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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form



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 Wellesley Hills Branch Library
other names/site number Wellesley Free Library, Hills Branch

2. Location

street & number 210 Washington Street not for publication
city or town Wellesley (Wellesley Hills) vicinity
state Massachusetts code MA county Norfolk code 021 zip code 02481

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

May 3, 2007

Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

Date

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

Edson H. Beall

Date of Action

6-12-07

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Name of Property

Norfolk, Massachusetts
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	0	building
0	0	sites
0	0	structures
0	2	objects
1	2	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

N/A

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/library

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

EDUCATION/library (closed as of 2007)

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

COLONIAL REVIVAL

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone
walls fieldstone
roof ceramic tile
other _____

Narrative Description

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

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Continuation Sheet

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), MA

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7. Description

Wellesley Hills Branch Library, 210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills (MHC #99, **photos 1-14**) is a Colonial Revival-style municipal building designed in 1927 by Hampton F. Shirer, whose plans were developed from the sketches of the late Ralph H. Hannaford. The library occupies a level parcel encompassing 18,000 square feet at the southwest corner of Washington Street (MA Route 16) and Grantland Road Extension, approximately one-quarter mile northeast of Wellesley Hills Square, one of the town's principal commercial and institutional cores. A parkway-style exit ramp from Worcester Street (MA Route 9) defines the southern edge of the library parcel. The library is oriented to face Washington Street on the northwest, and library parking is available along the northeastern edge of the parcel, along Grantland Road Extension. Smaller components of the library property, which are noncontributing by virtue of their recent vintage, are a wood standing sign (1992, photo 1) to the right of the library entrance, and a small granite memorial (1993) in front of a birch tree in the planting bed to the left of the main entrance. The green space immediately west of the branch library parcel is the town-owned Ware Park at 212 Washington Street. While Ware Park provides a landscape buffer between the Hills Branch Library and the busy junction of Washington Street (Route 16) and Worcester Street (Route 9), the park occupies a separate parcel from the library and is not included in this nomination.

One story on a raised basement, the Hills Branch Library has a stone foundation, exterior walls, and chimneys faced in local fieldstone, and a tile roof manufactured by the Ludowici-Celadon Company. Door and window openings are framed in stone, and stone is also used for corner quoins. The library exhibits roughly an L-shaped footprint, consisting of two gabled masses intersecting at a right angle. The side-gabled main block (**photo 1**), situated parallel to Washington Street, is five principal bays across and two bays deep, with an exterior chimney on the northeastern end wall, a double-height round-arched window on the southwestern end wall, and the library's main entry in the fourth bay. The front-gabled projecting entry pavilion marks the northwestern end of the gabled wing (**photos 2, 7, and 8**) that runs perpendicular to the main block and projects three additional bays beyond its rear wall. Roughly one bay across and five bays deep, this intersecting wing displays a lower roof ridge than that of the main block, and culminates with an exterior chimney on the southeastern end wall, fronting Worcester Street. Marking the intersection of the main block and wing is a square cupola of wood. The cupola features attenuated corner columns carrying a standing seam copper roof, surmounted by a weathervane of flying geese. Recessed on each side of the cupola are twenty rectangular window panes containing tinted glass, which were intended to provide light to the interior by way of an oculus in the ceiling of the space below. A notable feature of the façade is the sweeping line of the roof (**photo 2**) to the right of the entry pavilion, dropping lower than the roofline elsewhere on the building and marking the location of the librarian's office.

The library's principal entrance, off of a stone terrace on Washington Street, has paneled double doors topped with a round-arched fanlight and flanking narrow windows. Over the door is a stone panel, inscribed "1927/WELLESLEY/HILLS/BRANCH/LIBRARY." A secondary entrance at the rear of the main block includes a universal access ramp and leads directly from the library's parking area along Grantland Road Extension. Another secondary entrance toward the rear of the intersecting wing provides emergency egress. Both of these entrances incorporate multi-light doors with square multi-light transoms above, concrete landings, and basement-level entries below. The below-grade entrances retain wood paneled doors with nine-light windows in the upper half. Most windows in the public spaces on the main level of the library contain vinyl-clad paired casement sash with rectangular panes and fixed multi-pane transoms. Other first floor windows contain vinyl-clad single casements of eight panes each. Basement windows generally contain smaller paired casement windows, also vinyl-clad, with four panes each.

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On the interior, the main block houses the Adults' Reading Room (**photo 3**), the perpendicular wing houses the Children's Reading Room to the rear (**photo 4**), and administrative functions are situated at the intersection of the two reading rooms (**photos 5 and 12**). The library's gabled entry pavilion incorporates the entry hall and an adjacent stair hall to the basement. French doors enclose the entry hall on the interior (**photo 11**). The oak delivery desk occupies its original location inside the entry, directly in front of the former stack room, now an office and storage area. The original librarian's office, located under the sweeping roofline to the right of the main entrance, is reached by way of the stack room; there is another doorway directly to the entry hall. A mezzanine level above the delivery desk (**photo 5**) was designed to provide working space, according to the building plans. Located behind the round-arched window in the gable end of the main block, the mezzanine features a barrel-vaulted ceiling and an oak staircase with turned balusters.

The reading rooms retain much of their historic integrity. Interior wall and ceiling surfaces were executed in California Stucco. The Adults' Reading Room (**photo 3**) has a double-height, barrel-vaulted ceiling with a contrasting band of pigmented stucco trim bordered by rope molding where the ceiling meets the walls. At the far end of the room, a barrel-vaulted fireplace nook has a flagstone floor and built-in oak settles, or benches with high backs. The fireplace, access to which is currently blocked with a bookcase, consists of a polished granite surround and a wood mantel. Small casement windows and the large exterior end chimney mark the location of the nook on the exterior. Five of the six recessed wall openings in this reading room display double-height windows and the same built-in, high-backed oak benches seen in the fireplace nook. The sixth wall opening frames the rear entrance to the parking lot. Tall oak bookcases, placed between the windows, are original to the library and display a scalloped trim above the top shelves that is repeated in the aprons of the built-in benches (**photo 14**). The Children's Reading Room (**photos 4, 6, 12, and 13**) has a vaulted ceiling with a contrasting band of pigmented stucco trim where the ceiling meets the walls. The trim in this room incorporates relief images of fruit, monkeys, cowboys, toucans, and owls. At the far end of the room, the ceiling of the fireplace nook, also described as the story alcove, features exposed English Revival-style wood lintels and beams. In contrast to the nook in the Adults' Reading Room, the story alcove has bead board paneling on the fireplace wall, and longer built-in, high-backed oak benches. Wood lintels also appear over the small casement windows on either side of the nook. The floor is flagstone, and the fireplace, currently blocked with a bookcase, has a granite surround and wood mantel. Like the Adults' Reading Room, the Children's Reading Room has five recessed openings with double-height windows and built-in oak benches – one recessed opening containing a rear exit – and tall oak bookcases between the windows. Oak tables and chairs (**photos 6 and 13**) are original to the library and the gift of the Wellesley Hills Women's Club. Light fixtures suspended from the ceilings in both reading rooms appear to date to the period of significance but are not original to the building.

