

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA

FORM NO.

98/357-4-13

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

See attached map
Key

1. Lawrence House
2. "Long barn" with attached residence, shed
3. Nursery School building/barn
4. John Harris House
5. Tenant's Cottage
6. Sheds and Greenhouses

Recorded by Carla Benka

Organization Brookline Historical Commission

Date Fall, 1979

Town Brookline MRA

Address 284 (282c) Newton Street

Historic Name John Harris House and farm
(Allandale Farm)

Use: Present Residential; commercial

farm; nursery school
Original Residential and private farm

DESCRIPTION:

Date pre 1788

Source Nina Fletcher Little, Some Old

Style Brookline Houses
not applicable

Architect information not available

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings barns, tenant's cottage
other farm buildings

Major alterations (with dates) _____
extensive remodelling to Harris house-1971

Moved no Date _____

Approx. acreage approximately 105 acres
in Boston and Brookline

Setting House is set back approx. 1/3 mi
from street at end of dirt road

Newton Quadrangle

UTM References: A: 19/323890/4685240
B: 19/323960/4685730
C: 19/323170/4686000
D: 19/323600/4685680

(Staple additional sheets here)

Map #: 52

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

One of a few 18th century houses in Brookline, this structure, originally a simple farmhouse, was extensively remodelled in 1976. Before that date, beaming in the hall and cellar and the old staircase with very wide board treads were visible and indicated 18th century construction.

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

The John Harris House was built on property which belonged to Robert Harris in 1655. According to Nina Fletcher Little, the house was probably built by John Harris before 1788. Harris was a farmer as well as a deputy sheriff.

At one time, the property was owned by Mary and Edward Brandegee whose large mansion still overlooks the house. At the time of Brandegee ownership, the John Harris House was a caretaker's cottage and the entire estate was called Faulkner Farm, named for the Faulkner family who owned land in this area in the early part of the 19th century.

Today the house is part of Allandale farm, the only working farm left in Brookline. The farm's acreage encompasses land in both Brookline and Boston; until 1968, the land was still privately farmed, but after that date it became a commercial enterprise. Although the farmhouse and one of the barns have been dramatically altered, there are still a number of outbuildings, including another barn and numerous sheds as well as a tenant's cottage which remain relatively untouched. Some of the facilities of the property are used by a private nursery school during the academic year. In addition, part of the acreage crosses over into Boston, MA. There is a greenhouse just over. Because the house and outbuildings are set so far back from Newton Street and are the Boston line approached by a narrow dirt road, the rural atmosphere of this 18th century farm has, in large part, been retained.

The John Harris House and farm meet NR criteria A, representing the last working farm of the town whose first economy was based on agricultural activity.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Little, Nina Fletcher, Some Old Brookline Houses
Building permit-1976
Land Ownership in Brookline

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 9-4-85

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Brookline MRA
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

31. <sup>also in
Boston
South End</sup> Harris, John, House
and Farm

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

32. Heath, Charles, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

33. Heath, Ebenezer, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

34. Holyhood Cemetery

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

35. House at
(4 Perry St.)

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

36. House at
(9 Linden St.)

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

37. House at
(12 Linden St.)

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

38. House at
(12 Vernon St.)

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

39. House at
(19 Linden St.)

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

40. House at
(53 Linden St.)

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 10/17/85

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Harris, John, House and Farm (Brookline MRA)
Norfolk County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. SEP 4 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 10/3/85 - 11/19/85
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10-17-85
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Entered in the National Register
Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ☐ excellent | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ unexposed |

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Main Barn
(Bldg. D)

Allandale Farms

AUG 1979

2841 Newton St

Preserve Prints

by Garkey

Brookline MRA, MA

AUG 1979



AUG 1979



by Benkey

Barn (Bldg A) of
John Harris House/
Allandale Farm
284 Newton St
Brookline MRA, MA

