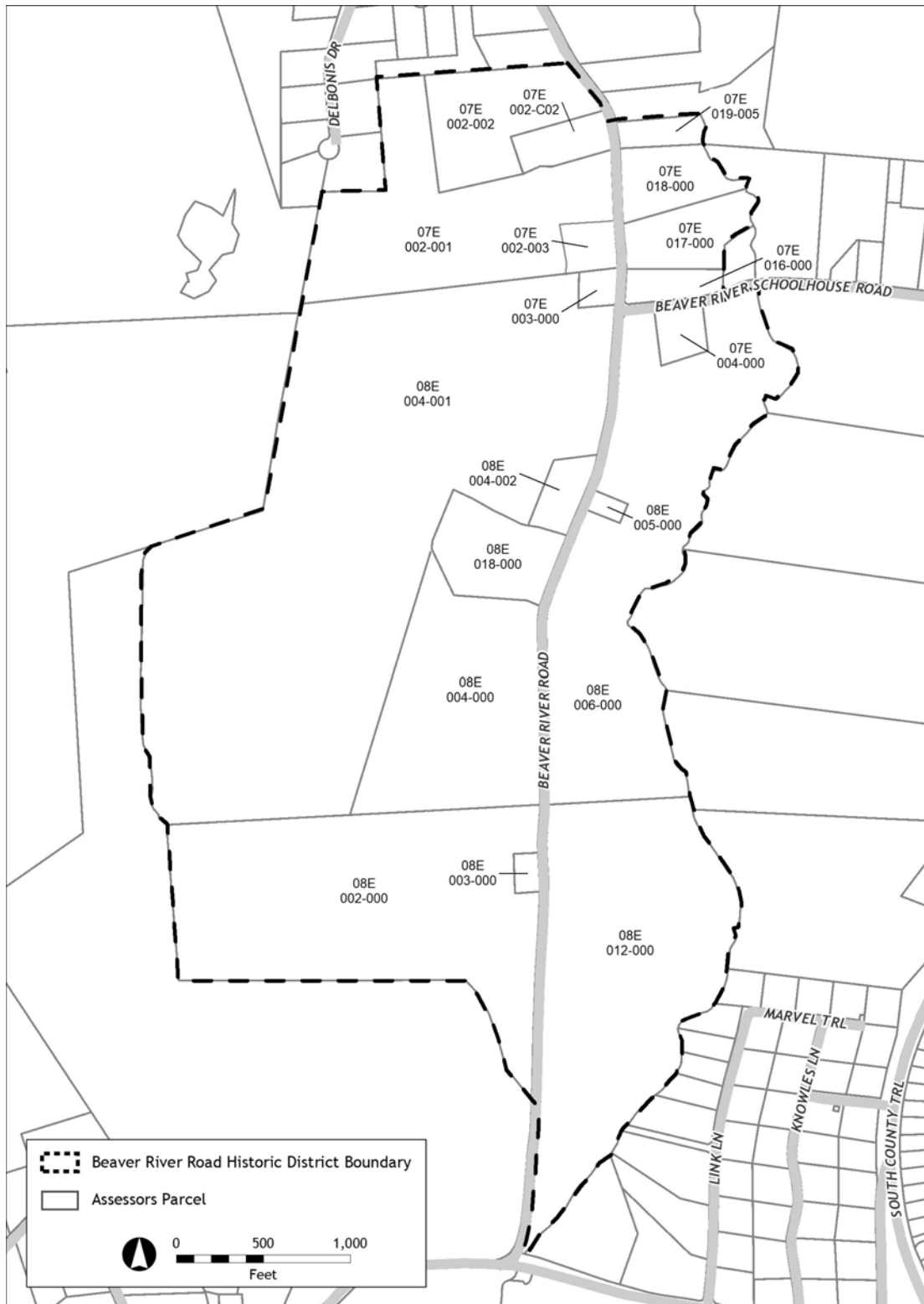


Figure 3. Beaver River Road Historic District – Assessor's Maps and Parcels

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Figure 4. Detail of Henry F. Walling *Map of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations* (1855), showing the Stanton's Purchase to the east of the Beaver River. Residents of Beaver River Road at this time included "N. Mour" (most likely Nathan Moore) and G.S. James (most likely George S. James).

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Figure 5. Detail of D.G. Beers & Co., *Atlas of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations* (1870), showing area of Beaver River Road.

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Figure 6. Detail of Everts & Richards, *New Topographical Atlas of Surveys Southern Rhode Island* (1895), showing area of Beaver River Road.