In addition to the stone terrace at the Washington Street entrance, the library parcel includes stone paths leading from the front entrance to the parking area, and from the parking area to the access ramp at the rear of the building. At the front of the building, to the right of the main entrance, is the library's wood standing sign, installed in 1992. In the planting bed to the left of the main entrance is a granite memorial placed in front of a birch tree, inscribed "GIVEN IN MEMORY OF ROSEMARY DIGNAM." The tree was planted and the granite memorial installed in 1993. On the rear elevation, located at grade level on the inside corner of the building, is a landscaped patio of concrete pavers (1998, **photo 10**). A bronze plaque on the library wall above the patio reads "IN LOVING MEMORY OF/ALEXANDRA T. COBURN/CHAIR – COMMITTEE FOR/THE BRANCH LIBRARIES/1992-1994."

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Landscaping on the library parcel consists of a number of deciduous and evergreen plantings (photo 9). These include rhododendron, yews, boxwoods, Japanese maple, and mountain laurel, as well as pachysandra and other ground covers.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are located on the library property, sites may exist. One site is located in the general area (within one mile). Environmental characteristics of the property represent some locational criteria (slope, soil drainage, proximity to wetlands) that are favorable for the presence of ancient sites. The library is located on excessively drained, level to moderately sloping glacial outwash plain topography. Natural wetlands, however, are not located within 1,000 feet of the property, a highly favorable locational characteristic for ancient sites. The manmade Cochituate Aqueduct is located within 1,000 feet west of the property. It is unknown whether the aqueduct follows the course of an originally natural stream. Urban land in the area may have also obscured natural wetlands now diverted to below-ground culverts. Given the above information and construction of the library and earlier Beck's House on the relatively small lot (0.41 acres), a low potential exists for locating significant ancient Native American resources on the property.

A moderate to high potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources on the library property. Structural evidence may survive from the Beck's House, moved off the library property prior to construction of the library. Structural evidence may also exist from barns, stables, a carriage house, and outbuildings that were also located on the property. Archaeological evidence may also survive from occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) related to the Beck House. Little documentation is currently available for the Beck House. Construction of the library may have adversely affected archaeological resources associated with the Beck House.

(end)

Wellesley Hills Branch Library

Name of Property

Norfolk, Massachusetts

County and State

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture _____

Education _____

Social History _____

Period of Significance

1927-1957 _____

Significant Dates

1927-28 construction of Wellesley Hills Branch Library _____

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A _____

Cultural Affiliation

N/A _____

Architect/Builder

Shirer, Hampton F. _____

Hannaford, R. H. (continued) _____

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Wellesley Free Library, Town of Wellesley _____

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8. Statement of Significance

Architect/Builder (continued)

Griffin, John F. Company
Ludowici-Celadon Company
California Stone Products Corporation

Narrative Statement of Significance

The Wellesley Hills Branch Library, 210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills (1927-28, MHC #99, photos 1-14) is a well preserved, Colonial Revival-style municipal building associated with an era of civic improvements in Wellesley in the second quarter of the 20th century. The library represents the Town of Wellesley's efforts to formalize a system of town-owned and operated neighborhood branches to supplement the services provided by the town's main library, continuing a history of village-based lending libraries and book exchanges that dates, at Wellesley Hills, to the late 1870s. Designed by local architect Hampton F. Shirer, based on the sketches of another local architect, Ralph H. Hannaford, the Hills Branch Library is the only building in Wellesley's history constructed specifically for use as a branch library, and is an exceptionally well preserved example of library design from the late 1920s. Retaining integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, the Wellesley Hills Branch Library meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places at the local level.

An affluent suburban community in the principal western corridor of metropolitan Boston, Wellesley is bordered by Weston on the north, Newton on the northeast, Needham on the southeast, Dover on the south, and Natick on the west and northwest. Wellesley is situated within the loop of the Charles River, which defines both the northeast and southern borders. Wellesley is located in rocky highlands with prominent elevations in the central part of town, "rather rugged country for agriculture," except in the western section and along the river. Stony soil drains into the Charles River from several directions; the major system is the Morses Pond-Lake Waban drainage in the western part of town. [*MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report*, 1]

Wellesley is one of 14 towns created from the Dedham Grant (1636); the town's northern border incorporates a segment of the 17th-century boundary between Dedham and Watertown. Part of Dedham's common lands in the 17th century, by the early 18th century the territory also included mill sites on Lake Waban in the southwest part of town, and on the Charles River in the northeast part of town (present village of Lower Falls). Wellesley constituted the northwest section of Needham from the time of Needham's incorporation in 1711 to Wellesley's incorporation as a separate town in 1881. Upon its separation from Needham and incorporation as a town, Wellesley had a population of over 2,500 residents, more than one-half of Needham's original valuation of over \$4 million, four-ninths of the original town's 15,000 acres, an average school enrollment of 500, and a tax rate of \$9.50. Aside from milling activity, Wellesley's economy was based primarily on agriculture and grazing, plus some winter lumbering. [*MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report*; Hinchliffe, 51; *Wellesley Post Card Album*; *Wellesley Residential Properties Survey*, Narrative History, 6-9]

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Wellesley Hills, formerly North Needham, was known prior to separation as the village of Grantville, named for Moses Grant, a village property owner and civic activist. Encompassing the largely residential eastern end of town, Wellesley Hills developed a commercial and institutional focus at the intersection of two regional arteries, Washington Street (MA Route 16) and the Boston & Worcester Turnpike (1807-1810, now Worcester Street, MA Route 9). The village had a stop on the Boston & Worcester Railroad (opened 1834). Both the Congregational and Unitarian societies established churches in the village. The area's attraction as a suburb of Boston became evident in the years prior to the Civil War, and its perceived salubrious climate drew convalescing consumption patients and summer visitors from the third quarter of the 19th century through the early 20th century. Accessibility to Boston and surrounding communities via the railroad, and to a lesser extent via the Worcester Turnpike, generated growth, principally in the form of land speculation, which began in earnest in the third quarter of the 19th century. By the late 19th century, the Wellesley Hills residential community encompassed estate and middle-class suburban development, principally on Washington Street and connecting roads. [MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report; *Wellesley Residential Properties Survey*, Narrative History, 7-9]

The growth of the residential community at Grantville (Wellesley Hills) led to the formation of a library for the village. On December 3, 1877, a group met at the Grantville Congregational Church to sign an agreement for establishing a library. The library opened on July 13, 1878, in the Grantville home of George D. Ware. Belle Townsend and Sarah Batchelder were the librarians. Previously, village libraries had been formed, beginning in the 1850s, at West Needham, in the areas later known as Wellesley Square and Wellesley Fells. [Fielden, 3-4] All of these village libraries were privately run endeavors, commonly known as library societies or subscription libraries, and supported by interested citizens.

