

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

White Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

Salem Cross Inn (use for publication)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Ware Road (Route 9)

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

West Brookfield

VICINITY OF

2nd

STATE

CODE

COUNTY

CODE

Massachusetts

025

Worcester

027

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☒ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Henry Salem

STREET & NUMBER

c/o Salem Cross Inn, Ware Rd. (Route 9)

CITY, TOWN

STATE

West Brookfield

VICINITY OF

Massachusetts

01585

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Worcester County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

2 Main Street

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Worcester

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1973

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

STATE

Boston

Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☒ MOVED DATE 1707 house,
c.1960

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Salem Cross Inn, formerly known as the White Homestead, is located on Ware Road, Route 9, in the western part of West Brookfield. It is surrounded by acres of rolling meadows and woodlots bounded by fieldstone walls and crisscrossed with old cart roads. The immediate environs preserve an atmosphere of rural colonial days.

The homestead is located on the land granted to Sergeant John White in 1707. The original one story house was built by White c. 1707 with clapboard sides and a ridge roof. The ground floor contained a kitchen with a large cooking fireplace and an oven. On the backside of the fireplace was a small heating fireplace which faced into a small chamber known as a "borning room". There were also two general use chambers on the far side of the borning room. The walls of the kitchen and borning room are the original plaster on handsplit chestnut laths. The outside walls were lined with handmade burnt bricks, some of which still remain, serving as fortification against both the Indians and the severe New England weather. Above the ground floor is a three-quarter loft with access via an enclosed staircase from the first general chamber. When the main house was constructed; this primitive structure was converted to a carriage shed and still so remains. It was moved c.1960 behind the main house. While the chimney was removed, the interior and exterior are otherwise mostly intact.

The house and barn were built by John and Cornelius White c.1740 upon their return to Brookfield from Concord to claim their father's land. The main house is a 2 story clapboard Colonial structure with a hip roof, large central chimney, and main entrance on the east facade. The windows are symmetrically ordered 12/12 lights on the first floor and 8/12 lights on the second floor. Entrance to the house is from a large granite step through double doors inset with bull's eye lights and hung with original strap hinges. The door handle and latch are etched with Salem Cross hex marks from which the current restaurant derived its name.

The entry is constructed with a door to the left and the right leading to the front rooms, and a staircase leading to the second floor. The room to the right of the entry was used as a sitting room. It is characterized by a full wall and fireplace breast of raised panelling, dado on three remaining walls, and raised panel doors. The floor is of the original pine boards. The plaster, as in the whole house, is an authentic plaster of the period (some original and some restored) consisting of ground oyster shells and sand. (The shells replaced lime which was scarce.) The room to the left of the entry was the formal dining room. A chair rail is set into the plastered walls and the cornice is made up of crown mouldings. There is a corner cupboard in the southwest corner with butterfly shelving and fluted columns. The original floor boards remain as does the fireplace with double panel above. The large room extending the width of the building, located behind the two front rooms, was the kitchen. This room has a large cooking fireplace with the crane still in place. The walls are wainscotted with wide beaded boards secured with handmade nails. The ceiling is of exposed hand-hewn beams. Two blanket rods are attached to the chimney girt in front of the fireplace. The floor is original.

cont'd

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CONTINUATION SHEET Salem Cross Inn ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

The second floor originally contained five chambers. Four of these have been combined into one large room for restaurant use. The walls are sheathed with feather-edge panelling and the beams and posts are boxed with beaded boards. The floor is original. The remaining fifth chamber is located above the sitting room and is intact with dado siding, boxed corner posts and original flooring.

The cellar of the house has fieldstone walls below grade and handmade bricks above grade to the sill. A substantial area of the cellar is filled with the huge (12x15') base for the central chimney structure.

The main house is connected to the barn by two 1½ story ridge roof ells. These 20th c. ells are covered with clapboard and have a variety of doors and windows. They are located over what was once the barnyard and their northern foundation is the original barnyard wall of drywall construction.

