

PH# 365955

DATA SHEET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED AUG 23 1976

DATE ENTERED NOV 11 1977

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

\*\* HISTORIC

Dr. John Cuming House

AND/OR COMMON

same

## 2 LOCATION

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Barretts Mill Road and Reformatory Circle

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Concord

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Middlesex

CODE

017

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

## CATEGORY

DISTRICT

X BUILDING(S)

STRUCTURE

SITE

OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

X PUBLIC

PRIVATE

BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

IN PROCESS

BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

X OCCUPIED

UNOCCUPIED

WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

X YES: RESTRICTED

YES: UNRESTRICTED

NO

## PRESENT USE

AGRICULTURE

MUSEUM

COMMERCIAL

PARK

EDUCATIONAL

X PRIVATE RESIDENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

RELIGIOUS

GOVERNMENT

SCIENTIFIC

INDUSTRIAL

TRANSPORTATION

MILITARY

OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Massachusetts Department of Corrections

STREET &amp; NUMBER

100 Cambridge Street

CITY, TOWN

Boston,

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts 02202

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Registry of Deeds, Middlesex County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER

208 Cambridge Street

CITY, TOWN

Cambridge,

STATE

Massachusetts 02141

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1967

FEDERAL X STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Dr. John Cuming House, a simple eighteenth century farmhouse, was built about 1754. It is located at Reformatory Circle, on a one and one half acre lot. The house is encircled by tall evergreen trees that shield it from the traffic on Route 2.

It is a two and one half story dwelling of wood frame construction. Four inch clapboard and narrow cornerboards, painted white, cover the house. Its roof is hipped and pierced by a small nineteenth century chimney. The symmetrical facade of the house is of five bays. It is composed of six over six sash windows, flanked by louvered shutters and a central pedimented portico. Two square posts, attached to the house by balustrades, support the pediment. The wooden door under the portico is flanked by full length sidelights. A small screened-in porch extends from the left side of the house.

Appended to the rear of the house is a two story nineteenth century ell. The windows in the ell are six over six sash, graced with fluted shutters, and the walls are four inch clapboard, painted white. They are identical to those of the main house and combine to form a unified structure architecturally. A pedimented overhang, supported by simple brackets, protects a side door in the ell.

Two simple nineteenth century outbuildings stand behind the house.

## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

### PERIOD

### AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

|                                               |                                                 |                                                 |                                                 |                                                         |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC          | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC | <input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING     | <input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE | <input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC    | <input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION           | <input type="checkbox"/> LAW                    | <input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599            | <input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE            | <input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS              | <input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE             | <input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699            | <input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE           | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION   | <input checked="" 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 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)     |
|                                               |                                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION              |                                                 | Medical                                                 |

### SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1754

### BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Dr. John Cuming House is an historically significant residence in the town of Concord. Dr. John Cuming, for whom the house is named, was a prominent eighteenth century figure in the community - active in medical, philanthropic, political and military affairs.

Dr. Cuming was born in Concord in 1728. He entered Harvard in 1743, but left for England in 1746, before completing his degree. At Edinburgh, he continued his education and upon his return from Europe, he became one of the town's first doctors. During the French and Indian War, he served as a Lieutenant Colonel, then returned to his practice in Concord. In 1775, he treated both British and American soldiers wounded in the fighting on April 19. He became a leader in town government and the Patriot cause, serving in numerous town and state offices, including that of representative to the State's Constitutional Convention in 1779. Dr. Cuming also acquired large amounts of property, much of which is now the town of Cummington, which he helped to establish and which is named for him. At his death in 1788, he bequeathed large amounts of money to the church, to the town for educational and humanitarian purposes and to the "University in Cambridge in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts." Harvard received "three hundred pounds sterling", the income of the same to be appropriated for the Professor of Physics, if any such there be or shall be...". Added to the Hersey and other funds, the bequest was soon used, as he had wished, to establish Harvard Medical School.

The house is currently owned by the Massachusetts Department of Corrections and is directly across Route 2 from the Concord Reformatory complex.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Massachusetts Archives Maps and Plans No. 700, "North Part of Concord, or  
"District of Carlisle", 1754".

Foster, Helen H. and Streeter, William W., Only One Cummington, 1974

Shattuck, Lemuel, History of Concord and Adjacent Towns, 1835

Sibley, John L., Biographical Sketches of Graduates of Harvard University

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1-1/4 acres

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 302960 4704220  
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D           
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

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

Andrea M. Gilmore and Pauline Harrell

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

August 1976

STREET & NUMBER

294 Washington 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 X

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

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amadon

TITLE Executive Director Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE Aug. 16, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

Charles H. ...