Wellesley's first public library opened in 1883, in the combined Town Hall and Public Library, 525 Washington Street (1883/1885, MHC #1, NRIND 1976). The library construction, its initial collection of five hundred volumes, and its endowment were funded entirely by Wellesley's principal benefactor, Horatio Hollis Hunnewell (1811-1902), an investment banker and railroad entrepreneur whose Washington Street estate (NRDIS 1988) supplied the name for the newly incorporated town. In 1887, Hunnewell transferred title to the Town Hall-Public Library building and surrounding acreage to the Town of Wellesley. Julia F. Jennings, the first librarian, was hired that year. Hunnewell continued to pay for "practically all library accessions and other expenses" until 1890, when the town voted to apply funds from the dog tax toward the purchase of books. By 1899, management of the public library was transferred from the original Hunnewell-appointed trustees to the town, which assumed responsibility for any expenses exceeding the endowment of \$21,000 (face value of securities). Robert G. Shaw, Marshall L. Perrin, and Gamaliel Bradford served as the town's first Library Trustees, filing their first town report in 1900. Subdivided on the interior to provide additional floor space in 1903 and again in 1937-1938, the public library in Hunnewell's Town Hall-Public Library building served as the headquarters of the Wellesley Free Library until 1959, when a new library building was dedicated directly across Washington Street. [Fielden, 1-4, 10-11]

From its earliest days under town ownership, the Wellesley Free Library operated a system of book exchanges to repositories in Wellesley's villages. Privately owned properties in Unionville (later known as Wellesley Fells), Wellesley Hills, and Lower Falls were designated as repositories that received weekly book deliveries in 1887. With

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book purchases funded by the dog tax, additional small appropriations were made for book delivery by way of messengers. The Town Farm received payment for "carrying books" to the village repositories in at least one year in the late 19th century. [Fielden, 2] These "distributing stations" allowed for wider circulation of the town library's collection and provided reading areas that helped to relieve the strain on the Main Library, which suffered from chronic space shortages throughout the first half of the 20th century. In turn, the collections developed by the various private book exchanges were accessioned by the Wellesley Free Library when the branch library system was formalized in the 1920s.

The book exchange system was the precursor to Wellesley's branch libraries. As Ruth Fielden, former assistant librarian in Wellesley, noted in her *History of the Wellesley Free Library* (1953, updated 1983), residents of the town's villages began to desire permanent quarters and more accessible services than could be provided by weekly deliveries. [p.5] Beginning in the 1920s, the town operated three branch libraries in addition to the Main Library: at Cedar Street in the extreme eastern part of town, at Wellesley Fells in the northwestern part of town, and at Wellesley Hills.

The Cedar Street Branch Library began as a book exchange in 1906 at Anderson's store on the corner of Worcester Street (Route 9) and Cedar Street. The following year, the exchange moved to a room in the first Fiske School (1893, demolished) on Cedar Street. The town assumed control of the Cedar Street library about 1921, acquiring with it the library's 1,000-volume collection, formerly belonging to the parish of St. John the Evangelist Roman Catholic Church at Lower Falls. In 1951, the branch library was closed, due to the School Department's need for additional classroom space and the lack of a suitable alternative location. The same year, Town Meeting approved an appropriation for the Wellesley Free Library's first bookmobile, in part to lessen the impact of the branch closing. The Cedar Street Branch was typically open approximately 150 days per year and about fifteen hours per week. By contrast, the Main Library was open approximately 300 days per year, and about seventy-two hours per week, except during the summer months, when the schedule provided for almost sixty hours open each week. [Fielden, 5-7; *Annual Town Reports; Wellesley Residential Properties Survey*, Narrative History, 11]

Like the Cedar Street Branch, the Wellesley Fells Branch Library grew out of a village-based library, operating out of the house of Osborn C. Harrington on Worcester Street. Periodic book purchases were funded by the members of a sewing circle that had organized in the village in the 1850s. Harrington's residence was the designated book repository for Unionville (Wellesley Fells) when the new town public library made weekly book deliveries to the villages in the late 1880s. With the opening of the Hardy School on Weston Road in 1923, the former Unionville School, later known as the Fells School, 308 Weston Road (1858, MHC #72) across the street became available and was converted for library use. In 1926, the Fells library was turned over to the town's Library Trustees and further renovations were undertaken to establish the building as the Fells Branch Library. The Fells Branch was open about 150 days per year, for about eighteen hours per week. Long considered the heart of the Fells neighborhood, the Fells Branch Library was closed in 2006, (see page 7) and was most recently renovated in the late 1990s. [Fielden, 4; Hinchliffe, "History of the Fells Branch Library;" *Annual Town Reports*]

The Wellesley Hills Branch Library has its roots in a book exchange opened in 1912 by the Wellesley Women's Club. Wellesley Hills resident Isaac Sprague provided the Beck House on Washington Street, which he owned, to house the book exchange. Sprague was a prominent Wellesley and Boston banker and a local real estate developer, who played an active role in village improvements at Wellesley Hills in the early 20th century. Period and contemporary accounts of the

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Wellesley Hills Branch Library
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branch library's construction note that the Beck House was moved from the site instead of being demolished, but do not indicate to where the Beck House was moved. It does not appear to have been moved to a nearby location. The Women's Club secured the services of Dorothy Hopkins as the first librarian. On April 1, 1920, the town's Library Trustees assumed all responsibility for the library at Wellesley Hills. Even before the town undertook construction of the present library building in 1927, the Hills Branch Library was an important component of the town's library system. The Hills branch was open the same number of days per year (approximately 300) as the Main Library, and, at thirty-six hours per week, was open more hours than the Cedar Street and Fells branches combined. [Fielden, 5-6; Wellesley inventory; *Annual Town Reports*]

By the autumn of 1926, plans were underway for a new Wellesley Hills Branch Library, the only building in Wellesley's history to be constructed specifically for use as a branch library. Isaac Sprague, owner of the Beck House property, was chairman of the "Special Committee on Library Accommodations at Wellesley Hills." He donated the building site to the town, and the Beck House was removed prior to construction of the branch library. [Historical exhibit at Wellesley Hills Branch Library; Young]

Wellesley architect Hampton F. Shirer is listed on the 1927 building permit as the architect of the Hills Branch Library, though the plans indicate the design was based on sketches made by a fellow Wellesley architect, Ralph H. Hannaford. Hannaford was a newly elected member of the Wellesley Planning Board at the time of his death in 1926. In its annual report that year, the Planning Board paid tribute to Hannaford's accomplishments:

Mr. Hannaford was a young architect of wide experience, both theoretical and practical. He was a designer of great ability and gave promise of a brilliant future. His inspiration led in no small measure to the development of Boston College at College Heights, a monument of architecture which will be more admired as the completion of the comprehensive development is reached.

In collaboration with Paul Norton, Hannaford also was architect of the Isaac Sprague School, Oak Street (1923), and designed the Herbert C. Bancroft House, 5 Belair Road (1924, MHC #1344). No other buildings by Hannaford or Shirer have been identified in the statewide historic properties inventory. Photographs and plans of the Wellesley Hills Branch Library were published in 1928 in the trade periodical, *American Architect*. [Wellesley building permits; Historical exhibit at Wellesley Hills Branch Library; "Report of the Planning Board," *Annual Town Report*, 1926; Wellesley inventory; MHC MACRIS database]

The architectural design of the Wellesley Hills Branch Library received an honorable mention in the competition for the J. Harleston Parker Medal in 1930. The medal, established in 1921 and intended to be an annual award, was presented by the mayor of the City of Boston to the architect who, in the opinion of the Boston Society of Architects, had completed the erection of the "most beautiful piece of architecture, building, monument, or structure within the limits of the City of Boston or of the Metropolitan Parks District," generally known as Greater Boston. A report of this achievement in the local newspaper, *The Townsman*, included the observation that the Hills Branch Library was

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the first of the buildings constructed of all local stone within the town, and has since been followed by several other stone structures, both municipal and private, so that the town as a result has acquired quite a reputation for the beauty of these stone buildings.