The large barn, which is contemporary with the house, has a ridge roof, vertical board siding, and a large double door entrance in the north wall. There is a full cellar under the barn with a foundation of large fieldstone, which was originally of drywall construction. Forty-two foot hewn chestnut timbers rest on large oak posts supporting the upper barn. The upper barn is of standard Colonial construction with posts and beams of oak and chestnut. There are numerous hay lofts overhead of chestnut boards supported by half-round floor joists.

Water was supplied to the homestead by two wells and one spring. One well is capped with a large stone and the other is open. The open well has a well-sweep used to draw water. The spring is located across the road and is capable of supplying the house with fresh spring water.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

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

SPECIFIC DATES 1707 and 1740 BUILDER/ARCHITECT John White; John and Cornelius White

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Salem Cross Inn is significant to the local Brookfield area both for its architectural and its associative values. The 1707 structure is one of the last remaining structures from the early days of the second settlement of Brookfield and the 1740 building is important as an example of an excellently restored, 18th c. architecture in its original rural setting. The main house also retains its original outbuildings.

In addition to its architectural significance, the Salem Cross Inn is also important as being the home of three persons notable in history:

John White, who received the original land grant, was the grandson of Peregrine White, the first male child born in New England aboard the Mayflower as it rode at anchor in Cape Cod Harbor. John White was also an important figure in Brookfield town history. In 1706 he served second in command at the local Goss Garrison. As Indians had forced the removal of the first settlement in Brookfield (now West Brookfield) and were still a constant threat there, the garrison was most important. In 1707 John was granted 60 acres of land by the inhabitants of the town. In March, 1710, he and eight other men were granted permission to build a sawmill to service the community. John White was one of the victims of the Indian massacre at Brookfield on July 22, 1710, at which time he and five other men were killed while harvesting hay. This massacre was the last act of hostilities committed by the Indians in Brookfield. The 1740 house was built by White's sons, John and Cornelius.

The two other important figures who lived in the house were Sarah White Smith (b. 1813) and her sister, Adeline White Tracy (b. 1809), daughters of Deacon Alfred White, the great grandson of John White. Sarah and Adeline were both missionaries. In 1834 Adeline sailed for Singapore as the first woman missionary under the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Sarah, determined to follow her sister's example, was sent by the American Board to Oregon in 1838. She, along with five other women in her overland trek, holds a place in history as being one of the first white women to cross the Rocky Mountains. After spending two years in Oregon, Sarah and her missionary husband, Asa Smith, left and were finally able to arrange a missionary appointment in Hawaii, where they arrived in 1842.

The Inn is named for the entrance door's Salem Cross hex marks, etched on the door handle and latch.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Adams, C.J., Quabaug, Worcester, MA., 1915.
2. Chamberlain, D.H., "Old Brookfield and West Brookfield", The New England Magazine, 1899.
3. Drury, C.M., First White Women Over the Rockies, San Francisco, 1966.
4. White, J.B., A Genealogical Record of the White Family, Danielsonville, 1878.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 60

UTM REFERENCES

A 18 732860 4681960
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C 18 732780 4680270

B 18 733480 4680380
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D 18 732460 4680970

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Salem Cross Inn property is bounded on the northeast by Ware Road. Halfway between the Inn and Snow Road on Ware Road, the boundary drops south, Then goes due west just before the swamp. A line drawn northwest connects the southern boundary with the western one, avoiding the pond and crossing Lamberton Brook where it becomes the town line between the West Brookfield and Warren. The western boundary follows this town line north just past Cutler Road, then cuts east to connect with Ware Road.

