

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

OMB No. 1024-0018

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Frederic C. Adams Public Library

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 33 Summer Street not for publication

city or town Kingston vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Plymouth code 023 zip code 02364

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
☐ nationally ☒ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Brona Simon

April 25, 2001

Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon

Date

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer, Massachusetts Historical Commission

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:

- ☒ entered in the National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.
☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register
☐ removed from the
National Register
☐ other (explain):

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall

6/6/01

Adams Library
Name of Property

Plymouth, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

☐ private
☒ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

(Check only one box)

☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing

Noncontributing

1 building

_____ sites

_____ structures

_____ objects

1 Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

n/a

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION: library

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

GOVERNMENT: government office

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th and 20th CENTURY REVIVALS: Colonial

Revival

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation brick

walls brick

roof asphalt

other STONE: marble

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

7. DESCRIPTION

The Frederic C. Adams Public Library (1898) is a one story, brick, five by two bay rectangular structure located on Summer Street (Route 3A) in the Jones River Village area of Kingston. The building faces west and sits 25 feet from a principal artery through the town, immediately in front of (and sharing its lot with) the Reed Community House, a large 1 ½- story, Classical Revival building constructed in 1926. A small gable roof shed (late 20th century) sits directly behind the building. The property is surrounded by a low iron pipe rail and fencing. Immediately across the street is located the current Kingston Town Library, formerly the AT&T Building, and converted in 1994 to replace the then-outgrown Frederic C. Adams Public Library building. The remainder of the immediately adjacent area along Summer Street consists of 18th and 19th century single-family residences. The Frederic C. Adams Public Library is in good condition, although the first floor rooms remain vacant and unused.

The Frederic C. Adams Public Library is constructed in the Colonial Revival style and features a central Palladian entrance reached through a raised projecting portico framed by four Corinthian columns, and featuring the Library's name in the entablature's frieze. **(photos 1, 2)** This entrance is offset by a large rear round projecting bay enclosed within a Doric-columned porch, largely obscured by a recent (1964) brick addition. The interior of the building retains the original moldings and mahogany furnishings of the reading room and book stacks, and features a circular stairway to the basement level addition. **(photo 11)**

The western, front facade of the library is reached by a raised marble plinth with six marble steps and an ornate, wrought iron railing. The Palladian central portico is framed by four Corinthian columns and matching pilasters, supporting a blank entablature with modillion blocks, beading, and the name of the Library engraved in the frieze. The single-panel wooden door is flanked by leaded sidelights and a leaded fanlight overhead; smaller Ionic columns frame each sidelight and support modillion cornices at each side. A central medallion supports a decorative wrought iron lighting fixture.

To either side of this central entryway are pairs of large 9/9 double-hung windows, set within recessed, rounded arch openings with white marble keystones. **(photo 3)** The windows themselves are framed with white marble sills and splayed lintels, green wooden shutters and curved, wrought iron balconies. The entire facade is traversed with a simple marble string course and capped with the block and bead cornice that continues from the central portico.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

The paired window elements are repeated at each (north and south) side elevation, but with slightly shorter 6/9 configurations, as are the marble string courses and block and beaded cornice that extend from the central portico around the building. On the northern side, the basement level is exposed and features a 3/6 double-hung window and wooden door with nine lights. **(photo 4)** The southern side, also extending below grade, features a basement-level portico with Ionic pilasters and cornice consisting of architrave molding and a plain entablature highlighted with carved scallops that are aligned with the pilasters. The wooden door has six recessed panels -- two long central panels and four smaller panels at the top and bottom. To either side of the doorway are round rose or "wheel" windows with four white marble keys at each compass point. **(photo 6)**

The rear, or eastern, elevation, features a large, round, projecting bay, enclosed by a rounded porch supported by six Ionic columns and matching pilasters. The porch contains five windows -- three on the bay, and two on the main block of the building, with the same ornamentation as on the other elevations; two additional window units complete the symmetry of the upper facade. The lower portion of this facade has been totally obscured by a one story, rectangular brick addition extending from the rear of the main block. This addition, constructed in 1964, has a plain, flat brick facade interrupted only by three modern panel windows at the sides and rear and an additional entryway on the northern side. The addition rests on a concrete foundation and features a flat rubber roof. **(photo 5)**

One enters the interior of the building through a groin-vaulted vestibule with recessed, scallop-shaped alcoves to either side of the front door and a medallion overhead, out of which is hung a wrought iron lantern-like fixture. **(photo 7)** Passing through this entryway leads to the two principal rooms of the Library: the reading room to the right (southern) side, and the stack room and circulation desk to the left (northern) side, with the two sides being separated by two central rows of Ionic columns extending the height and length of the room. **(photo 10)** The front (western) and side windows are surrounded by a flat entablature, decorative molding and a modillioned cornice reminiscent of the exterior facade; the rear (eastern) windows are recessed within rounded, keyed arches and panels. **(photo 9)** All windows retain their original interior wooden shutters. All woodwork is of mahogany, with the entrance surround and rear windows remaining in their natural state rather than painted, as are the remaining window treatments. The bookcases and remaining built-in furniture are also of mahogany. **(photo 8)** The reading room features a fireplace with delft-blue tiles of biblical scenes surrounding the firebox. The doorway to the "Trustees Room," or rounded bay area to the rear, features a broken pediment with a bust mounted on the base, and a decorative bay leaf garland ornamental molding beneath. The room beyond, with its

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

**Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA**

rounded door, entablatured doorway and window moldings, all in mahogany, has been converted to house a wrought-iron circular stairway leading to the modern basement offices.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are recorded on the library property, it is possible that sites are present. Sixteen sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the property represent several locational criteria that are favorable indicators for many types of prehistoric sites. The library is located on a well drained, level to moderately sloping landform in close proximity (within 1000 feet) to wetlands. Halls Brook lies north of the property and a Frog Pond is shown on a 1915 Marshall property land division map. The Frog Pond no longer exists today. In spite of the above information, the potential for locating significant prehistoric resources on the library property is low. The small size of the parcel (less than one acre) and impacts related to library construction indicate the integrity of any resources that were present on the property were adversely affected by library construction.

