

Cultural Landscape Inventory

Hartwell Area

DRAFT

Battle Road Unit

Minute Man National Historical Park

I. Inventory Status

A. Completion

Level I

Date 1995

Recorder David Uschold

Level II

Date 1995

Recorder David Uschold

Level III

Date

Recorder

B. Inventory Included a Site Visit: Yes

II. General Landscape Information

A. Property Level

1. Landscape

2. Component Landscape

B. Site Name

1. Historic: Hartwell Farm

2. Current: Bloody Angles, Hartwell Area

C. CLI Number

D. Associated CLI Number(s)

1. Landscape:

2. Component Landscape(s)

E. Site Identification

1. Park Alpha Code: MIMA

2. Sub-Unit: Battle Road Unit

3. Management District/Subdistrict: Bloody Angles/ Hartwell Area

4. Tract Number: 02-106 thru 108, 02-110 thru 122, 02-124, 02-130, 02-131, 02-133, 02-135, 02-137, 02-139, 02-140, 02-143, 02-145 thru 155, 02-158, 02-159, 02-161 thru 166, 02-168, 03-101 thru 104, 03-106 thru 111, 03-125, 03-128, 03-129 thru 144, 03-148 thru 151, 03-154, 03-159 thru 162, 03-165, 03-167, 03-173, 03-179.

5. Region: Northeast Field Area

6. State: Massachusetts

7. County: Middlesex

F. Site Location:

1. USGS Quad: Concord

2. Other: The Minute Man National Historical Park (MIMA) is located approximately 15 miles northwest of Boston. It contains three separate units totalling 1040 acres and stretches approximately 5 miles from Concord to Lexington. The Battle Road Unit consists of approximately 800 acres along Route 2A from Concord, through Lincoln to Lexington. The Hartwell Area is a component landscape of the Battle Road Unit, centrally located within the unit and within the town of Lincoln.

G. Cultural Landscape Boundary Description: The Hartwell Area extends the length of the Battle Road that diverges from Route 2A from its intersection at Old Bedford Road to its intersection with Virginia Road (see fig. 1). On the west is the Brooks Farm area and on the east is the Paul Revere area. The Hartwell Area extends to the park boundaries on the north and south.

H. Boundary UTM's

I. Cultural Landscape Size: approximately 210 acres

J. Cultural Landscape Description: The Hartwell Area is centrally located along the Battle Road Unit of MIMA and contains a combination of historic structures and contemporary residences within a completely forested setting. Several roads traverse the area including Route 2A, Old Bedford Road, Bedford Lane, and Virginia Road. The Hartwell Area includes sites with archeological potential, three historic structures, a network of historic stone walls, and fifteen contemporary residences. The historic structures and contemporary homes are uniformly surrounded by areas of maintained grass lawn. The remainder of the Hartwell Area is forest.

In addition to having the Battle Road traverse the Hartwell Area it can be described as having four identifiable areas of documented historic significance: Bloody Angles, the Hartwell sites, and the William Smith site. Bloody Angles, at the intersection of Old Bedford Road and Virginia Road, was an area that witnessed intense fighting during the Running Battle. The Ephriam Hartwell Tavern and the Samuel Hartwell site were both occupied by Hartwells on April 19, 1775. The William Smith House at the east end of the Hartwell Area was the home of a captain in the Colonial militia (see fig. 2).

As noted Bloody Angles was the scene of intense fighting between the Minute Men and the British Regulars. The Concord Road bends at what is now the intersection of Old Bedford Road and Virginia Road creating the "Angle" where the Minute Men were able to attack the Regulars as they rounded the bend. The area surrounding the bend is completely wooded having been allowed to experience successional forest growth. Eight contemporary homes exist within this wooded area along Old Bedford Road and Virginia Road.

East of Bloody Angles on Virginia Road is the Ephriam Hartwell Tavern. The Ephriam Hartwell Tavern, constructed in 1732, has been restored by the NPS and is open to the public for interpretation to the public (see fig. 4). A wayside with an interpretive plaque is at the front of the site. The area immediately surrounding the Tavern is open grass lawn. A row of

large maples stands in front of the Tavern and stone walls border the sides and rear. A small pasture enclosed by stone walls and split-rail fencing stands on the Tavern's east side. The pasture holds livestock as part of the NPS interpretive program for the park (see fig. 5). The McHugh Barn is located at the rear of the Tavern. The barn is a 1939 structure constructed on an 1820 foundation (see fig. 6).

