

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AUG 21 1989

NATIONAL
REGISTER

AREA

FORM NO.

59

WALTHAM, MA MRA

Town Waltham, Ma.Address 235 Main St..Historic Name Brigham HouseUse: Present private residenceOriginal "

DESCRIPTION

Date c.1893Source deed researchStyle elements of shingle, Queen Anne and
Colonial RevivaArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric wood shingleOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) noneCondition goodMoved no Date n/aAcreage 10,398 sq.ft. ^{0.34} 62-12-27Setting Situated on north side of Main St.
on rise above lowlands bordering railroad
tracks.Recorded by Ed GordonOrganization Waltham Historical Comm.Date June 1986

revised by C. Jenkins 3/88

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

UTM REFERENCE 19/317360/4693580USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTONSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Brigham House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and associations. It is significant as an exceptionally well-detailed and preserved late 19th century hybrid displaying elements of the Shingle, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival styles. It is also representative of suburban development at the turn-of-the-century which resulted in infill of established areas as well as in the creation of subdivisions. The Brigham House meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

Architecturally, #235 Main St. is significant as one of the town's most successful stylistic hybrids. Situated on the north side of Main St. on a rise overlooking the lowlands of Clematis Brook, this house incorporates shingle style materials and roofline with Queen Anne form and Colonial Revival elements. Its main facade is divided into three segments--projecting and enclosed front porch, hip roof topped central segment and recessed 1-bay segment with chamfered southeastern corner. Particularly noteworthy are the varied window sizes and treatments--most notably a tall stairway window with keystone arch and leaded glass panes. To the left of the window is a small square window with diamond shaped panes and an oversized cornice headed lintel. In addition, well crafted ribbon and swag plaster work appears on the entablatures of the center segment, main facade. Then swags are interspersed between ornate double scroll brackets. To the right of the center, hip roofed segment is a large dormer with swans neck scroll hood. Projecting from the west wall, first floor is an oriel window.

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

#235 Main St.'s lot was carved from the Bright estate during the early 1890's. The Bright family's roots in the Grove Hill cemetery area stretched back to the mid-18th century. In 1776 John Bright built a house which stood on Main Street, on the eastern side of Clematis Brook. The estate was divided by Grove St. John Bright was a farmer and tax collector. John Brown Bright was a New York City stockbroker from 1824-1849. He spent the last 25 years (1849-1879) on the Bright estate in Waltham, compiling the Bright family genealogy. In any event, the Bright estate began to be subdivided for house lots during the early 1890's. On November 30, 1892, Ella R. Brigham sold #235 Main St's lot to Ella R. and Elijah W. Brigham. The Bright/Brigham deed does not mention a house on this lot. Presumably this house was built during the spring and summer of 1893. Elijah W. Brigham is listed in 1880's directories as an insurance agent at 31 Milk St., Boston. During the 1890's he is listed at this address but no occupation is mentioned. Ella Brigham lived in this house until her death c.1920. This house ranks among the last of the individually built houses along Main St. before extensive Post 1920 suburban house development.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Waltham Maps/Atlases--1854, 1874, 1881, 1886, 1900
Waltham Directories--1880's, 1890's
Middlesex Deeds--2161:284
D.H. Hud--History of Middlesex County--p. 755 (Bright Family)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 21 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

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

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Boston Manufacturing Company Housing
(153--165 River St.) Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____
12. Brigham House Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____
13. Building at 202--204 Charles Street
Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____
14. Buttrick, Francis, House Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____
- See 15. Buttrick, Francis, Library Substantive Review Keeper Beth J. Savage 9/28/89
Attest _____
16. Byam, Charles, House Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____
17. Central Square Historic District
Entered in the National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____
18. Charles Street Workers' Housing
Historic District Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____
- See 19. Christ Episcopal Church Substantive Review Keeper Beth J. Savage 9/28/89
Attest _____
20. Clough, Benjamin F., House Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Brigham House

MULTIPLE NAME: Waltham MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/21/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/05/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/21/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/05/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001551

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 9/28/89 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

