

676
MAY 23 1989

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

A	62
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Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo.
Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

Town Wakefield

Address 18A and 20 Aborn Street

Historic Name NA

Use: Present dwelling and barn

Original dwelling plus garage

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1883-88

Source Birds' eye view and atlas, 188

Style Queen Anne

Architect NA

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard/shingle

Outbuildings double carriage barn with living quarters above-contributing (c.1888)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

None

Condition Good

Moved NO Date N/A

Acreage One acre

Setting Set on rise behind fieldstone retaining wall, carriage barn rear. Extensive grounds and driveway.

UTM REFERENCE 19/329770/4708540

USGS QUADRANGLE Reading, MA

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates

Organization Wakefield Historical Commission

Date March 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

This house is one of the best-certainly the biggest-example of high style Queen Anne Architecture in this neighborhood. It retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and meets criterion C of the NRHP on the local level.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

Probably the largest, grandest Queen Anne house in this neighborhood, this rambling structure extends along the crest of a small hill. It is composed of two major elements, a cross gabled 2½ story structure entered through an extended porte-cochere, and a 2 story gable roof element entered through a high porch linking the two. The massing is as varied as it can be; the second story overhangs the first, there are porches, oriels, bays, and jogs, all keeping the form moving. The surface is as lively; a narrow board and batten frieze, ornamented bargeboards, gable ornaments of flowers and thistles, brackets, an exterior chimney, Nutting framed windows and balustrades make for a complex composition. The carriage barn with apartments above for the servants carries out the same thematic elements as the house.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

Aborn Street is named for John G. Aborn, a shoe maker whose house stood on the corner at Main Street. Born in 1822, he achieved business success and a position of community leadership. In 1844 he went to live in the now demolished Main Street house of John White as an assistant, married the boss's daughter, built a house of his own on his father in law's property, and went into his business. On Aborn's retirement, the firm was taken over by his assistant, Henry Haskell, whose house and shoe factory stood in 1889 on the south side of Wave Ave. the firm's specialties were ladies', misses', and children's shoes. After White's death, his heirs opened Aborn Street, (it appears on the 1857 map), and White Ave., which appears on the 1889 map. Aborn himself developed parts of the Junction district in the 1860s and 70s. Aborn and surrounding streets became the home of substantial middle classes, some of whom commuted to Boston by train, but the majority were local business men and craftsmen, many of them, like Aborn and Haskell, working in the shoemaking trades.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Mrs. Asby
Atlas 1874 land of J. white's Heirs
Atlas 1889 Mrs. Asby
Eaton, Chester and Warren Eaton. Two-Hundredth Anniversary of the Ancient Town of Redding, Reading, 1896.
#17 1899 Pearson J. Clifton Nail Manufacturer

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Wakefield MRA
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. House at 11 Wave Avenue Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____22. House at 11 Salem Street Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____23. House at 118 Greenwood Street Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____24. House at 12 West Water Street Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____25. House at 13 Sheffield Road Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____26. House at 15 Chestnut Street Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____27. House at 15 Lawrence Avenue Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____28. House at 15 Wave Avenue Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____29. House at 18 Park Street Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

30. House at 18A and 20 Aborn Street

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY House at 18A and 20 Aborn Street
NAME:

MULTIPLE Wakefield MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/23/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/06/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/22/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/07/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000676

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 7/6/89 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



AG2

18A-20 Aborn Ave

Use at

Wakefield MRA, Ma

3A

CORDIS

18A-20 ABORN AVE

$$\uparrow^N$$

SCALE: $1'' = 80'$

CENTRAL

STREET

SWEETSER

COURT

ABORN

70.15 15
- CASANT

AVENUE

WHITE

Issued

WHITE

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000300