There is also a low potential for locating historic archaeological resources on the library property. No structures or landuse have been identified on the property at the time it was conveyed to the town in 1896 or prior to that date. In general, potential does exist for locating evidence of Colonial settlement in the library locale after 1620. The Jones River area of Kingston, then part of the Plymouth settlement, was settled after that date, however, no specific landuse for the library property has yet to be identified for the 1620-1898 period.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA**

8. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Frederic C. Adams Public Library was, until its abandonment in 1994, the town library for the Town of Kingston, Massachusetts, and had been continuously used as such since its dedication on August 4, 1898. This Colonial Revival structure was designed in 1897 by Joseph Everett Chandler, a renowned Boston architect, and continues to retain its importance as an architectural and cultural landmark in the town center. Constructed with funds willed to the Town for the purpose by Frederic C. Adams on property donated by Adams family members, the Library was only recently abandoned in favor of a newly constructed, larger facility directly across the street. The building is located on a principal artery in the historical center of town. The Frederic C. Adams Public Library meets criteria A and C of the National Register at the local level and retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, feeling, association and craftsmanship.

The Town of Kingston

Immediately north of Plymouth, Massachusetts, Kingston was originally settled in 1620 by *Mayflower* passengers. It remained part of Plymouth until 1717, when residents were granted authority by the General Court to be set off as the North Precinct of Plymouth in 1717; the Town was finally separately incorporated in 1726. The "lands about Jones River," as the Town was first known, prospered on water-related industry, particularly shipbuilding, the iron industry, including the making of thread, shipping tools, tacks and rivets; the fishing industry; and mills. Over 24 "water privileges" were awarded to provide power for some 80 industries in the earlier days, until steam power became prevalent.

The Town occupies 20.39 square miles on land largely provided by Major John Bradford, grandson of Governor William Bradford, who gave the land for the town woodlot, training green, burying ground and meetinghouse. The Jones River bisects the Town from west to east, flowing from Silver Lake, in Pembroke and Plympton in the west, to Kingston Bay, in the east; with Jones River Village, near where the Library is located, serving as an early residential and commercial center and later as the political focus of town.

Development of the Frederic C. Adams Public Library Building

The need for a public library in Kingston had been identified as early as 1871, when the Kingston Library Association was organized to provide library services to the Town. Its early efforts

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

resulted in the collection of some 1850 books for distribution to the local populace. By 1888, the Massachusetts legislature recognized the significance of this and other local organizations and passed "An Act concerning the election and the powers and duties of Trustees of Free Public Libraries, or of Free Public Libraries and Reading-Rooms, in Towns" (Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts of 1888, Chapter 304). That Act required towns that raised or appropriated money for the support of a free public library, or free public library and reading-room that was owned by the Town, to elect a board of trustees with the entire custody and management of the library properties and funds. In Kingston, the first Board of Library Trustees was not elected until 1898, but already the Town was organizing to create a library for its citizens.

In 1890, the "Lend-a-Hand Club" was established to raise money to erect a free library for the Town; most of the members were school children who staged "entertainments" to generate library funds. The Town's collection of books was housed in a local store where the books could be obtained during evening business hours.

Frederic C. Adams was born in 1821 and ran the family stockyard and slaughterhouse with his brother, George, on Summer Street not far from where the Library now stands. Frederic C. Adams married his older brother Horatio's wife, Eveline Holmes Adams, in 1847, and represented the Town in the Massachusetts General Court in 1861. He died in 1874, leaving \$5,000:

"16th. after the death of my wife I give and bequeath to the inhabitants of the Town of Kingston five thousand dollars to be paid by my executors to the treasurer of said Town on demand by him in pursuance to a vote of said Town passed within five years after the death of my said wife, the sum to be invested and managed by said treasurer ..in the manner following, viz...One fifth part for procuring and increasing a library for the use of the inhabitants of said Town."

This \$5,000 was accepted by vote of the Town Meeting in March, 1895.

The residue of Adams' estate was to be distributed, after the death of his heirs, "for the purpose of building a Hall for a Public Library and for the purchase of Books, Statuary or Pictures as the School Committee may deem best" [many believed that the School Committee was so empowered due to Adams' desire to establish a library that would be helpful to the school children of Kingston]. When

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

**Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA**

Eveline died in 1896, all other beneficiaries had predeceased her, and thus the Town became entitled to the seed money for a library fund.

The Town Meeting accepted this grant in May, 1896, after a petition to the Probate Court to interpret certain provisions of Adams' will, including the role of the local School Committee in determining which books, statuary or pictures should be purchased for the Library and whether the School Committee would have any other management responsibilities (it would not). At a subsequent meeting held on June 1, 1896, the Town voted on the recommendation of a specially designated building committee to appropriate \$17,000 for the Library: \$13,000 for a library building, \$3,000 for books, statuary and pictures, and \$1,000 for incidentals. The building committee also urged that the Library be called the "Frederic C. Adams Public Library," and although no vote was apparently taken on the matter, the name was shown inscribed on the building plans the following year. Following this appropriation, the Town engaged Joseph Everett. Chandler of Plymouth and Boston to develop the plans and specifications for the new library building. The Frederic C. Adams Public Library was dedicated on August 4, 1898, with a program featuring hymns, a poem and addresses by local dignitaries.

The actual property on which the Library was erected was donated to the Town in October, 1896, by Mrs. George T. Adams and Horatio Adams, Frederic's sister-in-law and nephew. The parcel of land on Summer Street was conveyed "to be used as a site for the erection of a building as provided for in the will of the late Frederic C. Adams to be used for the purposes of a public library, for the use of the inhabitants of the said town of Kingston." The library grounds were expanded in March, 1897, by a grant of contiguous property owned by Theodore B. Cunningham, and in early 1918 by a grant of property acquired by will by Cunningham's daughter, Lillie H.C. Marshall, conveyed to the Town "as a memorial gift, in the name and memory of the grantor's father," again on the express condition that the land be used exclusively for the Library. Mrs. Marshall also deeded contiguous property to Betsey Sampson Beal, which land was transferred to the Town at the time of Mrs. Marshall's conveyance.