Isaac Sprague is credited with initiating this "era of stone construction," having donated the fieldstone for the branch library, which matches the stone he donated to the town for construction of the Isaac Sprague School, Oak Street (1923, see above); the Central Fire Station, Central Street (1928, MHC #144); and the Elm Park Clock Tower (1928, MHC #919). [Stein; "Wellesley Hills library one of most beautiful;" MHC MACRIS database]

Construction of the Wellesley Hills Branch Library made use of two building products that gained widespread popularity in American architecture in the 1920s. The building's clay tile roof was known as the "Imperial" model of closed shingled tile, manufactured by Ludowici-Celadon Company and distributed locally through the E. Stanley Wires Company, Inc. of Boston. Wires was a tile manufacturer and resided at 18 Whiting Road in Wellesley. Ludowici-Celadon Company represented the 1906 merger of the Celadon Roofing Tile Company, formerly the Celadon Terra Cotta Company, organized in 1883 in upstate New York, and the Ludowici Roof Tile Company, organized in 1893 in Chicago. Ludowici's first plant in Chicago was among the largest plants producing clay roof tile in the nation. The company produced roof tiles for the World's Columbian Exhibition (1893) in Chicago. By the early 20th century, Ludowici-Celadon's principal manufacturing plant was located in New Lexington, Ohio. The entire interior of the Wellesley Hills Branch Library is California Stucco, which was distributed locally through California Products of New England, Inc., based in Cambridge. Established in 1927 as the California Stone Products Corporation in New Jersey, the company was considered "revolutionary for its time as the first stucco/plaster to contain colored pigment in its pre-packaged factory mix." The decorative bands of stucco relief at the Hills Branch Library are executed with pigmented stucco/plaster. [*The Architectural Exhibitor* (May 1929), p. 7; Ludowici web site; NPS Preservation Briefs #22]

The Wellesley Hills Branch Library opened to the public on March 20, 1928. Oak furniture, installed in the Children's Reading Room later in 1928, was a gift of the Wellesley Hills Women's Club, and a bronze tablet recording the contribution was mounted at the entrance to the wing in 1929. In their annual report of 1928, Library Trustees Chester C. Spring, Edith Dudley Cole, and T. Raymond Pierce observed:

This new building with its spaciousness, convenient arrangement, splendid equipment and general beauty, is an eloquent evidence of the advantages of modern library architecture and up-to-date facilities.

In addition to comfortable reading rooms and book retrieval services, the branch library provided display cases for exhibits, and the quality of its revolving exhibits became a hallmark of the Hills Branch Library from the 1930s onward. Coordinated principally by Mrs. Charles Gorely of Wellesley Hills, the displays drew from the private collections of the branch library's patrons, and reflected such diverse subjects as lithographs and maps of the Civil War, Victorian valentines, a collection of vintage board games, and a collection of foreign dolls in native costume. An exhibit was mounted in connection with the Bronte Centenary Meeting, including a lecture on the Brontes and their times, hosted by

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), MA

Section number 8 Page 6

the Hills Branch Library in 1946. The branch library's guest book showed that 500 visitors from Massachusetts and beyond had visited the Hills Branch Library to view the exhibit. ["Report of the Library Trustees" and "Report of the Librarian," *Annual Town Reports*, 1928-1955]

The mission of the town's libraries broadened to embrace other community interests beyond library-specific functions. The Library Trustees granted the use of the basement at the Hills Branch Library to the Wellesley Society of Artists for its classes and exhibitions, "feeling that this cultural opportunity will be of great benefit to the town." [*Annual Town Report*, 1939] The Wellesley League of Women Voters held meetings in the basement beginning in 1943. After a fire in early 1949 seriously damaged a building owned by the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church across the street, the basement of the Hills Branch Library was used temporarily for church school classes. By 1950, a proposed Great Books Discussion Group, to be held in the basement of the Hills Branch Library, had to be moved to the Fells Branch instead, as the Hills Branch basement was being used by the town's new Civil Defense agency, which required spaces for offices, radio equipment, and meetings. The demand for community gathering spaces continued, as the town librarian noted in her 1951 report to the trustees that the library is "constantly [being] asked for space in our buildings for meetings of various kinds." ["Report of the Library Trustees" and "Report of the Librarian," *Annual Town Reports*, 1939-1955]

The growth of the branch libraries, as an integral part of the public library system in Wellesley, occurred through the joint efforts of the town's Library Trustees and Kathleen A. Kennedy, Librarian of the Town of Wellesley from 1921 to 1950. During that time, the collection of the Wellesley Free Library increased from 23,000 volumes to 54,000 volumes, and the annual circulation grew from 61,000 volumes per year to 144,000 volumes per year. In the late 1930s and 1940s, the system consisted of the Main Library and three branch libraries, supplemented by book loans to schools (for use in classrooms), fire stations, and even the Cushing General Hospital in Framingham. Kennedy's successor, Margaret Arnold, supervised the library's daily operations from 1950 to 1981, an era that included the construction of a new Main Library in the late 1950s. Circulation increased dramatically by 1955, when 260,891 volumes circulated, an increase of 75.9% since 1950. This increase can be attributed to the post-World War II population boom, as well as the acquisition of the town's first bookmobile in 1951. During the period of significance, the Wellesley Hills Branch Library consistently accounted for 25-28% of the total volumes circulated in the town's library system per year. ["Report of the Library Trustees" and "Report of the Librarian," *Annual Town Reports*, 1928-1955]

In 1932 and 1933, the re-routing of Worcester Street (Route 9) to bypass the commercial district at Wellesley Hills Square adversely affected the operations of the Wellesley Hills Branch Library immediately abutting the highway construction. Grantland Road, which had crossed Worcester Street prior to the construction, was truncated, and the one-block-long segment north of Worcester Street and adjacent to the branch library became known as Grantland Road Extension. In 1949, at the suggestion of a joint committee of the town's Park Commission and the Wellesley Hills Garden Club, unhealthy trees were removed from the library parcel, and the plantings were rearranged at the main entrance. The work was performed by employees of the Park Commission under the supervision of the Garden Club. ["Report of the Library Trustees," *Annual Town Report*, 1932, 1933, 1949]

On April 13, 1959, the Town of Wellesley opened a new Main Library, located at 530 Washington Street, directly across the street from the Town Hall-Public Library building that Horatio Hollis Hunnewell had built for the town in 1883. Designed in 1956 by Carl Koch and built in 1957-1958 by Kirkland Construction, the modern facility was nationally

(continued)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), MA**

Section number 8 **Page 7**

recognized with several awards in the early 1960s for outstanding library design. By 1967, however, Frederick B. Dailey, then chairman of the Library Trustees, predicted the building would be adequate for the library's needs for only five more years. The Library Trustees asked the Wellesley Historical Society, which had occupied two rooms in the basement of the Koch building, to vacate that space; the Historical Society was relocated to the basement of the Hills Branch Library. A 15,000-square foot library addition, designed by architects Robert C. Abrahamson and Albert Anderson and built from late 1978 to 1980 by Vappi and Company, was dedicated on November 16, 1980. [Fielden, 10-11, 15, 23] The Wellesley Free Library undertook a major redevelopment of the Main Library site at the turn of the twenty-first century, when the Koch building and its addition were demolished and replaced with a new building. Best Joslin of Windsor, Connecticut designed the present Main Library, which opened in 2003.