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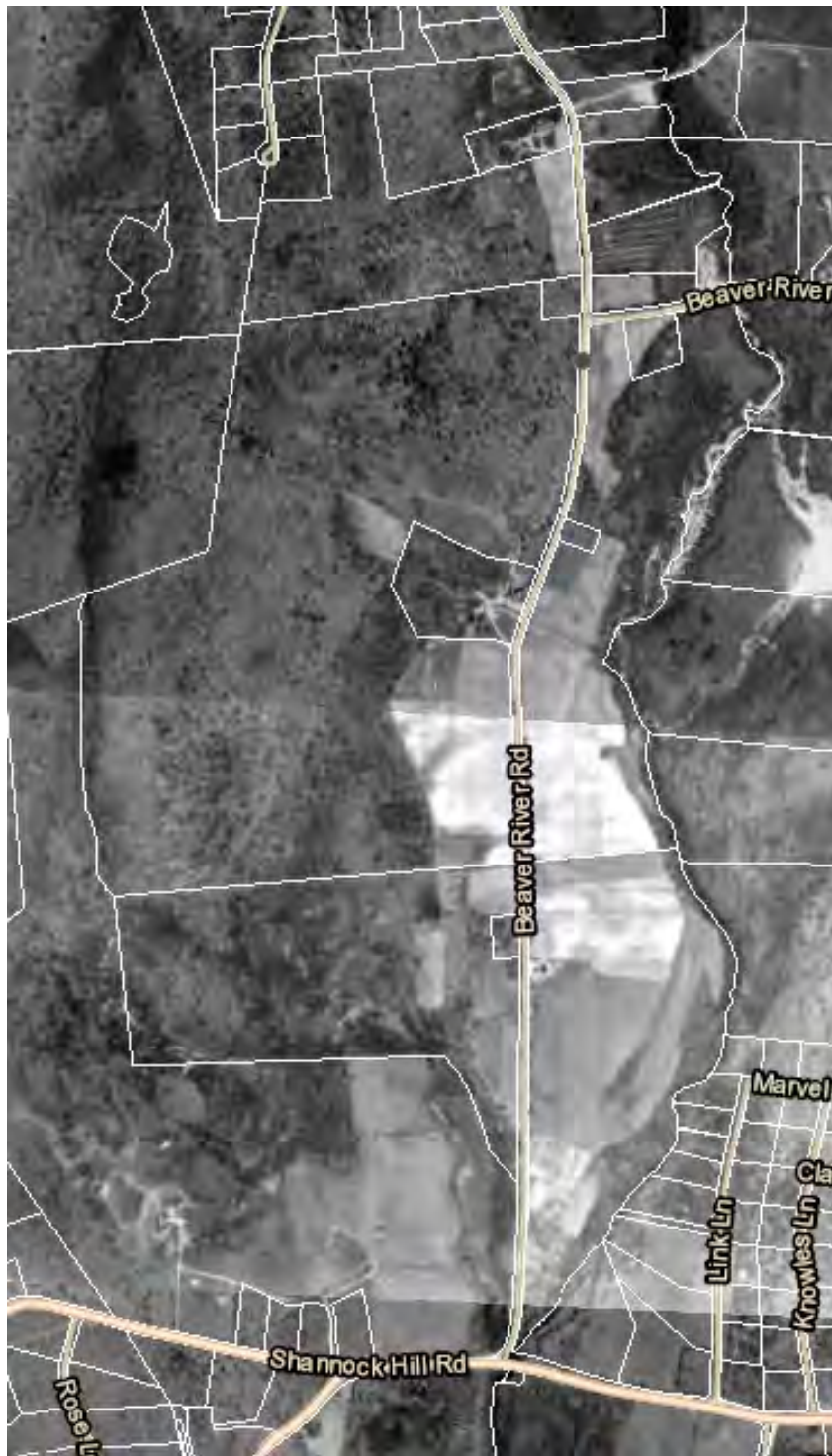


Figure 7. Detail of 1939 Aerial photograph with present-day parcel lines, showing the area of the Beaver River Road Historic District (Rhode Island Geographic Information System).

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Figure 8. Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm House before 1980, view northwest (photo courtesy of Christina Sharkey).



Figure 9. Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Shed #1 before 1980, view north (photo

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courtesy of Christina Sharkey).



Figure 10. Longdenholme/Hoyle Farm Barn (not extant) before 1980 (photo courtesy of Christina Sharkey).



Figure 11. Tree Allée along Beaver River Road and Hedgerow and Ditch marking the boundary between Walnut Hill Farm/Cliffmoore (north) and Jamesford Farm (south), with the Jamesford Barn on the left, January 1953, view north (photo courtesy of Gail and Andy Tibbits).

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Figure 12. Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore House (east elevation), unknown date (photo courtesy of Michael and Pamela Donnelly).



Figure 13. Walnut Hill/Cliffmoore House, June 29, 1906, view northwest (photo courtesy of Michael and Pamela Donnelly).