The Samuel Hartwell site, historically the houselot of the Samuel Hartwell farm, is the site of the foundation and chimney of the farmhouse. The house was constructed around 1693 and destroyed by a fire in 1968. A shelter constructed by the NPS now protects the remains of the house and mimics its original size and shape (see fig. 7). The shelter is surrounded by an area of maintained grass lawn fronting Virginia Road. The sides and rear of the lawn area are bordered by successional forest. A combination of stone wall and split-rail fence stands along the front of the site. A wayside with an interpretive plaque is at the front of the site.

The William Smith House, a post-1693 construction, is located at the east end of the area where Virginia Road meets Route 2A. The house has been restored by the NPS and is set on the top of a small knoll in an area maintained as open grass lawn. A retaining wall within the lawn approximately one foot high and thirty feet long curves around the north corner of the house (see fig. 8). The lawn area extends to Virginia Road and has a picnic area by the road. A dirt drive connects Route 2A with the house and a row of Norway Spruce border the west side of the drive (see fig. 9). An interpretive plaque stands at the front of the house.

In addition to the Samuel Hartwell site the Mason site is an area with potential archeological significance. The Mason site, a farmstead in 1775, is located between Bloody Angles and the Hartwell Tavern on Virginia Road. The area is now completely forested and investigation has been limited and no features have been located.

In addition to the historic structures the Hartwell Area has a high concentration of stone walls. The walls surround the houselots, line the roads and extend through the woods in areas historically planted as agricultural fields.

In general the Hartwell Area is a rural residential area within a successional forest. The area contains several historic and contemporary structures, a vast network of stone walls and is traversed by several secondary roads and a major highway (see fig. 10).

K. Cultural Landscape Contexts

1. Physiographic: The Hartwell Area is a mostly flat plateau at approximately 210 feet above sea level. The plateau drops down along the northern edge of the area. Most of the area is successional forest.
2. Political : The Hartwell Area is within the town of Lincoln and is within the 5th and 7th congressional districts.
3. Cultural: The Hartwell Area maintains a mostly rural character within a suburban surrounding. The majority of the area is forested with residential development within the park boundaries.

L. Assessment of Overall Condition of Landscape

1. Good
2. Fair
3. Poor
4. Unknown

M. Assessment of Overall Level of Impact Severity

1. Severe
2. Moderate
3. Low
4. Unknown

N. Immediate Threats to Landscape

1. Impending Development
2. Release to Succession
3. Adjacent Lands
4. Unknown/Other: Development and successional forest growth has occurred, but no immediate threats exist within this area.

O. Adjacent Lands are Determined Contributing to the Significance of the Landscape and are included in the Inventory

1. Yes
2. No: Much of the surrounding land historically was agricultural but very little remains so today. Some development has taken place but the largest change is the successional forest growth within the agricultural fields. The adjacent lands are discussed within this CLI but they are not inventoried.
3. Undetermined