During the first year of operations, the Library expanded its collection to 3809 books and 26 periodicals, including those periodicals donated by the Kingston Library Association and the "Lend-a-Hand Club", both of which had disbanded when the new Library opened. The Library's initial operating budget was set at \$500 by Town Meeting vote, and a Treasurer was elected from the Trustees to give a bond to the Town. By 1973, the Town's appropriation had increased to over \$35,000, and the Library's collection to approximately 27,000 books and periodicals.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

**Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA**

This rapid growth necessitated an expansion of the facilities, and in 1965 the Town authorized the expenditure of funds to construct an addition to the building, to house the young people's collections. Using plans developed by Charles R. Strickland, architect, the oval Trustee's Room at the rear of the building was converted to a circular stairway and the basement furnished as a children's reading room at a cost of approximately \$50,000. By 1994 the Library had again outgrown its space. In that year operations at the Frederic C. Adams Public Library building were discontinued, and the Library moved its collection of 37,000 books and periodicals to a new facility across the street.

Since that time, the Frederic C. Adams Public Library building has provided space for various town offices, including the Conservation Commission, Town Planner and the Veteran's Agent. In 1998 Town Meeting authorized the expenditure of \$7,000 for renovations to the building to create new office space for these entities.

Because the will of Frederic C. Adams had specified that the funds bequeathed to the Town be used to build and supply a library, when the library collection moved to the new building the Trustees and Town felt obligated to seek court approval with respect to the disposition of the historic building and Adams Library Fund. In 1996 the Town filed a complaint against the Attorney General of Massachusetts, seeking that the Superior Court apply the doctrine of *cy pres* and modify Adams' bequest. In April, 1998 the court issued its order, finding that the Town would be authorized to reuse the library building in ways other than as a public library, for uses such as a heritage center or local exhibition hall and related uses. The Town could also use the building for general town office or meeting space, but only for up to four years. The administration of the building would be under the authority of the Kingston Board of Selectmen, and the building would have to retain some form of "memorial" to Frederic C. Adams. The Adams Fund itself would be administered by the Kingston Library Trustees and used exclusively for library purposes. If the Frederic C. Adams Public Library Building should be sold, the proceeds of the sale would similarly be applied for the support of the Kingston Public Library.

As a result of the court finding, the Town is proceeding with its plans to establish a heritage center in the Frederic C. Adams Public Library building.

Joseph E. Chandler, Architect

The plans and specifications for the Library were developed in 1896 by Joseph Everett Chandler,

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

an M.I.T. (1889)-trained “antiquarian” or “preservationist architect” who believed that architectural forms embodied the values of their builders, and that a culture could not survive without preserving reminders of its origins and character. Chandler was born in Plymouth in 1864 of *Mayflower* descendants, and preferred Colonial esthetics to the “compendium of all known architectural styles” that contemporary architects were designing. In 1892 Chandler wrote *The Colonial Architecture of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia*, and in 1916 published a definitive work on the subject. *The Colonial House* was dedicated “to the memory of the early builders and architects of the Anglo-American Colonies who builded better than they knew.” In introducing the colonial type of house, Chandler noted that

“the houses of our forefathers bespoke a fearless honesty characteristic of themselves — a lack of pretence and sham, but with a diffident expression of a love for the beautiful which, if somewhat severe and subdued, was their rightful heritage, and made their homes express the limitations early forced on them by the country of their adoption.”(p.18)

Chandler was a colleague of William Sumner Appleton, founder of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, and Norman Morrison Isham, professor of architecture at Brown University and Rhode Island School of Design, author of several books on early New England architecture and practicing architect.

Chandler was especially noted -- and sometimes criticized -- for his restoration work on the Old State House (1907), the Paul Revere House (1906) and the Old Corner Book Store in Boston, as well as the Rebecca Nurse House (1909) in Danvers and House of Seven Gables (ca.1917) in Salem, Massachusetts. His work on the Paul Revere House involved the demolition of a third story that Revere had occupied: with Appleton, he “reinvented the house, both literally and figuratively. With almost new materials, it was born anew to foster patriotism, Anglo-Saxonism, and acceptable Yankee values.” (Lindgren, p. 3). The Rebecca Nurse house was similarly “damaged through overrestoration” to a perceived date of construction, although the woman for whom the house had significance had lived there some 60 years later. Yet Chandler was hailed as an architect who combined an appreciation of the artistry of preindustrial construction with a knowledge of archeology. He also appreciated the importance of setting: he noted that buildings were connected to the history of their neighborhoods and should not be moved for the sake of preservation.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

**Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA**

Chandler also recognized that preservation work could become excessive, believing that many of the buildings restored were "not worth the cost of the match which might fire them." (Lindgren, p. 138). The construction of new, Colonial Revival homes that would exhibit the artistry and good planning of early buildings was much preferred. This philosophy was evidenced in his design for the "Colonial Village," a housing project in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Finally, Chandler was noted for his work in conjectural reconstruction. Working with George Francis Dow, Chandler supervised the reproduction of "Pioneer Village," a colonial hamlet built in Salem in 1930 to commemorate the arrival of John Winthrop and the Puritans to the area in 1630.

Joseph Everett Chandler died on August 19, 1945, at the age of 81.

(end)

Adams Library

Name of Property

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Plymouth, MA

County and State

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

EDUCATION

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

Period of Significance

1898-1951

Significant Dates

1898

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

N/a

Architect/Builder

Joseph Everett Chandler

Charles R. Strickland

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☒ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☐ Other

Name of repository:

History Room, Kingston Public Library

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

9. BIBLIOGRAPHY

The Frederic C. Adams Public Library

"Adams Library Budget Is Nearly Double That Of '64," *Daily Enterprise*, December 31, 1964.

