

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 25 1976  
DATE ENTERED APR 26 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC John Spurr House

AND/OR COMMON  
Same

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street, on easterly side of Charlton Common

CITY, TOWN  
Charlton

STATE  
Massachusetts

VICINITY OF  
Second

COUNTY  
Worcester

CODE  
025

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
Second

CODE  
027

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Mrs. James Tansey

STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street, Box 98

CITY, TOWN  
Charlton

STATE  
Massachusetts

VICINITY OF  
01507

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Worcester County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER  
Main Street

CITY, TOWN  
Worcester

STATE  
Massachusetts

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE  
1975

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN  
Boston

STATE  
Massachusetts

LOCAL  
02108

## 7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED    DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

---

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

The John Spurr House is on the easterly side of Common Road (Main Street) opposite the Charlton Common in Charlton Center. To the east of the house is a wide expanse of open fields and woodlands and to the south are professional, educational and municipal buildings of the town. Across the Common and to the north are other residences, dating primarily from the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

The John Spurr House was built in the late eighteenth century - early records showing General Spurr first taxed for a house worth \$1500 in 1798. The two-story dwelling is 34½ feet wide and 30 feet deep, with an ell measuring 20½ feet by 21½ feet at the rear (east). The ell may be of a slightly earlier period but is essentially contemporary with the house. From the kitchen ell a two-story garage and shed extends north at a right angle.

The foundation of the house is of dry fieldstone construction, topped with granite slabs. The house and ell are covered with clapboards painted white on the main house and red on the shed. The house, ell, and shed sections all have ridge roofs covered with black asphalt shingles. Two brick chimneys rise through the peak of the roof of the main house.

The facade is five bays wide with shuttered windows having six-over-six lights. The center entrance is flanked with fluted pilasters which have plain capitals and support a dentiled entablature.

The south side of the house has two equally spaced windows on each story and a side entrance in the middle of the first story. This six-paneled door is surmounted by simple molding, and an open elliptical topped lattice work entry surrounds the door. There is a single window in the center of the gable.

The north elevation is identical to the south, without the door. There is a single window and door in the north wall of the one-story kitchen ell which extends to the east. The two-story shed extends north from the ell and has a garage on the lower floor and a workshop in the upper story which is a few steps down from the kitchen level.

Several barns and sheds which were on the property were severely damaged in the 1938 hurricane and subsequently removed.

# 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Spurr House is significant as the home of Major General John Spurr, a leader in Charlton affairs and participant in the Boston Tea Party and various Revolutionary War encounters. The house is also one of the more interesting architectural examples in Charlton.

John Spurr was born in Stoughton, Massachusetts on May 31, 1759. As a young man, Spurr was among the group of patriots who threw overboard the hated tea from the ships Dartmouth and Eleanor at Griffin's Wharf in Boston on December 16, 1773. Following the Boston Tea Party, he was among the ranks which fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Commissioned an officer on January 1, 1777, Spurr served in Colonel Nixon's 4th Massachusetts Regiment until 1779 when he transferred to the 6th Regiment as a major in 1780 and again in 1791-1792.

John Spurr moved to Charlton in 1788 to take up title to 3000 acres of confiscated Tory lands acquired through his wife. Spurr soon entered the social and political life of the area. Called Colonel at the time of his second marriage, he later became a Major General of the State Militia. His marriage to Sally Davis and his daughter's marriage to Salem Town, Jr. united the three most influential families in the south county.

In politics General Spurr was a strong Jeffersonian Democrat, opposing the Federalists which were represented by the Town family. Spurr was elected to the General Court in 1805-1811. He died on March 3, 1816.

John Spurr's sons followed his example in service to the town and state. John Spurr, Jr. (born May 30, 1783 in Stoughton) married Sally Wheelock of Charlton in 1810. He served as major in the militia, Justice of the Peace, Representative to the General Court in 1820-1824, state senator, and representative to the Constitutional Convention of 1820. Major Spurr operated a store and hotel at Charlton Center for many years.

A second son of General Spurr, Samuel D. Spurr, lived in the Charlton homestead and also served as representative to the General Court. Samuel was a colonel in the militia and active in the Universalist Society. He later moved to Worcester, Massachusetts where he ran a store, was a trustee of the Worcester Seminary, director of a bank and one of the directors of Worcester's first Horticultural Society.