III. Location Map

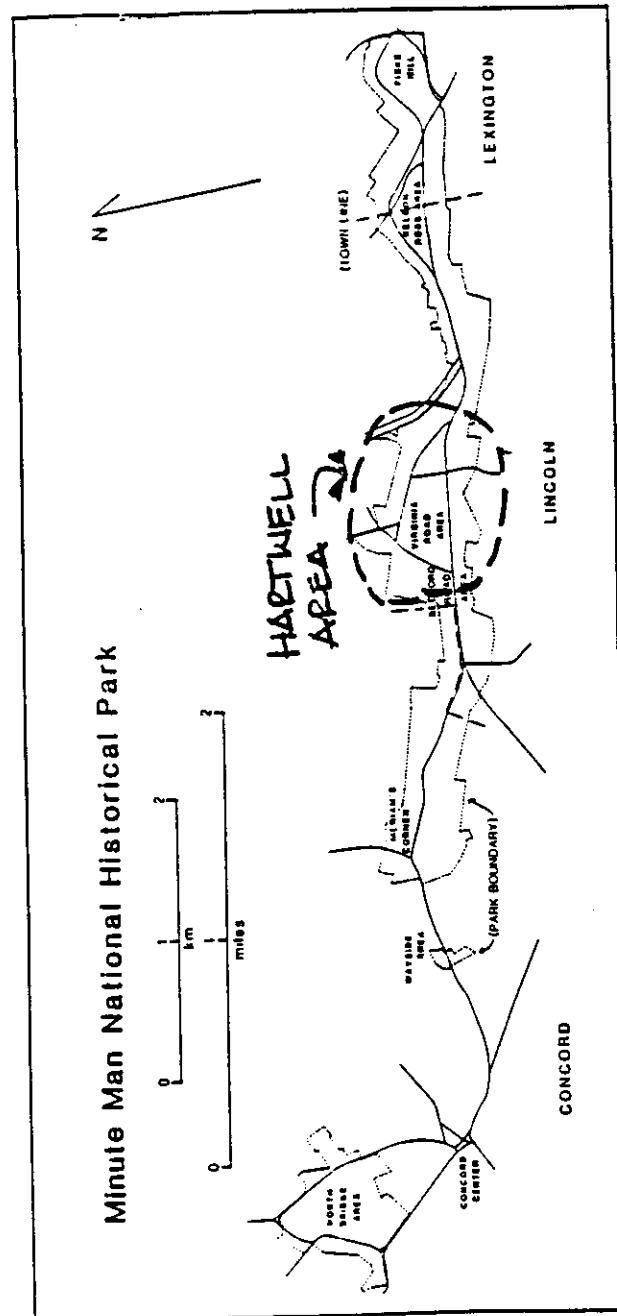


Figure 1: Minute Man National Historical Park (MIMA ACMP V1, 1987).