DATE

11/11/77

DATE

11.8.77

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Cuming, Dr. John, House

State Mass.

Working Number 8.23.76.3993

Middlesex

TECHNICAL

Photos 2

Maps 1

CONTROL

OK pl  
8.24.76

Did Cuming actually live here? The statement  
does not say!  
yes -

HISTORIAN

CALL - ACCEPT  
Linsinger  
11.76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Called 4-8-77  
See call sheet

~~Accept~~ 4-8-77  
mgm 11.8.76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept  
Cole  
4-11-77

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

Hammington  
11.8.77

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Entered NOV 11 1977

Federal Register Entry

2.7.78

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

INT:2106-74



*Middlesex County*

Dr. John Cuming House  
Concord, MA  
Massachusetts Dept. of Public Works  
1975  
100 Nashua St., Boston, MA  
Facade of the house  
Photo #1 *82*

NOV 11 1977

AUG 23 1976

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



*2/Dr. John Cumings House, looking west, the east side only, low elevation,  
showing out building.*  
Middlesex Co

Dr. John Cumings House  
Concord, MA  
Massachusetts Dept. of Public Works  
1975  
100 Nashua St., Boston, MA  
South side of the house and detached  
garage  
Photo #2

72  
NOV 11 1977

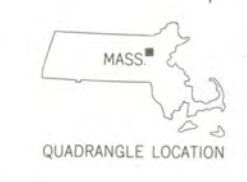
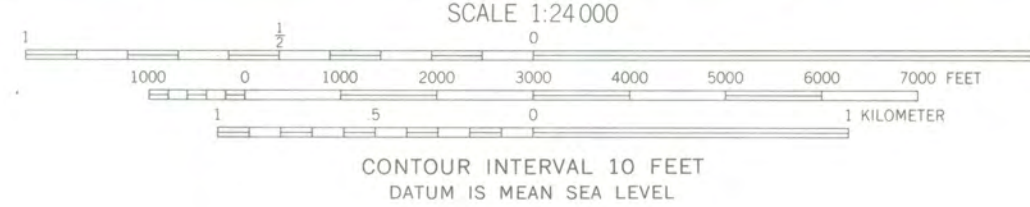
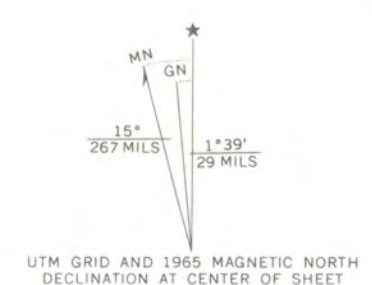
AUG 23 1976

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Dr. John Cumming House  
Concord, MA  
19/302960/4704220

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetable surveys 1941. Revised 1965  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,  
zone 19, shown in blue



ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Heavy-duty Road Light-duty  
Medium-duty Unimproved dirt  
State Route



MAYNARD, MASS.  
N4222.5—W7122.5/74

1965

AMS 6768 IV NW—SERIES 9814

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



PAUL GUZZI

*Secretary of the  
Commonwealth*

# *The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

## *Office of the Secretary*

### *Massachusetts Historical Commission*

*294 Washington Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108*

*(617) 727-8470*

August 17, 1976

Mr. Charles Herrington  
Registrar  
National Register  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20240



Dear Charles:

Enclosed please find nomination forms for the following properties:

1. Concord, Dr. John Cuming House
2. Melrose, Joseph Lynde House
3. Concord, Pest House
4. Lancaster, North Village Historic District

These properties have been reviewed by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (State Review Board) and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer, Elizabeth R. Amadon.

Sincerely yours,

*Pat*

Patricia L. Weslowski  
Survey Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

PLW/edh  
enc.