AUG 1979



by Benkey



Tenant's Cottage
284 Newton St

Allendale Farm
by Berkeley
Prestige Print

Hart, John, House & Farm

Brookline MRA, MA

by Berkeley
Prestige Print

AUG 1979



John Harris House
284 Newton

Brookline MA, MA

AUG 1979



by Berkeley

AUG 1979



by Berkeley



Shed of Allandale
Farm

284 Newton St

Harris, John, House + Farm

Brookline MRA, MA



allandale Farm

HARRIS, John, House & Farm

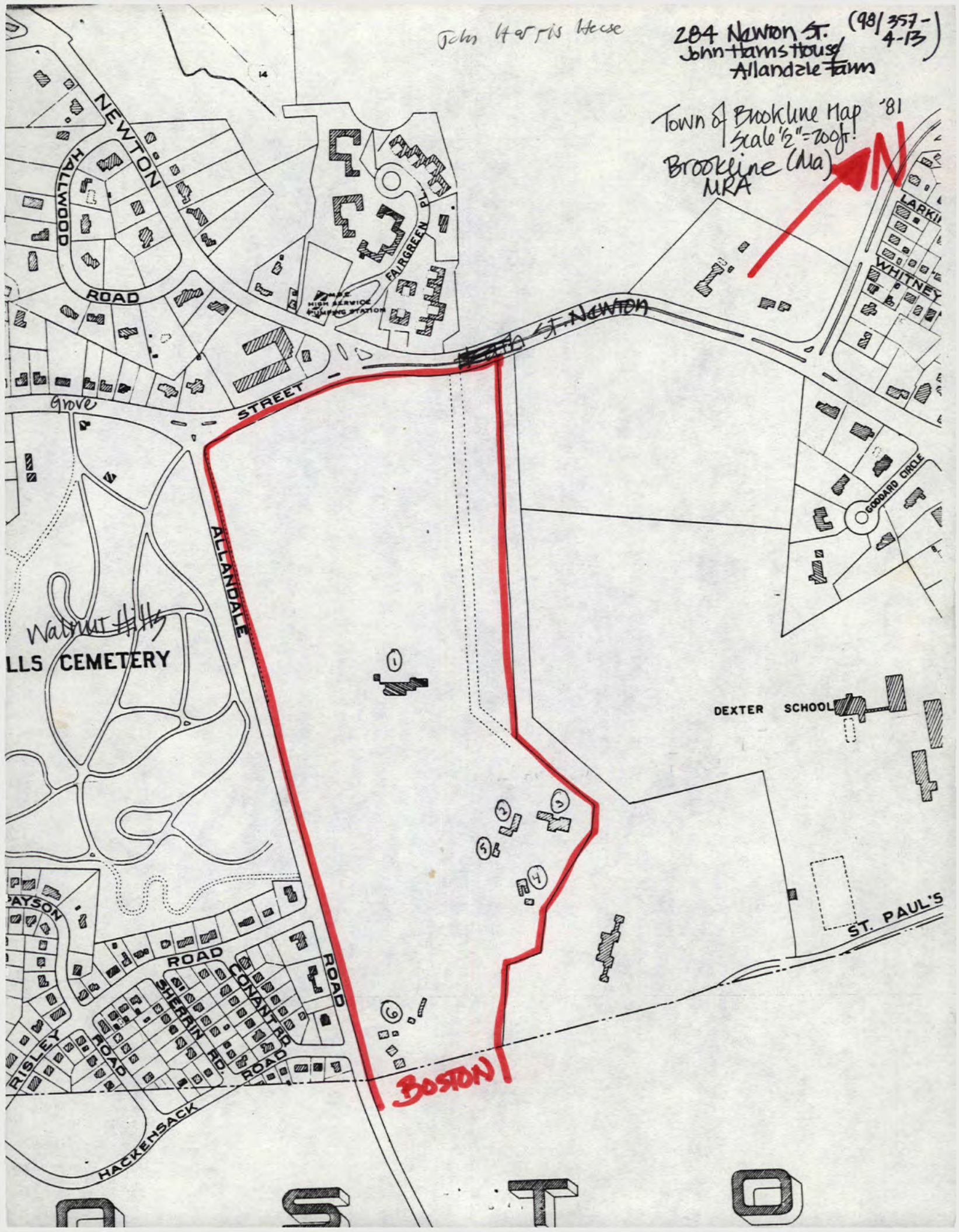
Brookline M.D.A. MA



John Harris House

204 Newton St. (98/357-4-13)
John Harris House
Allandale Farm

Town of Brookline Map '81
Scale 1/2" = 200ft.
Brookline (Ma)
MRA



BROOKLINE MRA
John Harris Farm/Allandale Farm
284 Newton Street
Brookline, MA

Part of property is in
Boston, MA

TOWN OF BROOKLINE
CITY OF BOSTON

STREET

ALLANDALE
WALL

WOODED

frame on

Boston Redevelopment
Authority Map
Mapped by Lockwood, Kessler
and Bartlett, Inc. 1965
This map is compiled from
sheets 15N-5E and 15N-6E

Scale: 1" = 100'