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Mindy Arbo, N.R. Editor for Pat Weslowski, State Survey Director

ORGANIZATION

4 Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

1/13/74

STREET & NUMBER

40 Beacon Street

TELEPHONE

617/727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL ☐

STATE ☐

LOCAL ☒

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

SHPD
FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reef Amador

TITLE Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

3/10/75

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

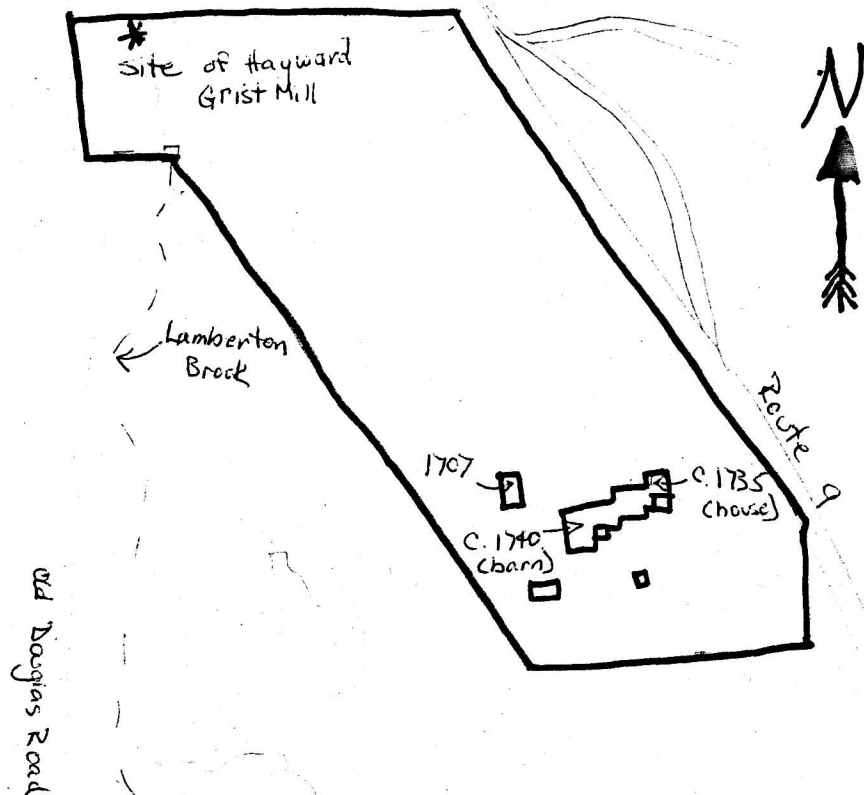
DATE

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

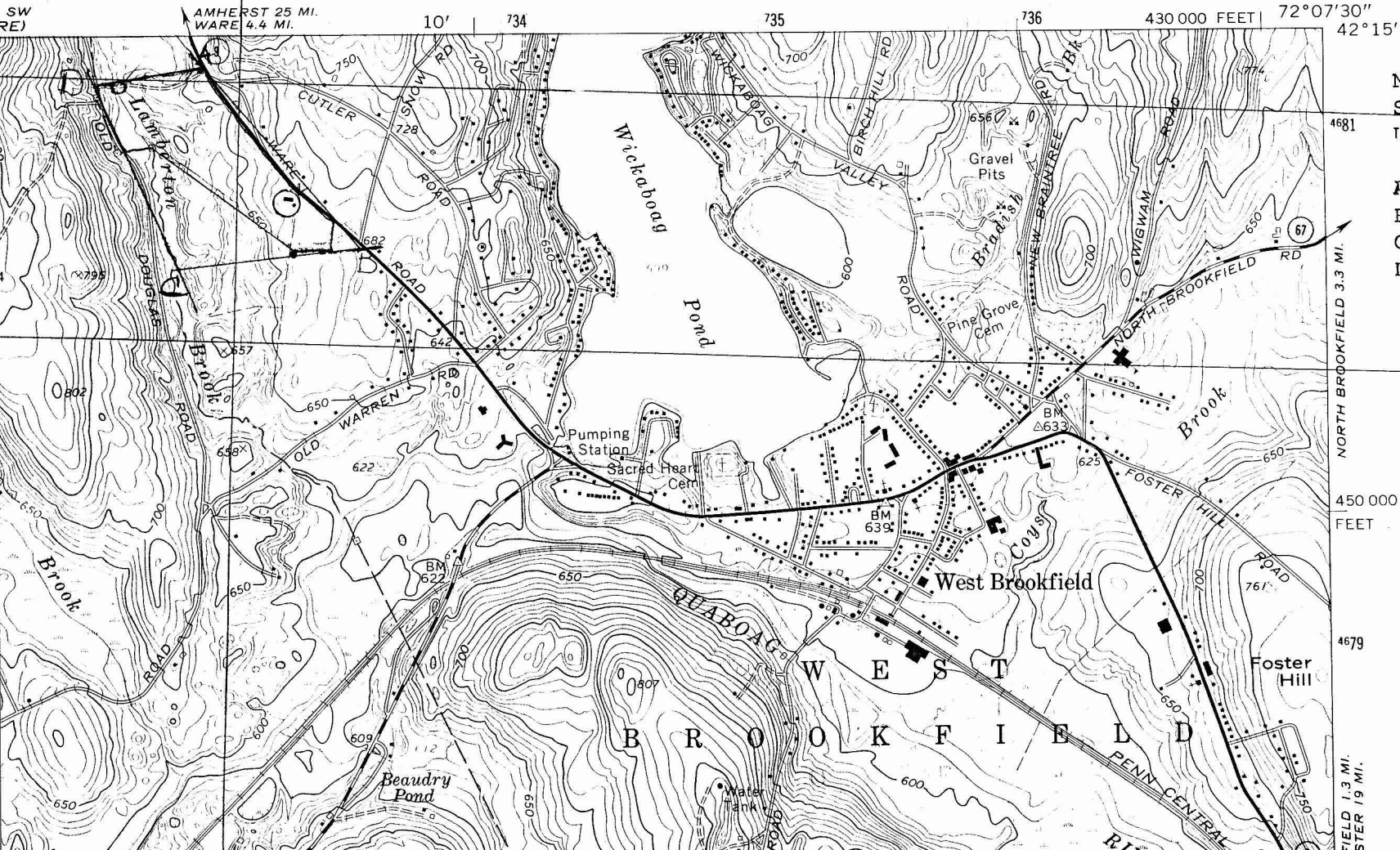


SALEM CROSS INN, WESTBROOKFIELD
NOT TO SCALE

F MASSACHUSETTS
F PUBLIC WORKS

WARREN QUADRANGLE
MASSACHUSETTS
7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)

6568 1 SE
(NORTH BROOKFIELD)