Architecturally, the John Spurr House is one of Charlton's finest houses. Although there is a grouping of similar houses north of Charlton Center on Stafford Road, the Spurr House is the only house of eighteenth century vintage in the Common area. A feature of the house which makes it unique in Charlton is the hinged paneled common wall between the second-story north chambers which can be swung up to create a larger room for social functions.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Fischer, Evelyn Davis. Spurr Family Genealogy, 1974.  
 Town Assessor's Records of the Town of Charlton, 1798.  
 Thatcher, Benjamin, List of Men of the Tea Party, New York, 1835.  
 Hurd, D. Hamilton. History of Worcester County. Boston, 1877.  
 Griswold, Wesley. The Night the Revolution Began. Barre, 1972.  
 Lincoln. History of Worcester.

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY two acres

UTM REFERENCES

A	1 9	2 5 4 5 8 0	4 6 6 8 8 2 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING		ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C				D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

Judy D. Dobbs, National Register Editor, and William Hultgren, Charlton Historical Society

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Massachusetts Historical Commission

March 12, 1976

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

294 Washington Street

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Boston

Massachusetts 02108

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

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 Amador*

TITLE

Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

Mar. 15, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

**Active**

DATE

4/26/96

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*Charles A. ...*

DATE

9-23-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Spurr, John House

76000293

State Mass Working Number 3.25.76.2858

Worcester

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 2

Maps 1 sketch

**CONTROL**

OK <sup>cm</sup> 3 31. 76

**HISTORIAN**

Accept  
E. Smith  
3-31-76

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

North elevation is not identical with south elevation.  
Gold up panels in the ballroom are so much nicer  
than accordion doors!!!

Accept  
David Cook  
7 April 1976

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_

Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

Accept  
Cole  
4.16.76

**BRANCH CHIEF**

Accept  
*[Signature]*

**KEEPER**

*[Signature]*  
4.23.76

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Register Entry 6-1-76

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_  
Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

Entered **APR 26 1976**

INT:2106-74



John Spurr House, 1797, Common Road, Charlton, Mass.

Owner: Mrs. James Tansey, Charlton

Photo: Ken Maynard 1975, Charlton

Neg: Charlton Historical Society

No restrictions

①

**PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER**

NPS Number APR 26, 1976

Title: John Spurr House

Charlton, Mass. Worcester County

Loc. Facing northeast, looking  
at facade

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAR 25 1976
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC John Spurr House

AND/OR COMMON  
Same

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN Charlton \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Ken Maynard DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Charlton Historical Society, Northside Road, Charlton, MA 01507

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

PHOTO NO 1 of 2

Facing northeast, looking at facade.



Front (west) door of the John Spurr House (1797) Common Rd,  
Charlton, Mass.

Owner: Mrs. James Tansy, Charlton

Photo: Ken Maynard, Charlton 1975

Neg: Charlton Hist. Soc.

No. restrictions

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

NPS Number APR 26, 1976

Title: John Spurr House

Charlton, Mass. Worcester County

Loc. Detail of front door  
on facade (west)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC John Spurr House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN Charlton \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

**3 PHOTO REFERENCE**

PHOTO CREDIT Ken Maynard DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT Charlton Historical Society, Northside Road, Charlton, MA 01507

**4 IDENTIFICATION**

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Detail of front door on facade (west).

PHOTO NO 2 4/2

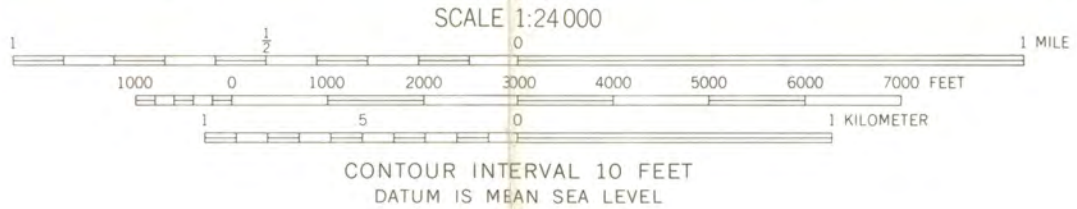




WORCESTER  
John Spurr House  
UTM:  
19/254580/466820



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs  
Topography by planetable surveys 1937. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1969  
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  
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked  
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern are subject to controlled inundation to 501 feet by Hodges Village Dam and 524 feet in Buffumville Reservoir