Bailey, Sarah Y. *The Story of Jones River in Pilgrim Plymouth, 1620- 1726*. Kingston, MA: Kingston Branch of the Alliance of Unitarian Women, 1920.

Bailey, Sarah Y. and Drew, Emily F. *The Civic Progress of Kingston [and] A History of Her Industries*. Kingston, MA: the Two Hundredth Anniversary Committee of the Town of Kingston, Massachusetts, 1926.

Brack, Ken. "Cultural center proposed for library, *The Patriot Ledger*, February 9, 1996, p. 14.

Chandler, Joseph Everett. *The Frederic C. Adams Public Library at Kingston, Massachusetts [Plans and Elevations]*, 1896 (located in the Vertical Files at the Local History Room of the Kingston Public Library).

_____. *Specifications of the Labor and Materials Required in the Erection and Completion of The Frederic C. Adams Public Library at Kingston, Massachusetts*, August, 1896 (located in the Vertical Files at the Local History Room of the Kingston Public Library).

Cingolani, Liliias. "Adams Library has Proud History," *Brockton Daily Enterprise*, April 13, 1973, p. 32.

Commonwealth of Massachusetts. *Acts and Resolves of Massachusetts, 1888, Chapter 304: An Act concerning the election and the powers and duties of Trustees of Free Public Libraries, or of Free Public Libraries and Reading Rooms, in Towns*.

_____. *Plymouth Superior Court, C.A. No. 98-0439B: Town of Kingston v. Scott Harshbarger, Complaint and Order*, 1998.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

_____. *Plymouth Probate Court: In Re Construction of Will, Petition and Decree*, 1896.

_____. *Plymouth Probate Court: Re Petition of Clinton T. Keith et al., Trustees of the Frederic C. Adams Public Library for Instructions v. Paul A. Dever, Attorney General, Petition and Decree*, 1936.

Connell, Lisa D. "Historic Kingston library checks out," *Kingston Reporter*, December __, 1994.

Connell, Lisa D. "Town needs approval to use Adams building," *Kingston Reporter*, December 14, 1995, p. A4.

Drew, Emily. *Kingston: the Jones River Village as seen by Emily Drew, being an illustrated vignette presented by Emily Drew to the Jones River Village Club on Feb. 26, 1944*, edited and annotated by Doris M. Johnson. Plymouth, Massachusetts: Jones River Press, 1995.

Drew, Thomas Bradford. "History of Kingston," in Hurd, D.H., *History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts, Vol. I*. Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1884.

"The Frederick [sic] Adams Library, Kingston, Mass." (Plate), *The American Architect*, December 19, 1903, No. 1460.

Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts. *Ninth Report of the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts, 1899*. Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1899.

"Kingston, Library Week," *Brockton Enterprise*, October 24, 1934.

Krusell, Cynthia Hagar. *Plymouth County, 1685*. Plymouth, Massachusetts: The Pilgrim Society and the Plymouth County Development Council, 1985.

"Library rental to private group facing scrutiny," *The Enterprise*, May 16, 1996, p. 21.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *Final Report Statement, Kingston Community-Wide Historic and Architectural Survey, Kingston, Massachusetts, Phase 1, 1997*. Boston: 1997.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

_____. *Final Report: Kingston Comprehensive Historical Survey, Phase 2 - August, 1998.* Boston: 1998.

_____. *Reconnaissance Survey Report: Kingston.* Boston: 1981.

Melville, Doris Johnson. *Major Bradford's Town: A History of the Town of Kingston, 1726-1976.* Kingston, MA: Town of Kingston, 1976.

Minneci, Beth. "Adams issue headed to court," *Kingston Reporter*, September 12, 1996, p. A5.

"Reuse for Adams Library?" *Kingston Reporter*, May 15, 1996.

Strickland, Brigham & Eldredge, Architects. *Alterations and Addition to: The Frederic C. Adams Public Library, Town of Kingston, Massachusetts, Project No. APW-Mass.85G.* March 14, 1964 (located in the Vertical Files at the Local History Room of the Kingston Public Library).

Thacher, James. *History of the Town of Plymouth, from its first settlement in 1620 to the present time.* Boston: Marsh, Capen & Lyon, 1835; reprinted, Yarmouthport: Parnassus Imprints, 1972.

Thompson, Elroy S. *History of Plymouth, Norfolk and Barnstable Counties, Massachusetts, Vol. I.* New York: Lewis Historical Publishing Company, Inc., 1928.

Town of Kingston, Kingston Town Records: Minutes of Town Meetings, various dates.

Vertical files located at the Local History Room of the Kingston Public Library.

Joseph Everett Chandler

Chandler, Joseph Everett. *The Colonial House.* (rev'd. ed.) New York: Robert A. McBride, 1924.

Lindgren, James M. *Preserving Historic New England: Preservation, Progressivism, and the Remaking of Memory.* New York: Oxford University Press, 1995.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

**Frederic C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA**

"Joseph E. Chandler, Expert on Colonial Architecture Helped Restore Old Edifices," (Obituary) *The New York Times*, August 20, 1945.

"Noted Colonial Authority Dies, Joseph E. Chandler, Architect, Author," (Obituary) *Boston Herald*, August 20, 1945.

Withey, Henry F. and Withey, Elsie Rathburn. *Biographical Dictionary of American Architects (Deceased)*. Los Angeles: Hennessey & Ingalls, Inc., 1970

(end).

Adams Library
Name of Property

Plymouth, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 19 356720 4650540
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

__ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Marilyn Fenollosa for Kingston Historical Commission and Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April 2001

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Town of Kingston

street & number 23 Green Street telephone

city or town Kingston state MA zip code 02364

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Frederick C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA, cont.

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is a portion of the lot shown as Lot 84 on the accompanying detail of the Kingston Assessor's map, Sheet 36 (and portion of Sheet 46). This is the property described in deeds filed with the Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 726, Page 507, Book 736, Page 537, Book 1298, Page 229 and Book 1298, Page 280. The total lot area is 9.51 acres; the portion of the lot occupied by the library is less than one acre.