As the Town of Wellesley evaluated the services, space requirements, and budget of the Wellesley Free Library from the late 1950s to the present, there were periodic attempts to close the Hills Branch Library and the Fells Branch Library. Most of the proposals to close the branch libraries have come during a period of evaluating library needs in anticipation of expanding the Main Library facility, or in the years immediately following such construction. In 1962, with strong support from branch patrons, the Town Meeting defeated a proposal to close the branch libraries. A consultant report on library needs, issued in February 1970, recommended closing the branches as soon as possible. An August 1970 announcement that the branches would close later in the year was met with vigorous opposition, and the decision was reversed two months later. The Friends of the Branch Libraries was organized that year to advocate for keeping the branch libraries, and in 1973 joined with the Friends of the Library (established 1954) to form the Friends of the Wellesley Free Libraries. In 1980, a Town Meeting resolution to examine the feasibility of closing one or more of the branch libraries was defeated. [Fielden, 12, 17-18, 23] In 1991, residents voted in favor of a Proposition 2½ override specifically intended for the branch libraries, due in part to the active efforts of the Committee to Save the Branches. A narrowly defeated Proposition 2½ override in 2005, which would have funded the operation of the branch libraries as well as other items of the townwide budget, threatened to close both branch libraries on June 30, 2005, the end date of the fiscal year. The Committee to Save the Branch Libraries raised over \$60,000 in private donations to fund the branch libraries for one year, while long-term funding options were explored. In July 2006 both branch libraries were closed due to a lack of funding. The Wellesley Hills branch is presently closed, although it is not vacant. Its future as a library facility is uncertain.

The Wellesley Hills Branch Library is under the jurisdiction of the Trustees of the Wellesley Free Public Library. The National Register nomination for the Wellesley Hills Branch Library is funded by a Community Preservation Act grant obtained by the Wellesley Historical Commission, with the cooperation of the Trustees of the Wellesley Free Library.

Archaeological Significance

Since little documentation is currently available for the Beck House, the potential significance of the house to the nomination is not completely known. Additional documentary research combined with archaeological testing might identify the construction date for the house and the location of potential barns, stables, carriage houses, outbuildings and occupational-related features that were potentially associated with the house. The archaeological resources described above may contribute important evidence related to Wellesley's settlement in the 19th century or earlier and information related to the lives of the house's inhabitants during the same period. Archaeological research may also identify architectural details related to the structures identified above.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), MA

Section number 9 Page 1

9. Major Bibliographical References

Town of Wellesley records (filed at Wellesley Free Library unless otherwise noted)

Building permits. Building Inspector's office, Wellesley Town Hall.

Fielden, Ruth S. *History of the Wellesley Free Library*. [Part I (1883-1953) and Part II (1953-1983)]. By the town: 1983.

"Gifts to the Town." *Annual Report of the Town Officers of Wellesley, Massachusetts*. By the town, 1956.

Historical exhibit on the Wellesley Hills Branch Library (displayed at the Wellesley Hills Branch Library). Reproductions of architectural and site plans and information on the building's architects, building committee, materials, and Parker Medal honorable mention, including:

"Proposed Location for Branch Library at Wellesley Hills, Mass." (October 15, 1926). Site plan drawn by A. Stewart Cassidy, landscape engineer. From the *Report of the Special Committee on Library Accommodation at Wellesley Hills*.

The American Architect. v. 134 (November 20, 1928), pp. 693-696.

The Architectural Exhibitor. (May 1929), p. 7.

"Wellesley Hills library one of most beautiful." *The (Wellesley) Townsman* (Friday, April 4, 1930). Newspaper report on the Parker Medal honorable mention.

"Report of the Library Trustees" and "Report of the Librarian." *Annual Report of the Town Officers of Wellesley, Massachusetts*. By the town: 1926-1955.

"Report of the Planning Board." *Annual Report of the Town Officers of Wellesley, Massachusetts*. By the town: 1926.

Wellesley Historical Commission. Wellesley historic properties inventory. Unpublished inventory forms, 1975 to the present (includes *Wellesley Residential Properties Survey*, 3 vols., June 1990).

Other research sources

Hinchliffe, Elizabeth M. *Five Pounds Currency, Three Pounds of Corn. Wellesley's Centennial Story*. Town of Wellesley, 1981.

"Ludowici Roof Tile. A Historical Perspective." Via www.ludowicrooftile.com/literaturepdf/HISTORY. 2005.

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), MA

Section number 9 Page 2

Massachusetts Historical Commission. "Reconnaissance survey report: Wellesley." Unpublished manuscript. January 1980.

----- Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS). Buildings designed by Ralph Hannaford and/or Hampton F. Shirer. 2005.

National Park Service. Technical Preservation Services. *Preservation Briefs #22. The Preservation and Repair of Historic Stucco* (October 1990). Via www.cr.nps.gov/hps/tps/briefs/briefs22. 2005.

Stein, Jeffrey, AIA. "The most beautiful building. J. Harleston Parker and his medal." *ArchitectureBoston* (Spring 2000), pp. 28-31.

Wellesley Free Library. "History of the Hills Branch Library" and "History of the Fells Branch Library." Edited and updated from original 1990s histories by Elizabeth Hinchliffe. Via www.wellesleyfreelibrary.org. 2005.

Wellesley Historical Society. *The Wellesley Post Card Album*. Wellesley: The Wellesley Historical Society, 1999.

Young, George. "It's happy 50th birthday to Hills branch library." *The Wellesley Townsman*. Aug. 18, 1977.

(end)

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Name of Property

Norfolk, Massachusetts
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreege of Property less than one acre

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1	19	312810	4687000	3.			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
2.				4.			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		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 Kathleen Kelly Broomer, Preservation Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date April 2007

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 Wellesley/Wellesley Free Library

street & number 525 Washington Street telephone (781) 431-1019

city or town Wellesley state MA zip code 02482

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. NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018 (Rev. 10-90)

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), MA**

Section number 10 Page 1

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundary of the nominated property is shown on the accompanying Town of Wellesley assessors' maps.

Boundary Justification

The boundary encompasses the parcel continuously associated with the Wellesley Hills Branch Library since its construction in 1927.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), MA

Section number photos Page 1

Additional Documentation – Photographs

Historic Name: Wellesley Hills Branch Library
Location: 210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills (Wellesley), MA
Photographer: Kathleen Kelly Broomer
Date: June 2005
Location of Negatives: Wellesley Historical Commission, Town of Wellesley

- | | |
|----------|---|
| Photo 1 | View southeast, showing main block, Washington Street elevation. |
| Photo 2 | View southeast, showing sweeping roof detail of Washington Street façade. |
| Photo 3 | Interior view to northeast, showing Adults' Reading Room as viewed from mezzanine. |
| Photo 4 | Interior view to southeast, showing Children's Reading Room. |
| Photo 5 | Interior view to southwest, showing book delivery desk and mezzanine above. |
| Photo 6 | Detail view of fireplace nook (story alcove) in Children's Reading Room. |
| Photo 7 | View south, detail of front entrance on Washington Street façade. |
| Photo 8 | View north, detail of west elevation and cupola. |
| Photo 9 | View northwest, rear elevation from Worcester Street/Route 9 exit ramp. |
| Photo 10 | View west, detail of patio on rear elevation. |
| Photo 11 | Interior view of entry hall. |
| Photo 12 | Interior view to southeast, showing Children's Reading Room and book delivery desk from entry area. |
| Photo 13 | Interior view of furniture in Children's Reading Room. |
| Photo 14 | Interior view of scalloped aprons on built-in benches, Adults' Reading Room. |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Wellesley Hills Branch Library