IV. Site Plan

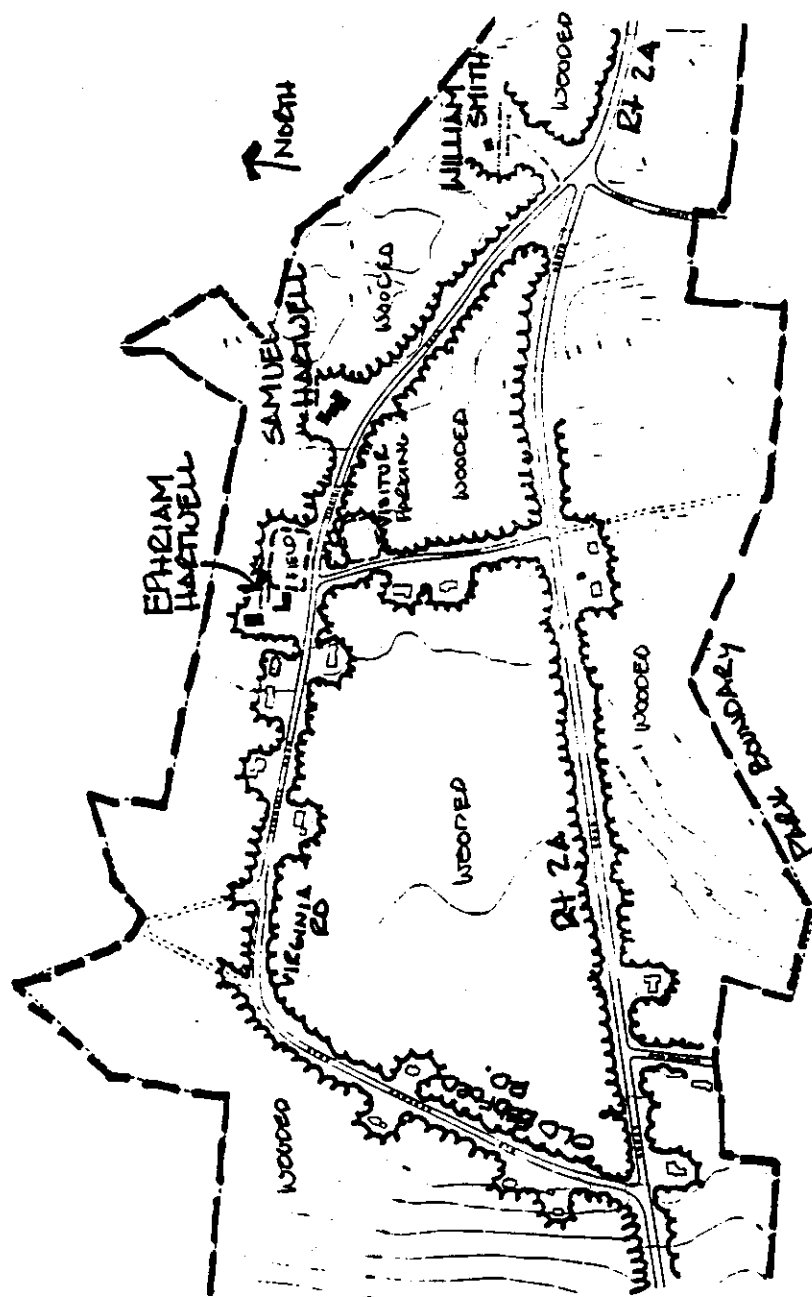


Figure 2: Hartwell Area, MIMA, 1996 (MIMA ACMP V3, 1986; OCLP overlay, 1996).

V. Period Plan

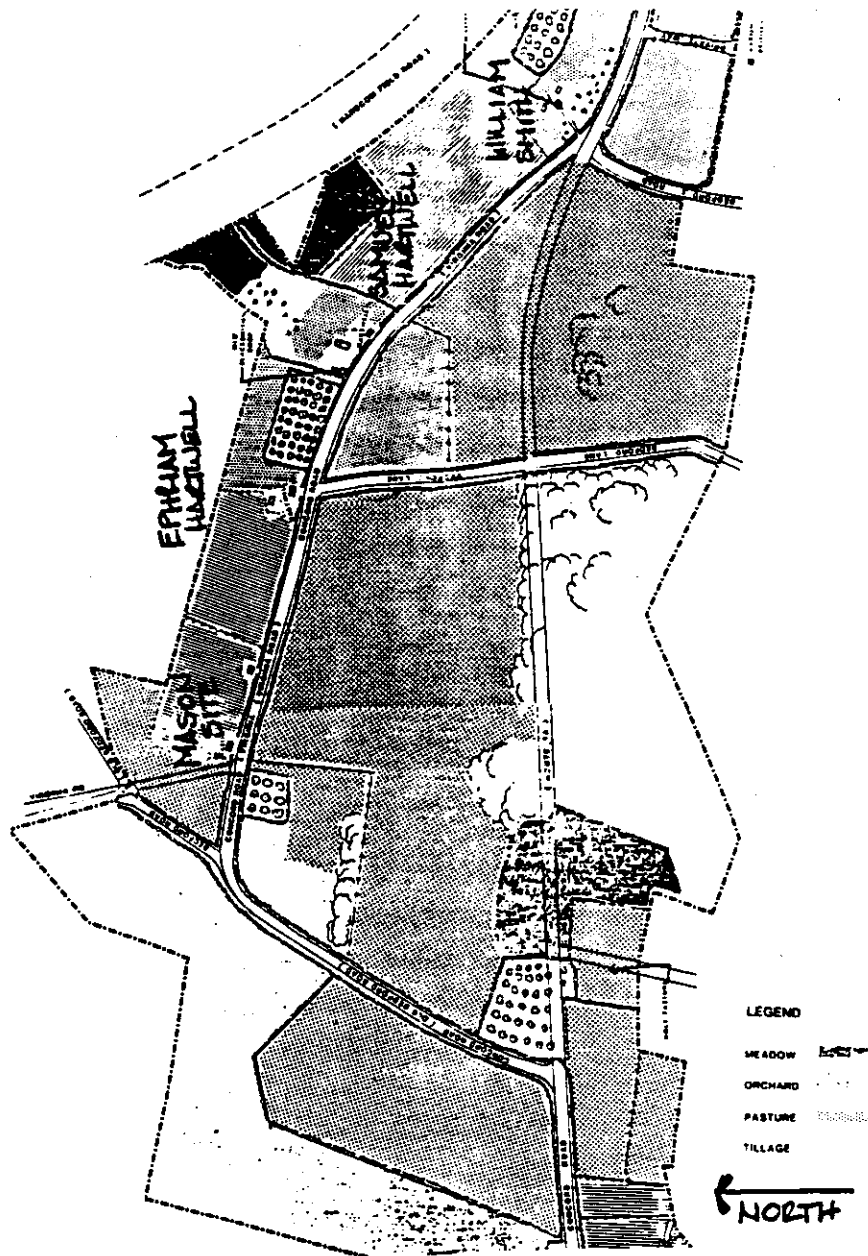


Figure 3: 1775 Base Plan, Hartwell Area (Malcolm, 1985).