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Figure 14. Jamesford House and former Dairy Barn and outbuildings (demolished between 2002 and 2006), April 1953, view south (photo courtesy of Gail and Andy Tibbits).



Figure 15. Jamesford House, unknown date, view south (photo courtesy of Gail and Andy Tibbits).

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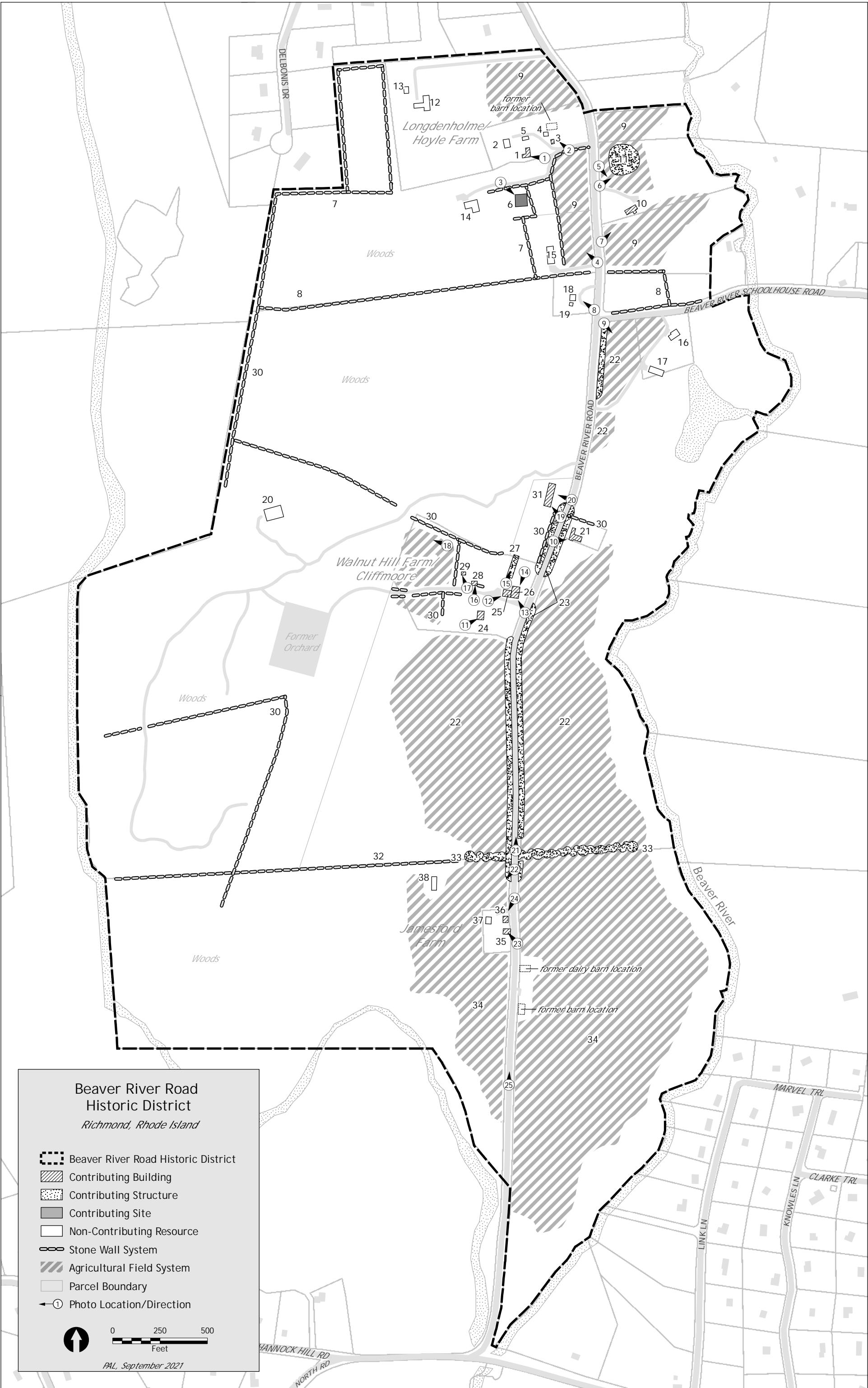
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Figure 16. Former Jamesford Dairy Barn (demolished between 2002 and 2006), February 1951, view south (photo courtesy of Gail and Andy Tibbits).

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

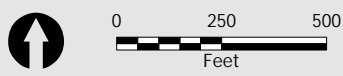
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



**Beaver River Road
Historic District**

Richmond, Rhode Island

- Beaver River Road Historic District
- Contributing Building
- Contributing Structure
- Contributing Site
- Non-Contributing Resource
- Stone Wall System
- Agricultural Field System
- Parcel Boundary
- Photo Location/Direction



PAL, September 2021

















