DATE 4-8-77

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

AM  
PM

1. CALL ☒ TO; ☐ FROM (Name)

Joe Orfant

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

Mass 617-727-8470

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Dr. John Cuming House, Middlesex Co., MA

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Did Dr. John Cuming live here - yes

When? 1754-1788 (death)

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered NOV 11 1977

Name

Location

Cuming, Dr. John, House

Concord vicinity  
Middlesex County

Smith, Samuel, Tavern Site

Wellfleet vicinity  
Barnstable County

Fowle, Edmund, House

Watertown  
Middlesex County

Merrill's Wharf Historic District

New Bedford  
Bristol County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward W. Brooke  
Hon. Edward M. Kennedy  
Hon. Paul Tsongas  
Hon. Gerry E. Studds  
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.  
Mr. David F. Hales, Deputy Assistant  
for Fish and Wildlife and Parks  
Mr. F. Ross Holland, Chief, Cultural  
Resource Management

State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon  
Executive Director, Massachusetts  
Historical Commission  
294 Washington Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Regional Director, North Atlantic Region

11/16/77

Mott/js

880

# NR Data Sheet

DATE: 1 N 76  
Reviewer INITIALS: S  
NR DOE  
NOV 11 1977

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Cuming, Dr. John, House

OTHER NAMES:

## LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER W of Concord at Barrets Mill Rd. and Reformatory Circle  
CITY, TOWN  
STATE Massachusetts VICINITY OF Concord 025 COUNTY Middlesex code 017  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline) FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST  
SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

## FEATURES:

|                    | <u>INTERIOR</u>                                  | <u>EXTERIOR</u>                                                               | <u>ENVIRONS</u>                                                                |
|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                    | <u>Substantially intact-1</u>                    | <u>Substantially intact-2</u>                                                 | <u>Substantially intact-3</u>                                                  |
|                    | <u>unknown - 4</u>                               | <u>unknown - 5</u>                                                            | <u>unknown - 6</u>                                                             |
|                    | <u>not applicable - 7</u>                        | <u>not applicable - 8</u>                                                     | <u>Not applicable-9</u>                                                        |
|                    | <u>Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0</u> |                                                                               |                                                                                |
| CONDITION -        | <u>EXCELLENT</u><br><u>GOOD</u><br><u>FAIR</u>   | <u>DETERIORATED</u><br><u>RUINS</u><br><u>UNEXPOSED</u><br><u>Unexcavated</u> | <u>UNALTERED</u><br><u>ALTERED</u><br><u>Reconstructed</u><br><u>Excavated</u> |
|                    |                                                  |                                                                               | <u>ORIGINAL SITE</u><br><u>MOVED</u><br><u>Unknown</u>                         |
| ACCESS -           | <u>Yes-restricted</u>                            | <u>Yes-unrestricted</u>                                                       | <u>No access</u>                                                               |
|                    |                                                  |                                                                               | <u>Unknown</u>                                                                 |
| historic district? | <u>YES</u>                                       | <u>NO</u>                                                                     |                                                                                |

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO  
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO  
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- HOUSE

now- same

## SIGNIFICANCE:

|                                |                     |                               |                            |                           |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| <u>ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC</u> | <u>CONSERVATION</u> | <u>LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE</u> | <u>RELIGION</u>            | <u>entertainment</u>      |
| <u>ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC</u>    | <u>ECONOMICS</u>    | <u>LAW/Gov't/politics</u>     | <u>SCIENCE</u>             | <u>health</u>             |
| <u>AGRICULTURE</u>             | <u>EDUCATION</u>    | <u>LITERATURE</u>             |                            | <u>recreation</u>         |
| <u>ARCHITECTURE</u>            | <u>ENGINEERING</u>  | <u>MILITARY</u>               | <u>SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN</u> | <u>settlement</u>         |
| <u>ART</u>                     | <u>EXPLORATION</u>  | <u>MUSIC</u>                  |                            | <u>socio/cultural</u>     |
| <u>COMMERCE</u>                | <u>INDUSTRY</u>     | <u>PHILOSOPHY</u>             | <u>TRANSPORTATION</u>      | <u>urban &amp; commun</u> |
| <u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>          | <u>INVENTION</u>    | <u>POLITICS/GOVERNMENT</u>    | <u>OTHER (SPECIFY)</u>     | <u>planning</u>           |

## Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

**ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:**

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

**ETHNIC GROUP:**

**NAMES:**

(label role  
&  
appropriate date)

personal

Dr. John Cuming

events

institutional

**DATES:**

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century):

1754

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

**SOURCE:**

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

**ACREAGE:**

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

1.3

**COMMENTS:** (include architectural information here)

Frame, clapboarding; 2 1/2 stories. modified rectangle, p gabled roof, interior chimney, front center entrance, rear extensions. Colonial elements. Home of Dr. John Cuming, prominent 18thc. physician, philanthropist, and leader.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** (maximum two sentences)

Dr. John Cuming, a prominent 18th century physician, philanthropist, and leader, lived in this house -