VI. Historical Information

A. Landscape Type

1. Designed
2. Vernacular

3. Historic Site: The Hartwell Area, as part of the Battle Road Unit of Minute Man NHP, is significant for its association with the American Revolution. Specifically, the Hartwell Area was one of several component landscapes along the Battle Road that witnessed the Running Battle, as the Colonial Minute Man forced the British Regulars to retreat toward Lexington at the outbreak of the American Revolution.

4. Ethnographic

B. Land Use

1. Historic: Small-scale agriculture.
2. Current: The Hartwell Area currently is maintained as part of the Minute Man NHP. The area is interpreted as part of the site and setting of the Running Battle, with waysides at the Ephriam Hartwell Tavern, Samuel Hartwell site and William Smith House. Limited residential development also has occurred within the Hartwell Area.

C. Chronology

pre1635	Native American habitation.
pre1700	First Colonial settlement.
ca.1693	Samuel Hartwell house constructed.
post1693	William Smith house constructed.
ca.1733	Ephriam Hartwell Tavern constructed.
1754	Lincoln incorporated as a town.
1756	Ephriam Hartwell licensed as an Inn Keeper.
1775	Running Battle and Outbreak of American Revolution.
ca.1830	McHugh barn constructed.
1938	McHugh barn destroyed by hurricane.
1939	McHugh barn reconstructed on original foundation.
1959	Designation of area as Minute Man NHP.
1967	NPS acquires Hartwell property.
1968	Samuel Hartwell house destroyed by fire.
1985	William Smith house restored.
1986	Samuel Hartwell shelter constructed.

D. Site History: The Hartwell family first settled in Middlesex County from Buckinghamshire, England in the 1640s. Samuel Hartwell Sr., a son of the original settlers, acquired land along the road between Lexington and Concord, in an area that eventually would become the Lincoln township. He constructed a house around 1693 on the Concord Road (Battle Road). His house would eventually become known as the Sergeant Samuel Hartwell House, after his grandson (son of Ephriam Hartwell) who inherited the farm in

1769.¹ The Samuel Hartwell Jr. farm consisted of approximately 20 acres: a 10-acre parcel north of the road containing the house and outbuildings and 10 acres south of the road. The houselot contained Samuel's house, barn and blacksmith shop.

At some point soon after 1693 William Smith, a Captain of the Lincoln company of minute men, constructed a house and established a 120-acre farm at the east end of the Hartwell Area. This farm has been documented to have contained a house (extant), two barns, plowland, mowing, pasture, woodland, and an orchard (see fig. 11). The area between the Smith house and the Samuel Hartwell site was pasture and the area to the east of the Smith house was part pasture and part orchard. Another orchard stood behind the house. A network of stone walls served to separate and enclose the fields and orchards. One of the barns seems to have been located east of the house.²

Ephriam Hartwell, Samuel Sr.'s youngest son, was given 18 acres of Samuel's land, on which he built a house in 1733. Samuel Sr. died in 1774, leaving the remainder of his land to Ephriam upon his widow's death. Ephriam obtained an innkeeper's license in 1756 and began operating his house as an inn (see fig. 12).³

Ephriam's inn, which was probably known as Hartwell Inn, eventually became known as Hartwell Tavern although no evidence of serving food and drink has been found. It is clear that Ephriam must have had several other structures on his property to serve the needs of both his farm and his inn. Tax records document a large number of livestock that would have needed shelter, adding to the need for additional structures. A wood house and well are mentioned in historic documentation.⁴

On April 18, 1775 the British began a march from Boston to Concord. It was their intention to locate and destroy the colonists store of ammunitions believed to be held in Concord. On that morning, colonists Paul Revere and William Dawes rode to Concord to warn the town of the approaching British. The two were stopped by British scouts just east of the Hartwell Area. Revere was held but Dawes escaped and the word of the British troops approaching was spread throughout the area. The skirmishes between the Minute Men and the British

¹ Malcolm, Joyce Lee. Historic Grounds Report, Minute Man National Historical Park. Boston, National Park Service, NESO, 1985, p56.

² Historic Grounds Report, Hartwell Tavern, MIMA, 1972, p57.