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



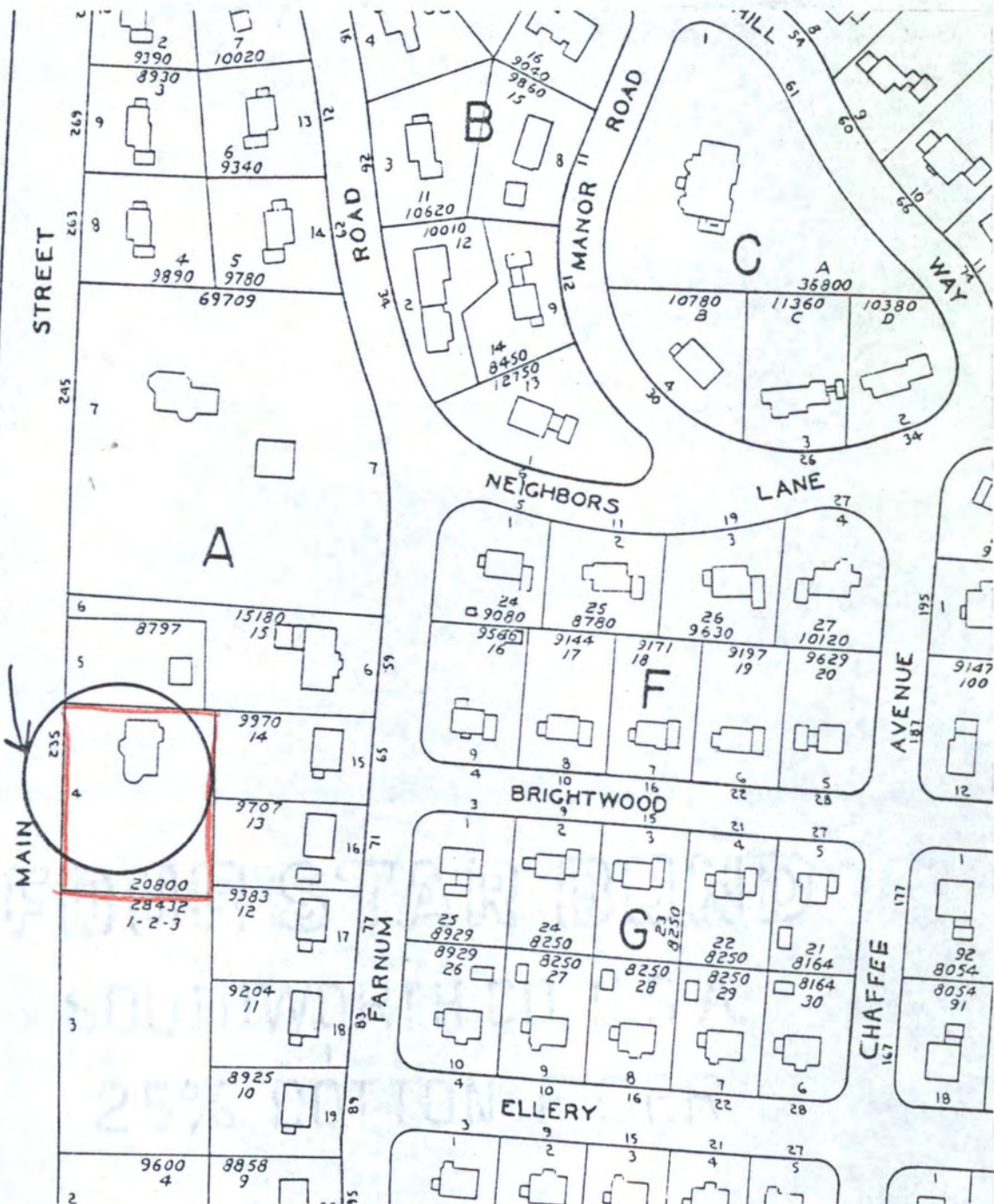
MA # 59 Brigham House
Waltham, MA MA
235 Main St



MHC # 59
WALTHAM, MA. MRA
225 MAIN ST.
Brigham House



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1970 Atlas, City of Waltham
 Compiled by the Waltham
 Engineering Division
 Scale: 1 inch = 140 feet

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA
 235 Main Street
 Brigham House
 71-A-4 MHC #59

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301