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

DATE RECEIVED: 5/04/07 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/21/07
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/05/07 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/17/07
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 07000546

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 6.12.07 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

**Entered in the
National Register**

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



WELLESLEY FREE LIBRARY
1888

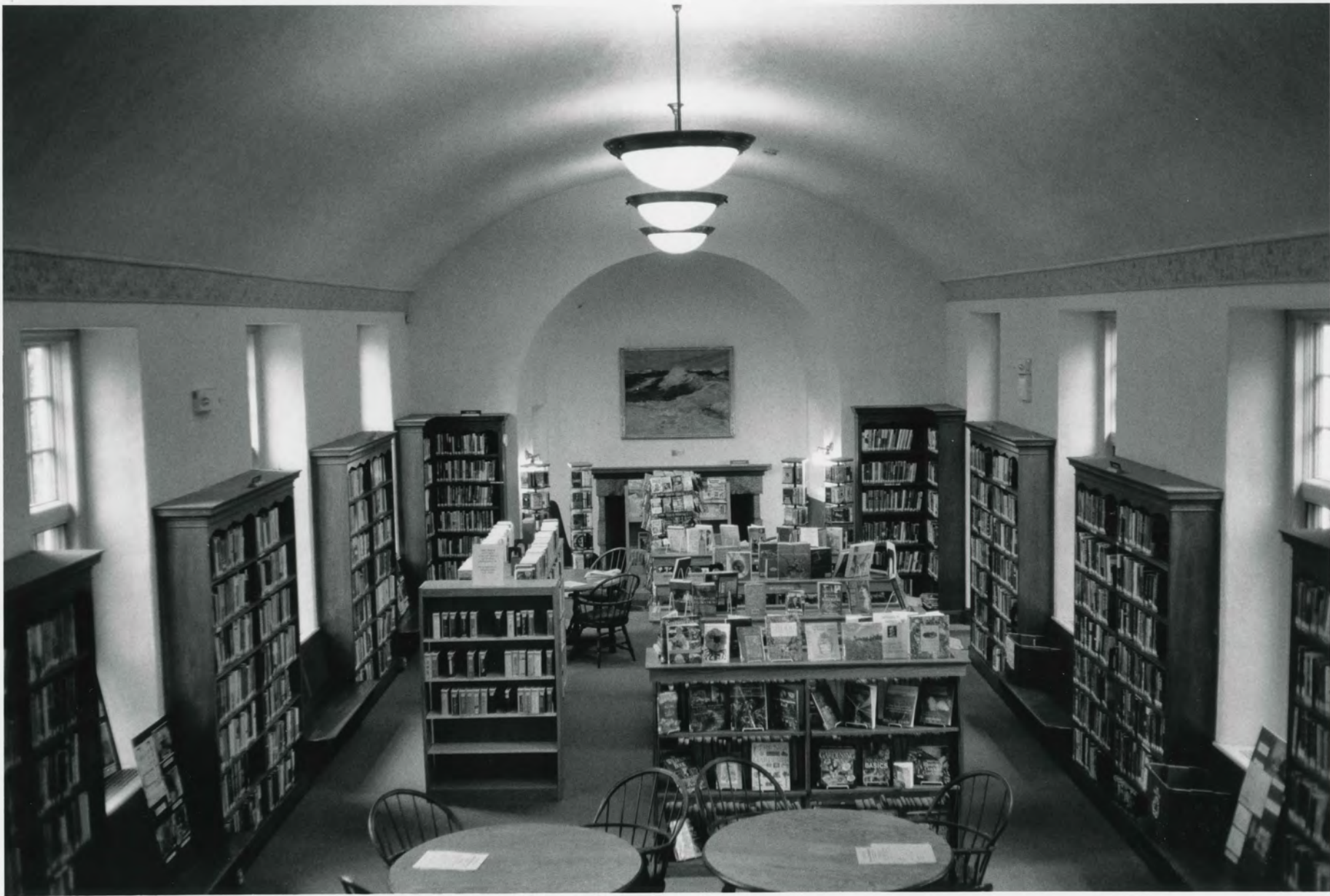
Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Photo 1



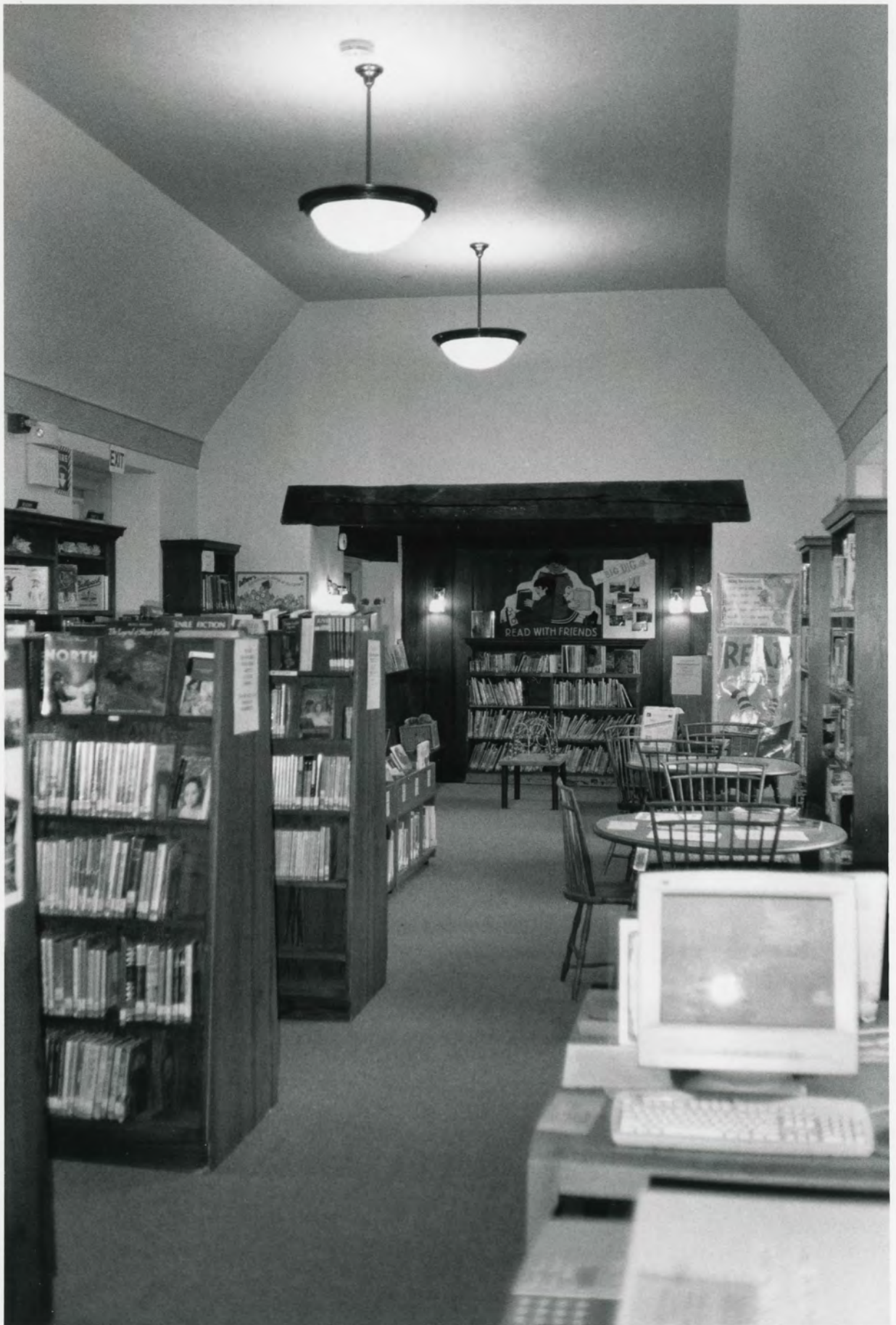
Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Photo 2