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



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

○ Interstate Route   □ U. S. Route   ● State Route

LEICESTER, MASS.  
N4207.5-W7152.5/7.5  
1969  
AMS 6668 III NW-SERIES W814

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED MAR 25 1976
DATE ENTERED APR 26 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC John Spurr House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

**2 LOCATION**

CITY, TOWN Charlton \_\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF COUNTY Worcester STATE MA

**3 MAP REFERENCE**

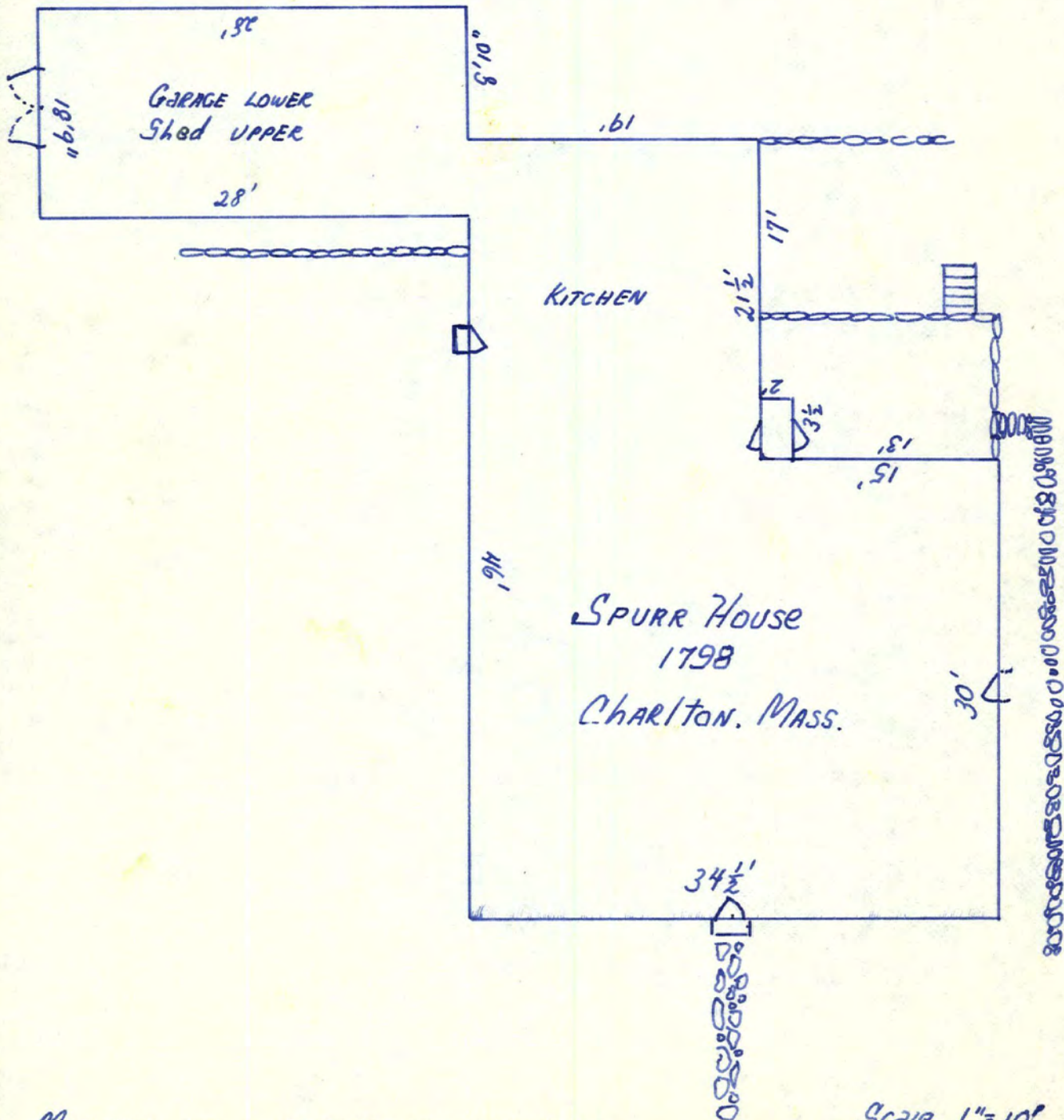
SOURCE Sketch map

SCALE 1" = 10' DATE 1975

**4 REQUIREMENTS**

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



MEASURED WALL 1975 BY WM. HULTGREN

Scale 1"=10'

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered APR 26 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Beauport	Gloucester Vicinity Essex County
Maple-Union Corners	Springfield Hampden County
Sanderson House and Munroe Tavern	Lexington Middlesex County
Spurr, John House	Charlton Worcester County
McKnight District	Springfield Hampden County
Burt, Elijah House	East Longmeadow Hampden County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy  
Hon. Edward W. Brooke  
Hon. Michael J. Harrington  
Hon. Edward P. Boland  
Hon. Paul Tsongas  
Regional Director, North Atlantic Region  
✓PR:M Mott:coc 4/29/76

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

Mass.  
Hist.

TELEGRAM (M)  
WORCESTER, MASS.  
D. 60.219

MAY 14 1976

New  
England  
Newspaper

# Spurr House in Charlton Accepted as Historic Site

CHARLTON — The John Spurr House on Main street has been accepted for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places by the Historical Commission.

The Spurr House, the property of Mrs. James Tansey, is the only structure of 18th century vintage in the Charlton Common area.

The acceptance of the house was recommended by the state Historical Commission, according to Paul Guzzi, Secretary of State, who also serves as commission chair-

man. The house was the home of Maj. Gen. John Spurr, a leader in town affairs who participated in the Boston Tea Party and Revolutionary War encounters.

A feature of the house is the hinged paneled common wall between the second story north chambers which can be moved up to create a larger room for social functions.