Boundary Justification

The boundary includes a portion of the parcel of land belonging to the Town of Kingston, Massachusetts; situated on the property is the library, occupying less than one acre, and the Reed Community Center, occupying 9.5 acres. The original parcel was conveyed to the Town of Kingston on October 16, 1896 by Horatio Adams (Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 726, Page 507), as provided for in the will of his father Frederic C. Adams (Probate Records of Plymouth County Book 141, Page 239), as a site for the erection of a building to be used for the purposes of a public library for the inhabitants of the Town of Kingston. This is the lot indicated on the Plan showing division of Lillie H. C. Marshall Property, January 21, 1915 (Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Kingston Plan Book 2, page 891).

[The property was subsequently enlarged on March 20, 1897 through a conveyance of nine square rods by Theodore B. Cunningham (Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 736, Page 537); on February 21, 1918 through a conveyance of .31 acre by Lillie H.C. Marshall, in memory of her father, Theodore B. Cunningham (Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 1298, Page 280); and on January 8, 1918 through a conveyance of .19 acre by Betsey Sampson Beal of property previously conveyed to her by Lillie H. C. Marshall (Plymouth Registry of Deeds, Book 1298, Page 229). The property was subdivided to accommodate the Reed Community Center and town Playground by Plan dated June 20, 1922 (Plymouth Registry Plan Book 3, Page 548). All lot boundary lines have since disappeared due to the common ownership of the property by the Town of Kingston.]

(end)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

**Frederick C. Adams Public Library
Kingston (Plymouth), MA**

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Marilyn Fennollosa, 2000

Negatives: History Room, Kingston Public Library

1. Front façade, facing E
2. Detail, entablature frieze, facing E
3. West façade, south façade, facing NE
4. North façade, including 1965 addition, facing SE
5. Rear elevation, facing S
6. North and east elevation, facing SW
7. Interior, main entrance, facing W
8. Interior, reading room furnishing, facing S
9. Detail reading room, facing SW
10. Interior, circulation desk, stacks, facing NW
11. Interior, rear circular staircase, facing E

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Adams, Frederic C., Public Library
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Plymouth

DATE RECEIVED: 4/30/01 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/17/01
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/02/01 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/15/01
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 01000625

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 6/6/01 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

A black and white photograph of a classical building with a portico supported by four columns. The pediment above the columns contains the text "FREDERIC · C · ADAMS · PUBLIC · LIBRARY". The building has arched windows on either side of the entrance and a set of steps leading up to the door. Trees are visible in the foreground and background.