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Photo 3



Wellesley Hills Branch library
210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Photo 4



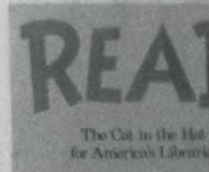
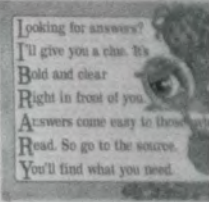
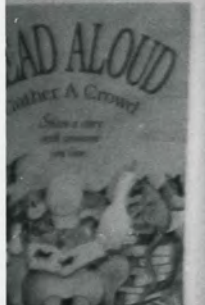
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Treasurer: Save the Branches Committee
Send to: 35 Larch Road, Andover, MA 02422

Wellesley Hills Brandt Library
210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Photo 5



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street, Wellesley Hills
Wellesley (Norfolk Co.), Mass.

Photo 6



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street,
Wellesley Hills

Wellesley, Mass.

Detail, front entrance
(Washington Street elevation)

Views

Summer 2005

Photo 7

I/22



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills
Wellesley Mass.

Detail
West elevation
View N

Summer 2005

Photo 8

I/19



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills
Wellesley, Mass.

Rear (south) elevation from Route 9 exit ramp

View NW

Summer 2005

Photo 9

I/20



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills
Wellesley, MA

Patio

Summer 2005

Photo 10

I/21

EXIT



EXIT



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street
Wellesley (Wellesley Hills), Mass.

Detail, entry hall
Photo 11
Summer 2005



Wellesley Hills Branch Library

210 Washington Street

Wellesley (Wellesley Hills), Mass.

Children's Reading Room

from Delivery Desk/entry area

View SE

2005 CAK

JUNE 2005 CAK

JUNE 2005 CAK

JUNE 2005

Summer 2005

Photo 12

II/6



Letting the answer
To all the questions
That are asked
Is the best way
To learn to read
A book is the key
To the world of knowledge
That is in the words
You find when you read

READ



The Cat in the Hat
on Reading to Children

Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street
Wellesley (Wellesley Hills)

Children's Reading Room

Summer 2005

JUNE 2005 CAK

JUNE 2005 CAK

JUNE 2005 CAK

Photo 13

II/10



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
210 Washington Street
Wellesley (Wellesley Hills), MA