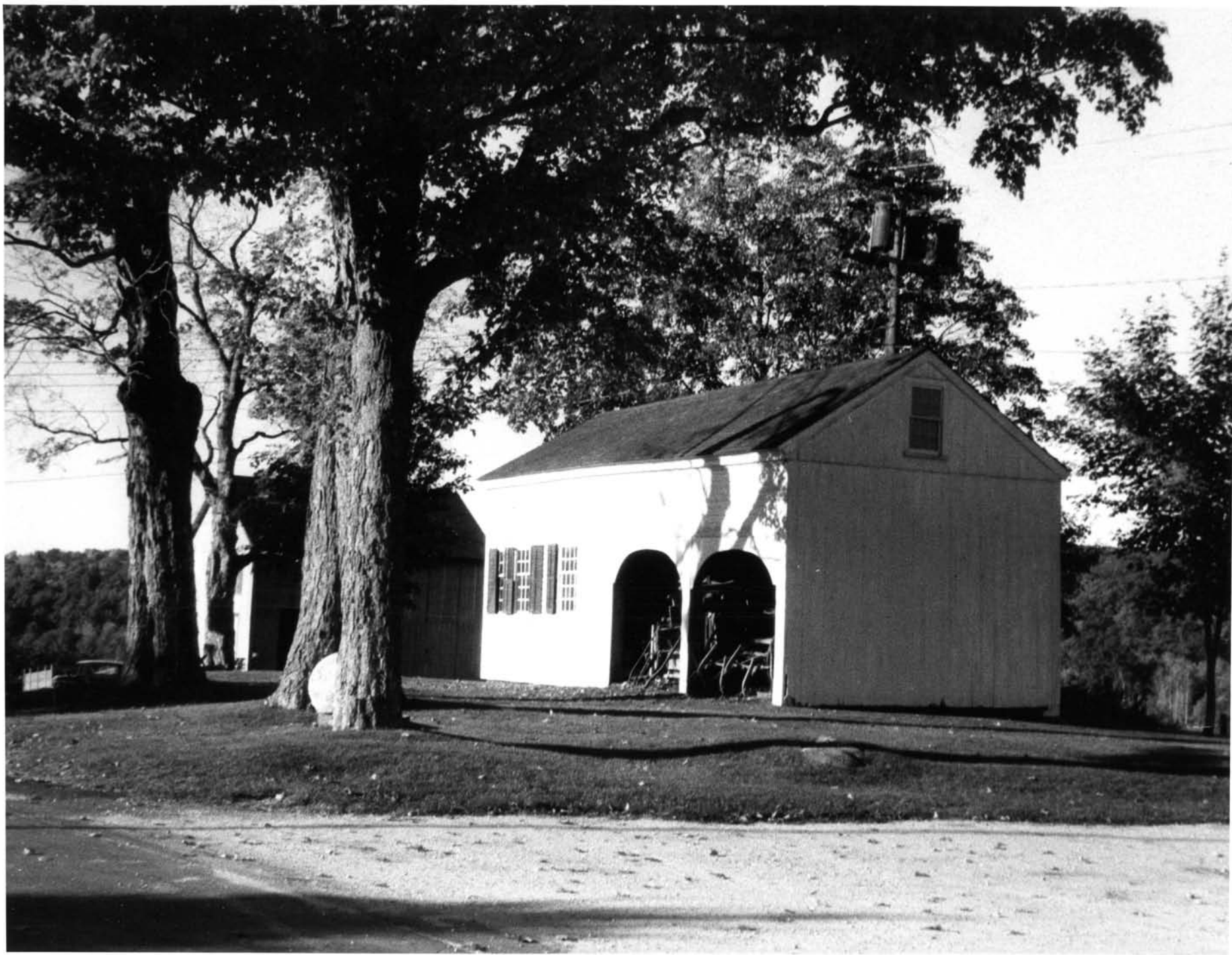
North Brookfield,
Salem Cross Inn
UTM references:

- A 18/732860/4681060
- B 18/733480/4680380
- C 18/732780/4680270
- D 18/732460/4680970

NORTH BROOKFIELD 3.3 MI.
450 000
FEET

4679

FIELD 1.3 MI.
FOSTER 1.9 MI.