FREDERIC · C · ADAMS · PUBLIC · LIBRARY

Frederic C Adams Library
Kingston MA

return to History Room

Kingston Public Library

PHOTO # 1



FREDERIC C. ADAMS PUBLIC LIBRARY

Frederic C Adams Library

Kingston, MA

return to History Room

Kingston Public Library

PHOTO 2



Frederic C Adams Library
Kingston, MA

Return to History Room
Kingston Public Library



Frederic C Adams Library
Kingson MA

return to History Room,
Kingson Public Library

PHOTO 4



Frederic C Adams Library

Kingston MA

return to History Room,

Kingston Public Library



Frederic C Adams Library
Kington MA

return to History Room,
Kington Public Library

PHOTO 6



Frederic C Adams Library
Kingston MA

Return to History Room

Kingston Public Library



Frederic C Adams Public Library
Kingston MA

return to History Room,
Kingston Public Library



Frederic C Adams Public Library
Kington MA

return to History Room

Kington Public Library

PHOTO 9



Frederic C Adams Library

Kingston MA

return to History Room,
Kingston Public Library

PHOTO 10



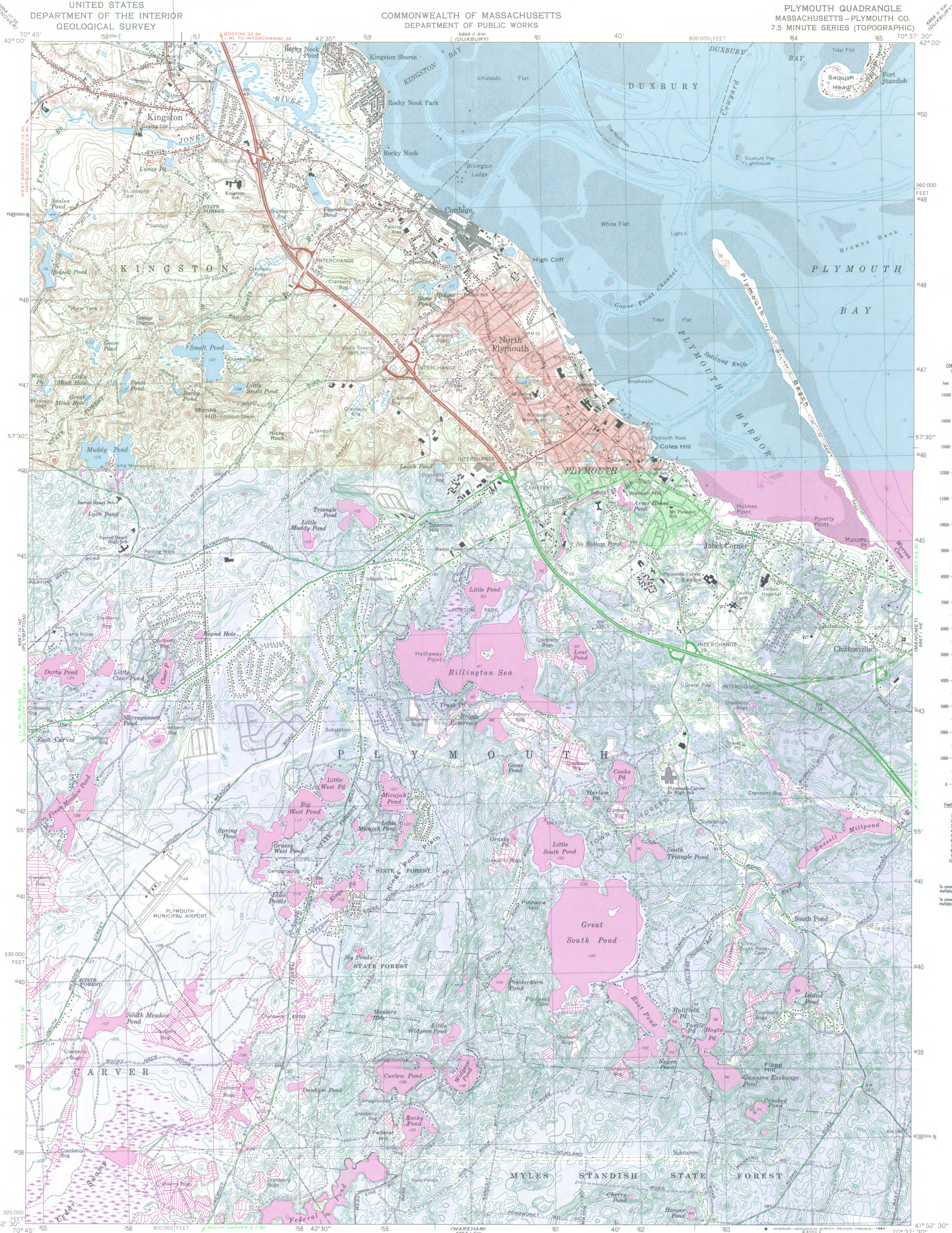
Frederic C Adams Library

Kingston MA

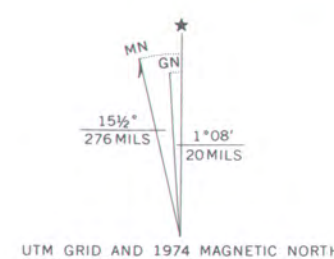
return to History Room

Kingston Public Library

PHOTO 11



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1934. Revised from aerial
photographs taken 1974. Field checked 1974
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS 245 (1972)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. North American datum
10,000-foot grid ticks, based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 19
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Map photoinspected 1977
No major culture or drainage changes observed



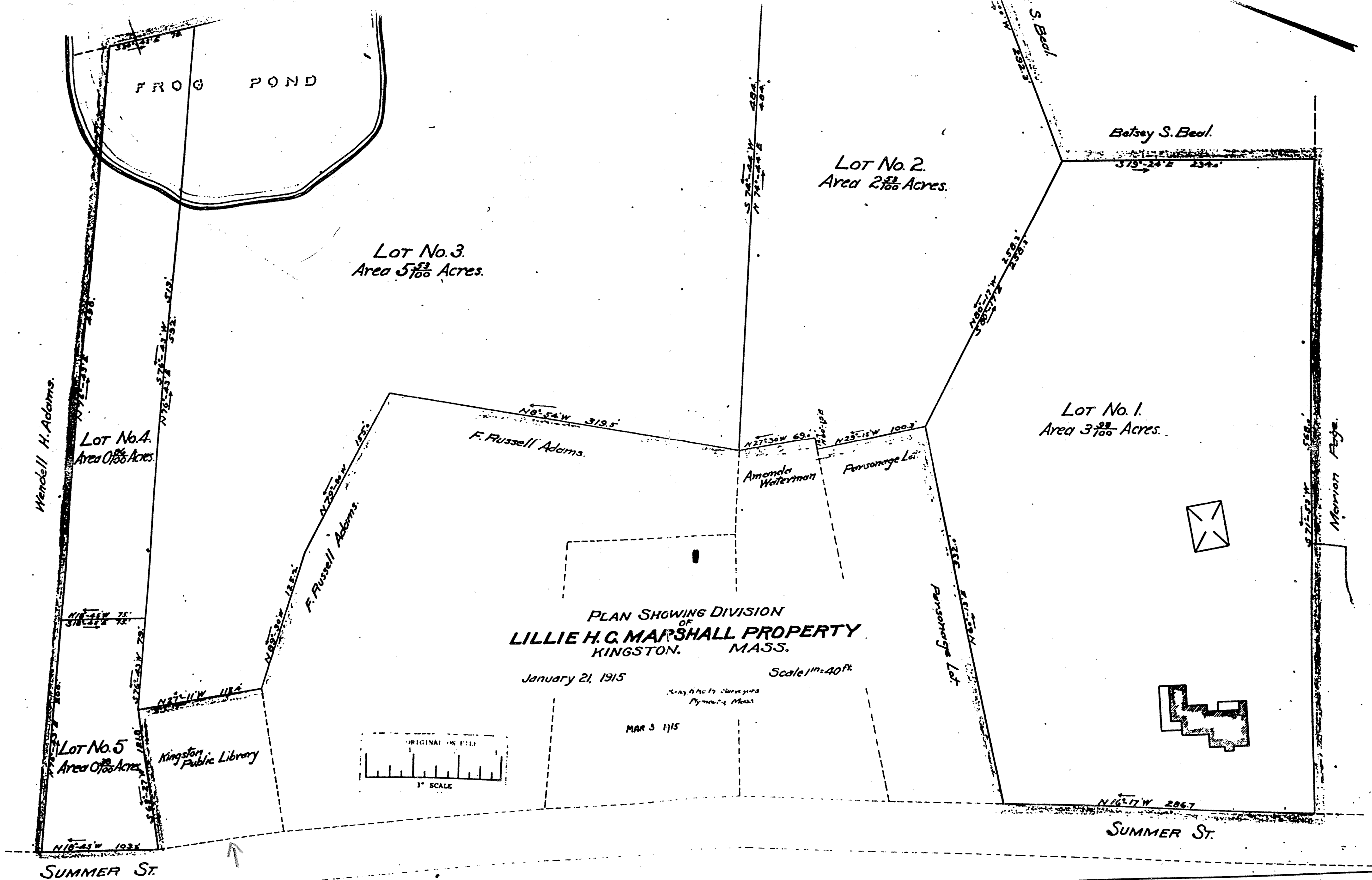
SCALE 1:25 000
1 1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 KILOMETER
CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN LOW WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 9.5 FEET
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