In politics, town records show General Spurr to be a strong Jeffersonian Democrat, opposing the Federalists. Spurr was elected to the Gen-

eral Court in 1805 and served to 1811. His sons followed his governmental service.

John Spurr Jr. served as a major in the militia, a justice of the peace, a state representative from 1820 to 1824 and state senator and representative to the Constitutional Convention in 1820. He operated a store and a hotel in Charlton Center for many years.

Another son, Samuel D. Spurr, lived in the Charlton homestead and also served as a state representative and as a colonel in the militia. He was active in the Universalist Society. He moved to Worcester, where he operated a store and was a trustee of the Worcester Seminary and a director of Worcester's first Rural-cultural Society.

John Spurr was born in Sleighton in 1739 and as a young man, was among the group of patriots who threw tea overboard from the "Dartmouth" and "Eleazar" ships in Boston Harbor in 1773. After the Boston Tea Party, Spurr was among the ranks which fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Commissioned in 1777, he served on Col. Nixon's 4th Massachusetts Regiment until 1779, when he transferred to the 5th regiment as a major.

Spurr moved to Charlton in 1788 to take title to 3,000 acres of confiscated Tory lands acquired through his wife. He was later named a major general of the state militia and was prominent in social and political circles. His marriage to Sally Davis and his daughter's marriage to Salmon P. Chase Jr., noted that of the first...  
Worcester, Mass.

# NR Data Sheet

DATE: 4-16-76  
Reviewer INITIALS: KHC

NR  DOE

4-26-76

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Spurr, John, House

OTHER NAMES:

## LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER: Main St., e. side of Charlton Common

CITY/TOWN: Charlton

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

STATE: Mass

VICINITY OF:

COUNTY: Worcester code 027

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:

INTERIOR:  Substantially intact-1  
- unknown - 4  
- not applicable - 7  
EXTERIOR:  Substantially intact-2  
- unknown - 5  
- not applicable - 8  
ENVIRONS:  Substantially intact-3  
 unknown - 6  
Not applicable-9

- Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -  EXCELLENT  DETERIORATED  UNALTERED  ORIGINAL SITE  
 GOOD  RUINS  ALTERED  MOVED  
 FAIR  UNEXPOSED  Reconstructed  Unknown  
 Unexcavated  Excavated

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted  No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

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- residence

now- residence

## SIGNIFICANCE:

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

## Claims

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

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: Federal, Georgian

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal

Major General John Spurr 1788-1816

owner

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): A 1788 - B 1798

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): A 1788 - B 1798

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre) 2

COMMENTS:

(include architectural information here)

2 story - square with ell, square. front ell 2 story garage & shed extend @ right angle

foundation: dry fieldstone & granite blocks. Frame, clapboarded.

2 chimneys, 5 bay wide facade, fluted pilasters by front entrance

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

<sup>the</sup> Spurr house was the home of Major General John Spurr, a leader in Charlton affairs and participant in the Boston Tea Party and various Revolutionary War encounters. The house is also a significant 18th century example in Charlton.

# B-1 5-11 NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Spurr, John, House ✓      2 OTHER NAMES:      3 date of entry: 4-26-76 ✓      4 county code: 027

5 LOCATION street & number: Main St. ✓      city / town: Charlton ✓      vicinity of:      state: MA ✓      county: Worcester ✓      6 NPS REGION: North Atlantic

7 OWNER:  PRIVATE     STATE     MUNICIPAL     COUNTY     MULTIPLE     FEDERAL (agency name)      8 ADMINISTRATOR: \_\_\_\_\_

9 EXISTING SURVEYS:  NABS     HAER     NHL    10 FUNDED?  YES     NO    11 CONGRESS. DISTRICT: 2    12 SOURCE of NOMINATION:  STATE     FEDERAL    if state who prepared form? \_\_\_\_\_

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?  YES, NAME \_\_\_\_\_    14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?  YES, NAME \_\_\_\_\_    15 ACREAGE: 2     LOCAL     PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

16 CONDITION:  deteriorated     altered     original site    17 features:  SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1     SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2     SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3  
 excellent     ruins     unaltered     moved    INTERIOR:  NOT INTACT-0    EXTERIOR:  NOT INTACT-0  
 good     unexposed     reconstructed     unknown     UNKNOWN-4     UNKNOWN-5     UNKNOWN-6  
 fair     unexcavated     excavated     NOT APPLICABLE-7     NOT APPLICABLE-8     NOT APPLICABLE-9

18 ACCESS:  YES - Restricted     YES - Unrestricted     No Access     Unknown    19 ADAPTIVE USE:  YES     NO    20 SAVED?  YES    IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT?  YES     NO

21 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:       ENGINEERING-11     LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15     POLITICS / GOVT.-21     RECREATION-28  
 ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric-2     COMMERCE-5     ENTERTAINMENT-26     LAW-16     RELIGION-22     SETTLEMENT-29  
 ARCHEOLOGY - historic-1     COMMUNICATIONS-7     EXPLORATION-12     LITERATURE-17     SCIENCE-23     URBAN PLANNING-31  
 AGRICULTURE-3     CONSERVATION-8     HEALTH-27     MILITARY-18     SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN-24     OTHER (SPECIFY) \_\_\_\_\_  
 ARCHITECTURE-4     ECONOMICS-9     INDUSTRY-13     MUSIC-19     SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30  
 ART-5     EDUCATION-10     INVENTION-14     PHILOSOPHY-20     TRANSPORTATION-25

22 CLAIMS: explain 'first'   
'oldest'   
'only'

23 functions: WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: HOUSE    CURRENTLY: HOUSE      24 dates of initial construction: c. 1748    major alterations:    historic events:      25 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION: \_\_\_\_\_

26 architectural style(s): Georgian      27 architect:      28 master builder:      29 engineer:

30 landscape architect / garden designer:      31 interior decorator:      32 artist:      33 artisan:      34 builder/contractor:

35 NAMES give role & date: Maj. General John Spurr, prominent local leader, Boston Tea Party participant, member of Mass. PERSONAL: General Court (1805-1811).  
EVENTS: John Spurr, Jr., (b.1783), major in militia, Justice of the Peace, General Court representative (1820-1824), state senator, and representative of 1820 Mass. Constitutional Convention.  
INSTITUTIONAL: Samuel D. Spurr, son of the Maj. General, General Court representative, colonel in militia, trustee of Worcester Seminary and Worcester Horticultural Society director.