1. Original 1707 House, east facade. (Photographer: Archie B. Jay, 2 November 1974)



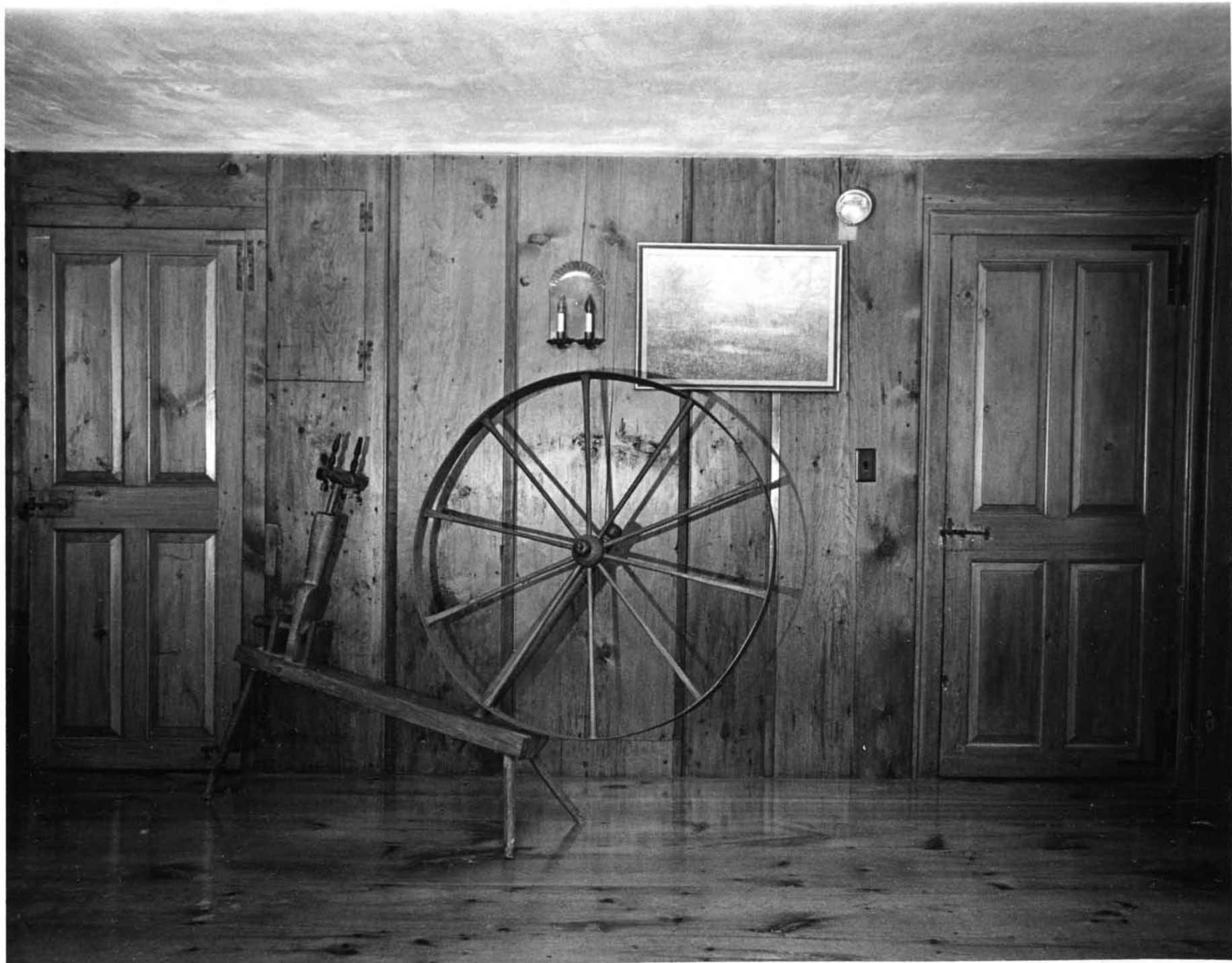
2. East facade, north elevation, of 1735 house; 1740 barn in rear. (Photographer: Archie Jay, 1974)



3. Entryway, 1735 house. (Photographer: Archie Jay, 1974)



4. Kitchen fireplace, 1735 house. (Photographer: Archie Jay, 1974)



5. North wall of southeast 2nd floor bedroom. (Photographer: Archie Jay, 1974)



6. Site of Hayward Grist Mill, looking north [photocopy]. (Photographer: Archie Jay, 1974)

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HISTORIC White Homestead

AND/OR COMMON Salem Cross Inn (preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN West Brookfield

— VICINITY OF

COUNTY Worcester

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Archie Jay

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT West Brookfield Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO.

1

original 1707 house, east facade

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PHOTO NO. 2

east facade, north elevation, of 1735 house; 1740 barn
in rear.

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VICINITY OF

COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

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DATE OF PHOTO 1974

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PHOTO NO. 3

entryway, 1735 house

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3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Archie Jay

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

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4 IDENTIFICATIONDESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
kitchen fireplace, 1735 house

PHOTO NO. 4

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PHOTO CREDIT Archie Jay DATE OF PHOTO 1974

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PHOTO NO. 5

north wall of southeast 2nd floor bedroom

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PHOTO CREDIT Archie Jay DATE OF PHOTO 1974

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DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO. 6

site of Hayward Grist Mill, looking north

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP**1 NAME**

HISTORIC White Homestead

AND/OR COMMON

Salem Cross Inn (preferred)

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN West Brookfield VICINITY OF COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE Sketch map

SCALE not to scale DATE March 1975

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-75

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2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN West Brookfield VICINITY OF COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey, Warren Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24,000 DATE 1969

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

INT: 2986-75