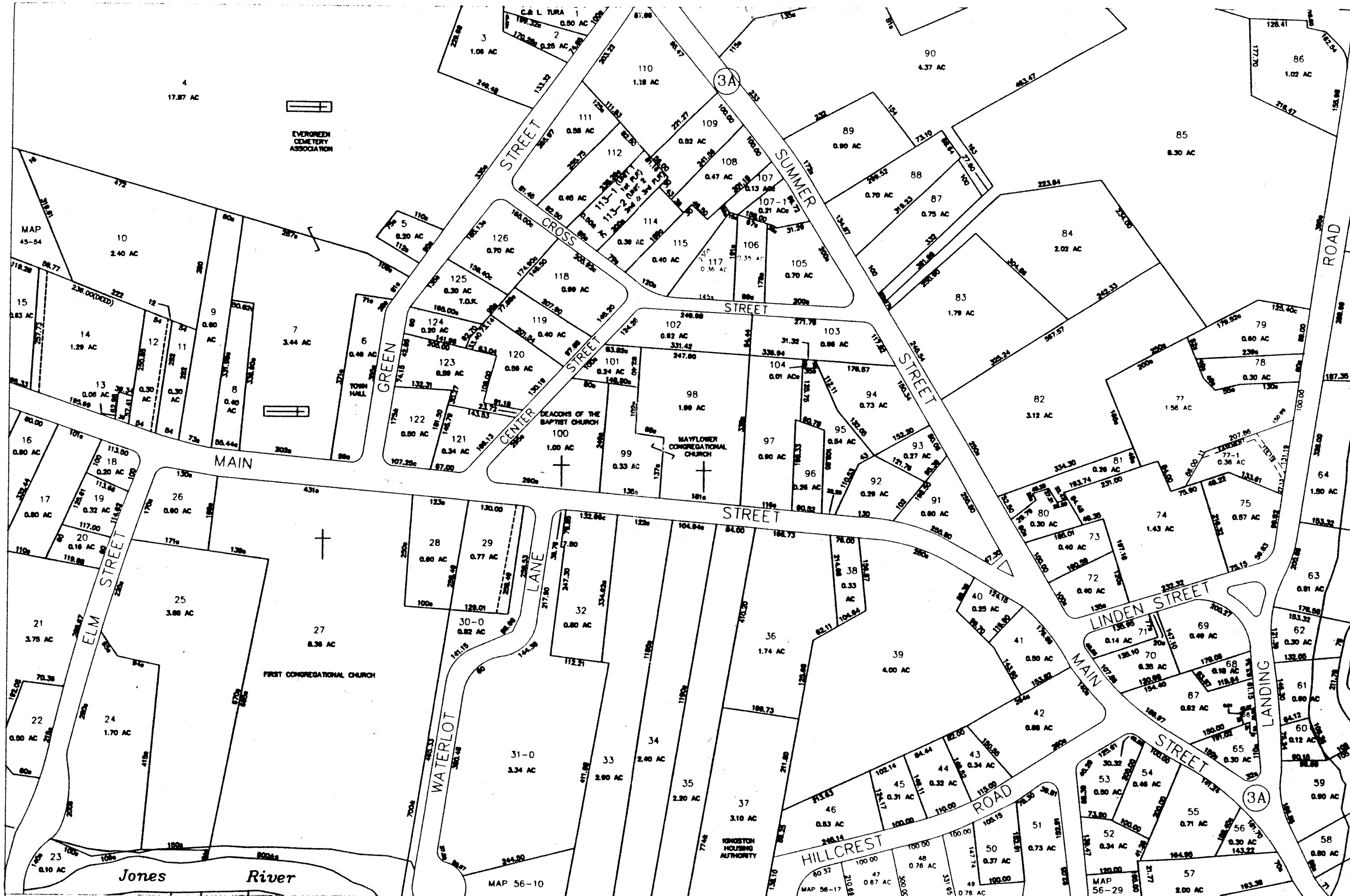
ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface Unimproved road
Interstate Route U. S. Route State Route
PLYMOUTH, MASS.
N4152.5—W7037.5/7.5
1974
PHOTOINSPECTED 1977
AMS 6867 1 NW—SERIES V814

CONVERSION SCALES
Feet Meters
15000 4500
14000 4000
13000 3500
12000 3000
11000 2500
10000 2000
9000 1500
8000 1000
7000 500
6000 0
5000 0
4000 0
3000 0
2000 0
1000 0
0 0
To convert feet to meters multiply by 3.2808
To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

X40132

1915





BEALS AND THOMAS, INC

**TWO WESTBOROUGH BUSINESS PARK
200 FRIBERG PARKWAY
WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581
(508) 366-0580**

THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY.
IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION
OR CONVEYANCE. PARCELS AS SHOWN MAY
REFLECT TOTAL CONTIGUOUS ACREAGE OWNED
BY ONE OWNER FOR TAX BILLING PURPOSES

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS
STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

COMPLETION DATE: DECEMBER 29, 1989

REVISION DATE: OCTOBER 1, 1997

LEGEND SYMBOLS

PARCEL NUMBER	162	CHURCH	+
TOWN LINE	---	CEMETERY	⊞
RIGHT OF WAY	---	STREAM	~~~~~
EASEMENT	---	CRANBERRY BOG	
PATH	---	POND	~~~~~
SCHOOL	1	WETLAND	

100 0 100 200
SCALE IN FEET

ORIGINAL FULL SIZE DRAWING=2"