36 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP: Built for Major General John Spurr (1750-1811), prominent local leader, participant in Boston Tea Party and Battle of Bunker Hill, member of MA General Court (1805-11), whose son, John Spurr, Jr., was a representative to the 1820 MA Constitutional Convention.

local leader, Boston Tea Party participant, and member of the Mass. General Court (1805-11), was a representative to the 1820 Mass. Constitutional Convention. entrance, roof, interior chimney, front center

Boston Tea Party, Battle of Bunker Hill

# NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Spurr, John, House  
2 OTHER NAMES:  
3 date of entry: 4-26-76  
4 county code: 027

5 LOCATION street & number: Main St.  
city / town: Charlton  
vicinity of:  
state: MA  
county: Worcester  
6 NPS REGION: North Atlantic

7 OWNER: PRIVATE  
8 ADMINISTRATOR:  
9 EXISTING SURVEYS: HABS, HAER, HAL, 10 FUNDED? YES, NO  
11 CONGRESS DISTRICT: 2  
12 SOURCE of NOMINATION: STATE, FEDERAL

13 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME, NO  
14 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME, NO  
15 ACCESSION: 2  
16 PUBLIC OR PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

17 CONDITION: deteriorated, altered, original site, excellent, ruins, unaltered, moved, good, unexposed, reconstructed, unknown, fair, unexcavated, excavated  
18 FEATURES: SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100

19 ACCESS: YES-Restricted, YES-Unrestricted, No Access, Unknown  
20 ADAPTIVE USE: YES, NO  
21 SAVED? YES  
22 PROPERTY & HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NO

23 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ENGINEERING-1, LANDSCAPE ARCH-1, POLITICS/GOV-2, RECREATION-28, ARCHAEOLOGY-prehistoric-2, COMMERCE-6, ENTERTAINMENT-20, LAW-18, RELIGION-72, SETTLEMENT-20, ARCHAEOLOGY-historic-1, COMMUNICATIONS-7, EXPLORATION-12, LITERATURE-17, SCIENCE-23, URBAN PLANNING-31, AGRICULTURE-3, CONSERVATION-4, HEALTH-27, MILITARY-18, SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24, OTHER (SPECIFY), ARCHITECTURE-A, ECONOMICS-11, INDUSTRY-13, MUSIC-19, SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30, ART-5, EDUCATION-10, INVENTION-14, PHILOSOPHY-70, TRANSPORTATION-25  
24 CLAIMS: explain 'first', 'oldest', 'only'

25 functions: WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: HOUSE, CURRENTLY: HOUSE  
26 dates of initial construction: c.1798, major alterations, historic events  
27 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION

28 architectural style(s): Georgian  
29 architect:  
30 master builder:  
31 engineer:

32 landscape architect / garden designer:  
33 interior decorator:  
34 artist:  
35 artisan:  
36 builder/contractor:

37 NAMES give role & date  
PERSONAL: Maj. General John Spurr, prominent local leader, Boston Tea Party participant, member of Mass. General Court (1805-1811).  
EVENTS: John Spurr, Jr., (b.1783), major in militia, Justice of the Peace, General Court representative (1820-1824), state senator, and representative of 1820 Mass. Constitutional Convention.  
INSTITUTIONAL: Samuel D. Spurr, son of the Maj. General, General Court representative, colonel in militia, trustee of Worcester Seminary and Worcester Horticultural Society director.

38 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP  
~~Built for Major General John Spurr (1759-1816), prominent local leader, Boston Tea Party participant, and member of the Mass. General Court (1805-1811), whose son, John Spurr, Jr., was a representative to the 1820 Mass. Constitutional Convention. Frame, clapboarding; 2 1/2 stories, modified L-shape, gabled roof, interior chimney, front center entrance with transom and architrave, corner boards, reared; garage addition. Georgian.~~

35. Events: Boston Tea Party (1773). Maj. General Spurr, as a young man, was a member of the group which threw the tea overboard in Boston Harbor.