³ Malcolm, Joyce Lee. Historic Grounds Report, Minute Man National Historical Park. Boston, National Park Service, NESO, 1985, p56.

U.S. Department of the Interior. *Archeological Collections Management at Minute Man National Historical Park, Volume 1*. Division of Cultural Resources, North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Boston, MA, 1987, p56.

⁴ Malcolm, Joyce Lee. Historic Grounds Report, Minute Man National Historical Park. Boston, National Park Service, NESO, 1985, p58.

Regulars began the next day, April 19th, at the North Bridge in Concord from which point the Minute Men forced the British back along the Concord Road. The first exchange of shot took place at Meriam's Corner beginning the Running Battle. From Meriam's Corner the Running Battle progressed east through the Hartwell Area where heavy fighting took place at a bend in the road now known as Bloody Angles (intersection of Old Bedford Road and Virginia Road), one of the most significant locations associated with the Running Battle. At this curve in the road, the surrounding landscape combined stone walls, agricultural land, tree cover, and glacial erratics. During the Running Battle, this bend and adjacent landscape provided the Colonial Minute Men with a strategic opportunity to attack the British as they slowed to round the bend during their retreat toward Lexington. The Minute Men used the cover to conceal themselves against the passing British, making this location the scene of some of the day's fiercest fighting.

After the war in 1777 John Hartwell, Ephriam's son and an officer in the local militia, took over the management of the tavern. He continued to operate the property as an inn until 1787. Ephriam died in 1793, leaving the tavern and its surrounding 68 acres to John.⁵ The property then became known as the Deacon John Hartwell Farm. During John's tenure, the neighboring Mason farm was added to the Hartwell property. John died in 1820 leaving his property to his son John Hartwell Jr. During his tenure a barn (known as the McHugh barn) was constructed behind the tavern around 1830. The entire Hartwell farm was sold out of the Hartwell family in 1873, ending a 140 year holding.

After the Hartwell family tenure the property passed through many ownerships. In 1938 the McHugh barn was destroyed by a hurricane and rebuilt on the original foundation later that year. The Samuel Hartwell house was used as a restaurant during the beginning of the 20th century. Referred to as the Hartwell Inn (as was Ephriam's 18th-century establishment) the house had a large addition on its west end at this time (see fig. 13). Minute Man National Historical Park was established in 1959 incorporating much of the Hartwell area. The NPS acquired a portion of the Hartwell property in 1968. The Samuel Hartwell house burned that same year. In 1985 the NPS restored the William Smith house and in 1986 constructed the Samuel Hartwell shelter.

E. National Register Status

1. Landscape is Listed on the National Register

a. Landscape Documentation is

1. Adequate

2. **Inadequate:** The Hartwell Area was listed on the National Register in 1966 with its designation as a National Historical Park. A Register form for all three units of the entire Minute Man NHP (North Bridge, Wayside, Battle Road) was filled out in 1981. The form never officially signed or entered on the National Register

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U.S. Department of the Interior. *Archeological Collections Management at Minute Man National Historical Park, Volume 1*. Division of Cultural Resources, North Atlantic Regional Office, National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior, Boston, MA, 1987, p56.

concentrates on the park's buildings and structures and does not describe the surrounding landscape.

The current nomination form for the Battle Road Unit should be revised and completed. The Hartwell Area should remain under the canopy of the larger Battle Road Historic District. It is the combination of several contiguous areas, such as the Hartwell Area, along the battle Road that combine to preserve the historic setting of the Running Battle.

b. Dates of Documentation:

1. National Register Nomination Form: 1981

2. Amendment to NR Nomination: _____

2. Landscape is Not Listed on National Register and is Determined Potentially Significant Based on the Findings of (highlight choice)

a. Level I - CLI

b. Level II - CLI

3. Landscape has been determined eligible by SHPO. Date: _____

4. Landscape has been determined of No Potential Significance based on the findings of:

a. Level I - CLI

b. Level II - CLI

F. National Register Classification:

1. **District:** The entire Minute Man NHP should be listed as a historic district, containing several component landscapes such as Meriam's Corner and the Hartwell Area.

2. Site

3. Multiple Property

4. Undetermined

G. National Register Significance Level

1. **National**

2. State

3. Local

4. Contributing

5. Undetermined

H. National Register Significance Criteria:

1. **A: Association with an Important Event**

2. B

3. C

4. D

5. Undetermined

I. Historical Context

1. **American Revolution.**

2. 18th-century agricultural settlement patterns in New England (potential).