REPRODUCTIONS MAY BE REDUCED SIZE

INDEX

35	36	37
45	46	47
55	56	57

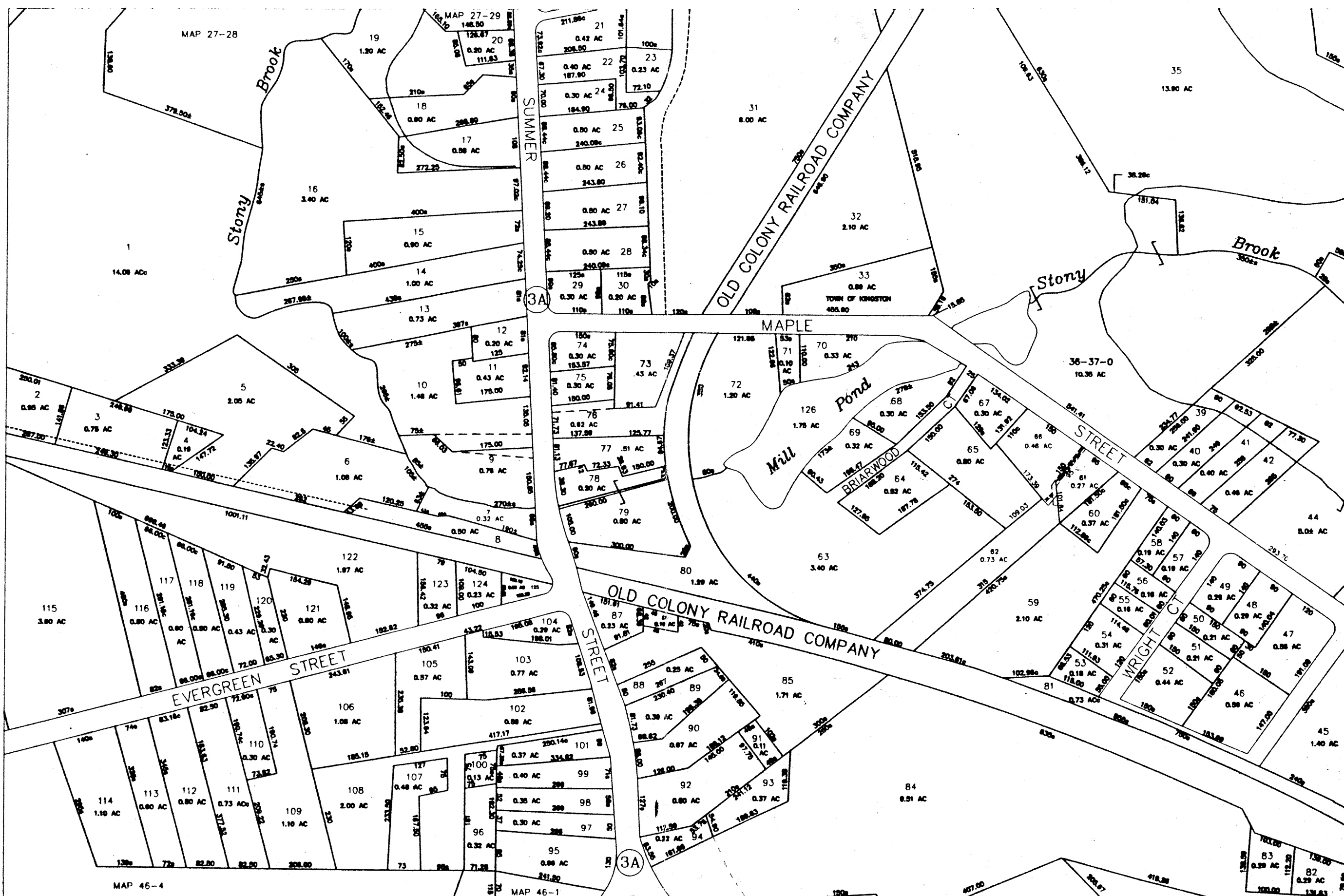
ASSESSORS MAP

**TOWN OF KINGSTON
MASSACHUSETTS**

REVISED BY
BTI 1997
EARTH TECH 1996

MAP NO

46



BEALS AND THOMAS, INC
 TWO WESTBOROUGH BUSINESS PARK
 200 FRIBERG PARKWAY
 WESTBOROUGH, MA 01581
 (508) 386-0560

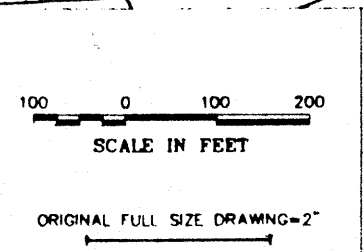
THIS MAP IS FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY.
 IT IS NOT VALID FOR LEGAL DESCRIPTION
 OR CONVEYANCE. PARCELS AS SHOWN MAY
 REFLECT TOTAL CONTIGUOUS ACREAGE OWNED
 BY ONE OWNER FOR TAX BILLING PURPOSES.

THE HORIZONTAL DATUM IS THE MASSACHUSETTS
 STATE PLANE COORDINATE SYSTEM.

COMPLETION DATE: DECEMBER 29, 1989

REVISION DATE: OCTOBER 1, 1997

LEGEND SYMBOLS	
PARCEL NUMBER	162
TOWN LINE	---
RIGHT OF WAY	----
EASEMENT	- - - -
PATH	
SCHOOL	■
CHURCH	✝
CEMETERY	⌘
STREAM	~~~~~
CRANBERRY BCG	▨
POND	○
WETLAND	▧



INDEX		
26	27	28
35	36	37
45	46	47

ASSESSORS MAP
TOWN OF KINGSTON
 MASSACHUSETTS

REVISED BY
 BTI 1997
 EARTH TECH 1996

MAP NO.
36



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

April 25, 2001

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Frederic C. Adams Public Library, Kingston (Plymouth), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Marilyn Fennollosa, consultant
Walter Hoeg, Kingston Historical Commission
George Cravenho, Board of Selectmen
Sia Stewart, Kingston Public Library
James E. Colman, Jr., Kingston Planning Board