Detailing of built-in seats,
Adult reading room

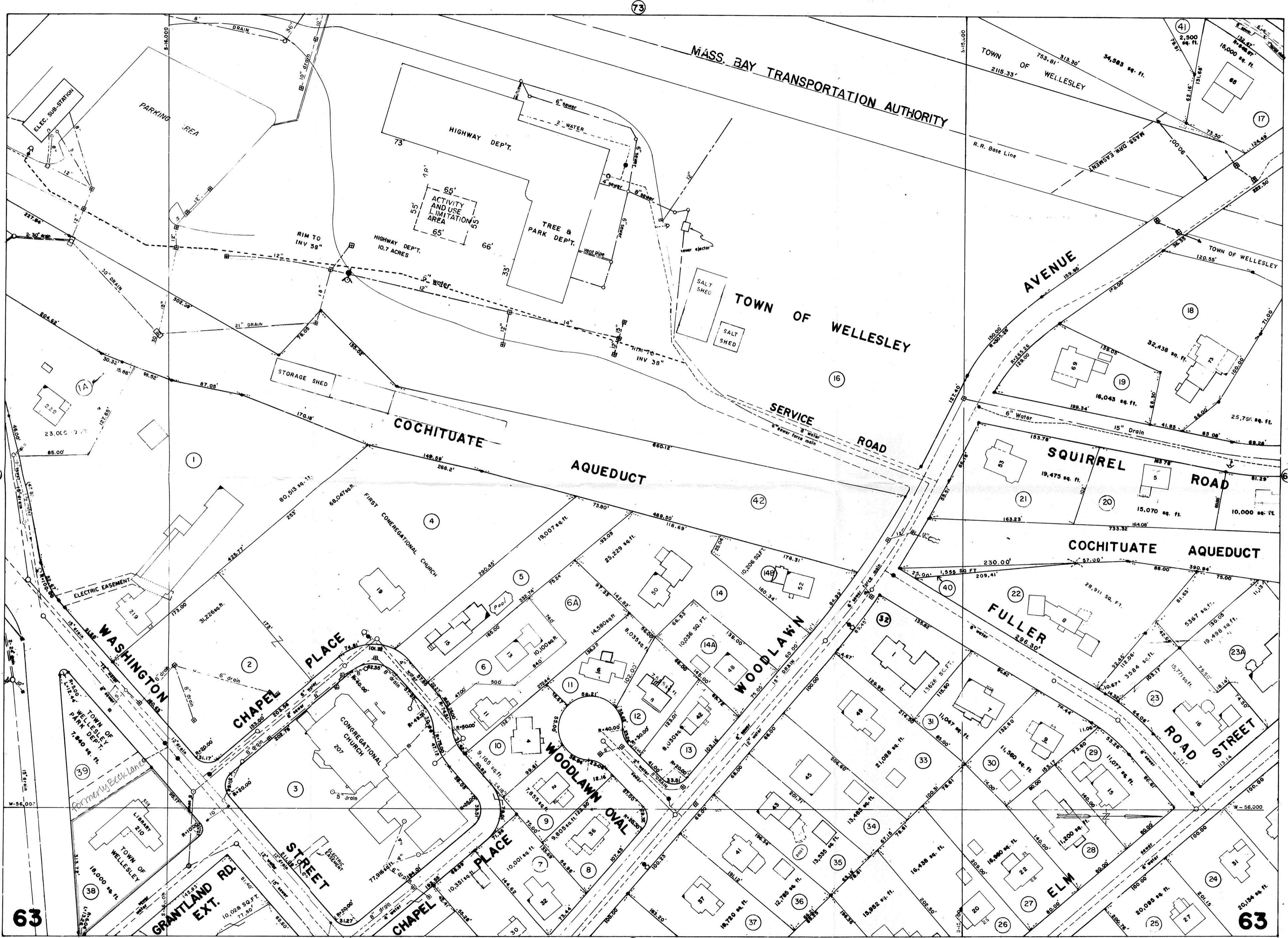
Summer 2005

JUNE 2005 GAK

JUNE 2005 GAK

PHOTO 14

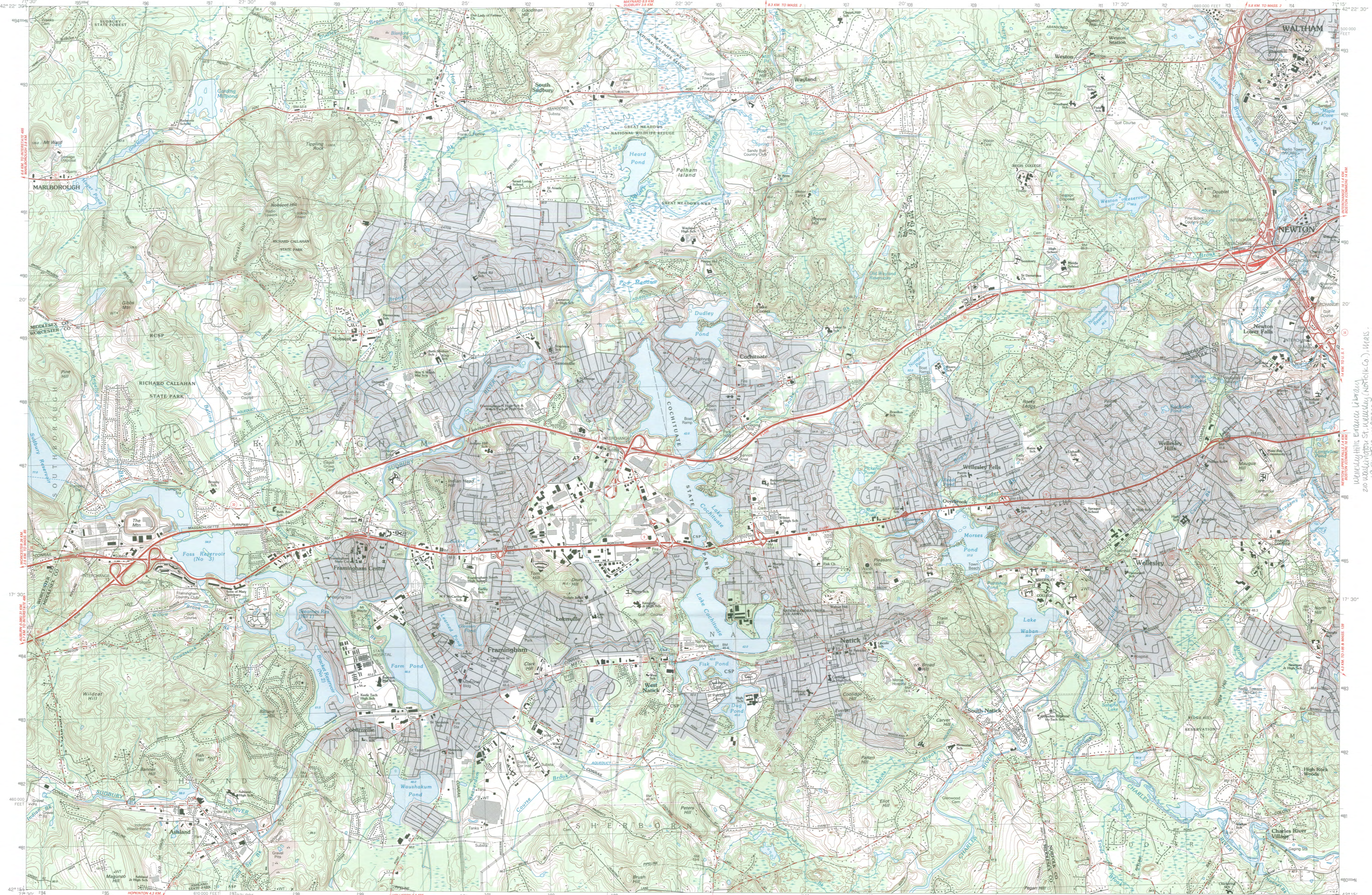
II/18



Wellesley Hills Branch Library
 210 Washington St, Wellesley Hills
 Wellesley, Norfolk Co., Mass.
 Wellesley Assessors Maps
 Map 63 Parcel 38
 80 scale August 2004

FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

7.5 X 15 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)



Framingham MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



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1987

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978 and 1981. Field checked 1979 and 1982. Map edited 1987. Supersedes Framingham 1979 and Natick 1970 1:25,000-scale maps

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19 Universal Transverse Mercator 10,000-foot grid ticks: Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone

1927 North American Datum To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929 CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet	DECLINATION DIAGRAM	ADJOINING MAPS
1	3.2808		1 Hudson
2	6.5617		2 Maynard
3	9.8425		3 Boston North
4	13.1234		4 Marlborough
5	16.4042		5 Boston South
6	19.6850		6 Medford
7	22.9659		7 Needham
8	26.2467		8 Norwood
9	29.5275		
10	32.8084		

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808 To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1983 magnetic declination (M) at center of map Diagram is approximate

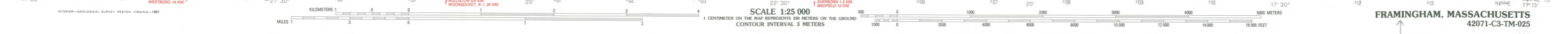
ISBN 0-607-23455-5 9 780607 234558

Topographic Map Symbols

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, trail
- Route marker: Interstate, U. S., State
- Railroad: standard gage, narrow gage
- Bridge: drawbridge
- Footbridge, overpass, underpass
- Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House, barn, church, school, large structure
- Boundary:
 - National, with monument
 - State
 - County, parish
 - Civil township, precinct, district
 - Incorporated city, village, town
 - National or State reservation, small park
 - Land grant with monument, forest section center
 - U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section
 - Range, township, section line: location approximate
 - Fence or field line
 - Power transmission line, located tower
 - Dam; dam with lock
 - Cemetery; grave
 - Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument
 - Wellhead; water well; spring
 - Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave
 - Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
 - Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
 - Disrupted surface: strip mine, levee, sand
 - Bathymetric contours: index; intermediate
 - Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
 - Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small
 - Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp
 - Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
 - Sand; mangrove

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY P. O. BOX 23286, DENVER, COLORADO 80225

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request



FRAMINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 42071-C3-TM-025

1987





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



May 3, 2007

Mr. J. Paul Loether, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Wellesley Hills Branch Library, Wellesley (Norfolk), 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.

One letter of support has been received.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Kathleen Kelly Broome, consultant
Linda Buffum, Wellesley Historical Commission
Katherine L. Babson, Jr., Chair, Board of Selectmen
Rick Brown, Planning Director

TOWN OF WELLESLEY



MASSACHUSETTS

*NR file p.1
W. Hills Branch Lib*

SEP 11 2006

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TOWN HALL • 525 WASHINGTON STREET • WELLESLEY, MA 02482-5992

MASS. HIST. COMM

KATHERINE L. BABSON JR., CHAIRMAN
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HANS LARSEN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GENERAL GOVERNMENT

September 8, 2006

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA. 02125

Dear Commission Members,

The Wellesley Board of Selectmen would like to inform your Commission that despite the recent closing of the Wellesley Hills Branch Library due to budget issues, we fully support the nomination of this building to the National Register of Historic Places. This lovely little building, designed in 1927, is a treasure in our town and this distinction is one we would be proud to have bestowed upon it. This building was the first building constructed to be used as a branch library in our community.

At your request, we are also, for the record, fully in support of the Clock Tower/Elm Park nomination jointly submitted by the Wellesley Historical Commission and the Wellesley Natural Resources Commission.

We look forward to the spring of 2007 when we understand these nominations should be on the State agenda for review.

Very truly yours,

Katherine L. Babson, Jr.

Katherine L. Babson, Jr., Chairman

KLB:adh