J. Statement of Significance: The Hartwell Area is significant under National Register Criterion A: Association with an important event, the American Revolution. The Hartwell Area is one of several component landscapes that combined to create the site and setting of the Running Battle at the outbreak of the American Revolution.

As the British troops retreated from their confrontation with the Minute Men at the North Bridge in concord, the first shots of the Running Battle took place at Meriam's Corner. The Running Battle progressed east from Meriam's Corner as the Colonial Minute Men forced the British retreat.

The Minute Men used the agricultural setting to their advantage allowing them success in forcing the British retreat. The agricultural fields, stone walls, and, in the Hartwell Area, Bloody Angles provided cover and opportunity for the Minute Men to attack the British. Bloody Angles in particular was the scene of intense fighting. The period of significance for the Hartwell Area is the day of the Running Battle, April 19, 1775. Additional areas of significance may be identified with further research.

K. National Historic Landmark Status

NO Date: Theme:

L. World Heritage Site Status

NO Date:

M. List of Primary Contributing Features

Battle Road
Bloody Angles
Joseph Mason site
Ephriam Hartwell Tavern (LCS# 00931)
McHugh barn (contributing in character)(LCS# 40029)
Foundation at Ephriam Hartwell site (LCS# 40251)
Samuel Hartwell site (LCS# 00930)
Foundation/cellar at Samuel Hartwell site (LCS# 40252)
William Smith house (LCS# 06553)
Stone wall network (LCS# 40189-40193)

N. List of Noncontributing Features

Route 2A
Contemporary homes (15)
Forest growth

VI. Potential Ethnographic Value

- A. Ethnographic Survey has been conducted
 - 1. Yes: Ethnographic Values Identified:
 - a. Restricted Information
 - b. Unrestricted:
 - 2. No: Values potentially exist, but unidentified.
- B. List Groups potentially associated with landscape historically and/or currently:
- C. Description of known Ethnographic Value: Undetermined at this time.

VII. Documentation

A. Overall Assessment of Documentation of the Cultural Landscape

1. Good
2. Fair
3. Poor

B. Documentation Checklist: (add date of document's completion and highlight its adequacy for addressing the cultural landscape)

	Report	Comments Adequately Address Landscape ?
General Management Plan, 1989.	Focus is the entire park, but does address some specific issues at the Hartwell Area.	NO
Development Concept Plan		
Resource Management Plan		
Historic Resource Study		
Historical Base Map, 1985.	<i>The Scene of the Battle, 1775, Malcolm.</i> A very thorough historical background, but limited information on individual landscape feature. Does include somewhat conjectural 1775 base maps of the entire park.	NO
Land Protection Plan		

Special Resource Study

Administrative History, 1985.

NO

Cultural Landscape Report,
1993.

*A Management Plan to
Balance Cultural and Natural
Resources*, University of
Massachusetts. Addresses the
park as a whole but does
cover specific issues at the
Hartwell Area at a conceptual
level.

NO

Historic Grounds Report,
Hartwell Tavern, 1972.

NO

Historic Structure Report,
Hartwell Tavern, 1975.

NO

Archeological Survey,
Hartwell Tavern, 1981.

NO

Archeological Report

NO

C. Graphic Documentation

1. Topography - existing/needed
2. Boundary - existing/needed
3. Site Plan - existing/needed

VIII. Management

A. Management Category

1. **A-Must be Preserved**
2. B-Should be Preserved
3. C-May be Preserved
4. D-May be Released/altered/destroyed
5. Not Specified

B. Approved Treatment

	Completed?	Document Date
1. Preservation	y/n	
2. Stabilization	y/n	
3. Rehabilitation	y/n	
4. Restoration (selective)	NO	GMP, 1989
5. Reconstruction	y/n	
6. Neglect	y/n	
7. Destruction	y/n	
8. Undetermined		

C. Management Agreement (highlight choice(s))

1. Concession Contract
2. Cooperative Agreement
3. Special Use Permit
4. Lease (Historic Property)
5. Interagency Agreement
6. Memorandum of Agreement
7. Memorandum of Understanding
8. Other:

D. NPS Legal Interest

1. Fee
2. Less-than-fee:
 - a. Preservation Easement
 - b. Development Easement
 - c. Other
3. **Fee Simple Reservation**
 - a. **Life Tenancy**
 - b. Period Tenancy
4. None:
 - a. Private
 - b. Other Federal Agency
 - c. Local Government

E. Public Access to Site

1. Unrestricted
2. With Permission
3. Other Restrictions
4. No Access Currently

IX. Analysis and Evaluation

The Hartwell Area, centrally located within the Battle Road Unit of MIMA, is one of several component landscapes that when combined create the site and setting of the start of the American Revolution. Today the National Park Service manages and interprets the Hartwell Area (approximately 210 acres) as part of the rural agricultural setting of the Running Battle. The Running Battle, the first exchange of shots in the war, began at the Meriam House at the west end of the Battle Road Unit. The battle progressed east through Bloody Angles and the Hartwell farms on April 19, 1775. Bloody Angles was the location of some of the fiercest fighting that took place during the Running Battle.

At the time of the battle, in 1775, the stretch of the Battle Road extending through the Hartwell Area was surrounded by agricultural lands and a few scattered farmsteads. The land adjacent to the curve that would be called Bloody Angles was characterized by fields and meadows bordered by stone walls and scattered tree cover. While these features allowed the Minute Men to conceal themselves the area had an open character allowing views to surrounding fields. East of Bloody Angles were the inn and three farmsteads that maintained fields in the area: the Ephriam Hartwell Inn, Joseph Mason, Samuel Hartwell, and William Smith farms.

Today, the Bloody Angles area has become completely overgrown with successional forest. The area is no longer used for agriculture but many of the stone walls that divided the fields are extant. No features of the Mason Farm have been located and the site could be researched through archeology. The Ephriam Hartwell Tavern is extant and, as a resource itself, retains high integrity. Its surrounding landscape, historically agricultural, has become successional forest. One adjacent field remains intact east of the tavern. The field is maintained for livestock as part of the park's interpretive program. The 19th-century McHugh barn is the tavern's only extant farm structure. Only the foundation and central chimney of the Samuel Hartwell house are extant and contained within a shelter constructed to replicate the frame of the original house. Its surrounding landscape also has become overgrown with successional forest. At the east end of the Hartwell Area, the William Smith House is extant and retains high integrity. Its landscape is maintained as an open grass lawn, with no documented historic features extant.

The character of the Hartwell Area has changed drastically since 1775. In 1775 the Hartwell area had a very open agricultural character of farmsteads with small agricultural fields and orchards separated by stone walls. It had views and vistas to the larger surrounding landscape. The agricultural fields and views no longer exist, however, many features from 1775 are extant. The most significant feature, the Battle Road, is extant and retains some of its character. The Ephriam Hartwell Tavern, Samuel Hartwell foundation, and William Smith house also are extant. Much of the stone wall network is also extant. The major difference in the area since the historic period is the loss of the agricultural land to successional forest growth.

Contemporary additions to this area have been extensive although their effects have been masked by the forest growth. Unlike the other component landscapes of the Battle Road Unit, the improvement of Route 2A has not greatly detracted from the historic character of the Hartwell Area. The addition of Route 2A into this area is less obtrusive since it does not follow the path of the Battle Road.

However, as many as 13 contemporary homes exist within the area. These residences exist along Route 2A, Old Bedford Road, Virginia Road and Bedford Lane.

X. Bibliography

- A. NRID#:
- B. HABS#:
- C. HAER#:
- D. ASMIS#:
- E. Sources: (include CRBIB#, DSC/TIC# if available)

XI. Supplemental Information



Figure 4: Ephriam Hartwell Tavern (OCLP, 1996).



Figure 5: Pasture adjacent to Hartwell Tavern (OCLP, 1996).



Figure 6: McHugh Barn (OCLP, 1996).



Figure 7: Samuel Hartwell house shelter (OCLP, 1996).



Figure 8: William Smith House (OCLP, 1996).



Figure 9: William Smith House (OCLP, 1996).



Figure 10: Hartwell Area stone walls (OCLP, 1996).



Figure 11: William Smith House, ca.1936 (SPNEA).



Figure 12: Ephriam Hartwell Tavern, date unknown, pre1959 (SPNEA).



Figure 13: Samuel Hartwell house (Hartwell Inn), ca.1935 (SPNEA).