

1512

FORM B - BUILDING

AUG 21 1989

AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

NATIONAL
REGISTER

Town

WALTHAM, MA MRA
Waltham, Massachusetts

Address 785 Trapelo RoadHistoric Name William WellingtonHouseUse Present private residenceOriginal private residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca 1779Source Sanderson, "The Wellington Farm"Style GeorgianArchitect UNKNOWNExterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings attached agricultural
buildings.

Major Alterations (with dates) ar
and side additions (n.d), small
window added to east elev. 1919-1902

Condition goodMoved no - Date n/a

Acreage less than one acre 15-1-17
on grounds Middlesex Co. Hosp

Setting retains pre-20th centuryrural character with mature trees,old stone wall.UTM REFERENCE 19/317280 / 4697100USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTONSCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Edward W. GordonOrganization Waltham Historical Comm.Date June, 1986

revised C. Jenkins: 2/88

Photo (3"x 3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north

see attached sheet

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Wellington Farm House is Waltham's finest example of Georgian vernacular architecture. Built c.1779, it housed members of the Wellington family until the early 1900's. The Wellingtons figured prominently in the civic affairs of the Trapelo Rd. area and Waltham during the 18th and 19th centuries. The Wellington Farm House possesses integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

The Wellington Farmhouse at 735 Trapelo Road is Waltham's most substantial and stylish Georgian House. Situated on the tree shaded, fieldstone wall bordered grounds of the Middlesex County Hospital, this house retains a high degree of its original rural character. The 5 bay x 3 bay main block is clad with clapboard. The center entrance features a multi-panel front door, and is flanked by well-crafted Doric pilasters. It is surmounted by an entablature and full pediment. In general, windows are fully enframed by raised mouldings with cornice headed lintels, and contain 12/12 wood sash. Narrow boards accent the main block's corners. The east wall features a secondary entrance with a multi-panel front door surmounted by a pedimented entablature. Above the door is a 4-pane transom and flanking the door are Doric pilasters. To the right of the east entrance is a small

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

The William Wellington House dates to c. 1789. It has significant historical associations with Trapelo's and Waltham's prominent Wellington family. The high quality craftsmanship and design of this house attests to the presence of skilled housewrights in Waltham during the late 18th century.

As early as 1636, Roger Wellington was granted land in Watertown. According to Sanderson, his first home was in the extreme eastern part of the town and is now mostly included in Mount Auburn cemetery. In 1659, he bought a house and 12 acres of land in the northern part of the town now in Belmont. His extensive landholdings encompassed between 250-300 acres in Cambridge and Watertown. Roger Wellington died in 1697-98. The first Wellington directly associated with the Trapelo Rd. area was Roger's son Joseph. According to Sanderson, his house was on the south side of Trapelo Road near the north east corner of the land now owned by the Walter E. Fernald State School. Joseph's son Thomas purchased part of what would become the Wellington Farm at 735 Trapelo Road in 1718. Thomas Wellington Jr. operated a tavern on or near this property during the mid 18th century. The farm was willed to his son William. He had married Mary Whitney in 1764 and bought her father's farm in 1777. According to Sanderson, he build #735 Trapelo Road.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps/Atlases: 1830, 1854, 1874, 1886, 1911, 1923
Collection of Waltham Public Library, "Farming in Waltham", var. authors, (nd)8/85
Sanderson, Edmund L. Waltham, 1630-1884, Edmund L. Sanderson, 1936
Hipkiss, Edward W., "Early American Domestic Architecture - The Wellington House near Waltham, Massachusetts" (with measured drawings), Architectural Forum, September, 1920.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, 735 Trapelo Road, continued

bay window which dates to the late 1890's/early 1900's. Projecting from the west wall is a colonial Revival porch addition. To the rear of this building is an ell of undetermined date. The main block is enclosed by low a hip roof with substantial brick chimneys rising from the east and west roof slopes.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, continued

about 1789. It is interesting to note that both William and his father, Thomas Wellington Jr. took part in the April 19th battle at Lexington and Concord.

William Wellington was prominent in Waltham Civic affairs. He served as selectman for seventeen years. He bought many parcels of land in different parts of Waltham and Lexington. He may have carried on the inn business of his father and grandfather in this house, as he is listed as a victualer in an early deed. His brothers Thomas and Samuel, and son William, were also innholders. He died in 1813 - his son Abraham was awarded the "Grandfather Wellington Homestead (i.e. that of Thomas Wellington). Eventually Darius Wellington, youngest brother of Abraham, owned the entire property and carried on the farm. Darius supplemented his income by shooting robins in a cherry orchard behind the house, selling them to the hotels of Boston where they were considered a great delicacy. Darius' son Charles Lowell Wellington was the last of the family to own the whole property, selling about 1903 to John C. Runkel of Cambridge. Mr. Runkel rented out parts of the property to Louis Dean of Dean Dairy (cows and pigs were raised here during the Dean years)

When the county decided to build its tuberculosis hospital in Waltham's Tupelo district in 1930, they took a large portion of the Wellington Farm by eminent domain. A large portion of the property to the south of Trapelo Road and a small parcel in Woburn Street remained under Runkel ownership and was farmed by Phillip Ordile. Mr. Runkel died in the early 1960's. Late 19th century maps indicate that the Wellington Farm once had more extensive eastern-end building segments, including a large barn and 2-story west wing. This house is now occupied by the Superintendent of the Middlesex County Sanatorium.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Wellington House has been part of the Middlesex County Hospital grounds since the 1930s. Because the hospital does not relate to the historical and architectural significance of the house the bounds of this nomination are confined to the house itself and to the land within 25' of its perimeter.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 21 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

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

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

91. Waltham Gas and Electric Company
-
- Generating Plant

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

92. Waltham High School

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

93. Waltham Water Works Shop

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

94. Warren, Nathan, House

Substantive Review

for Keeper Barth S. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

95. Wellington, Benjamin, House

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

96. Wellington, William, House

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

97. Wellington--Castner House

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

98. Wetherbee House

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

99. White, Warren, House

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

100. Whitney--Farrington--Cook House

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Shelous Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Wellington, William, House
NAME:

MULTIPLE Waltham MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

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

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001512

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 9/28/89 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

___summary paragraph
___completeness
___clarity
___applicable criteria
___justification of areas checked
___relating significance to the resource
___context
___relationship of integrity to significance
___justification of exception
___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



© STEVEN GYURINA

Wellington, William, Hise

785 TRAPLO RD.

MAC 165

Waltham, MA MRA



785 Trapelo Rd.

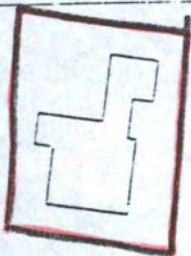
#165

Waltham, MA MRA

Wellington, William, Heise

P/O 15-1-17
County of Middlesex

1



TRAPELO

City of Waltham
Fire Station

WALTHAM, MA MRA

William Wellington House #165
785 Trapelo Road
1" = 100'
1975; updated to 1987
Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #15-1-17



P/O 25-1-1

TEMPLE

RD.

SHERWOOD

LA.

6

MOBURN

257(s)

146.0

192.42

ST.

158.16

100

74

96

17

14

13

12

11

10

9

8

7

6

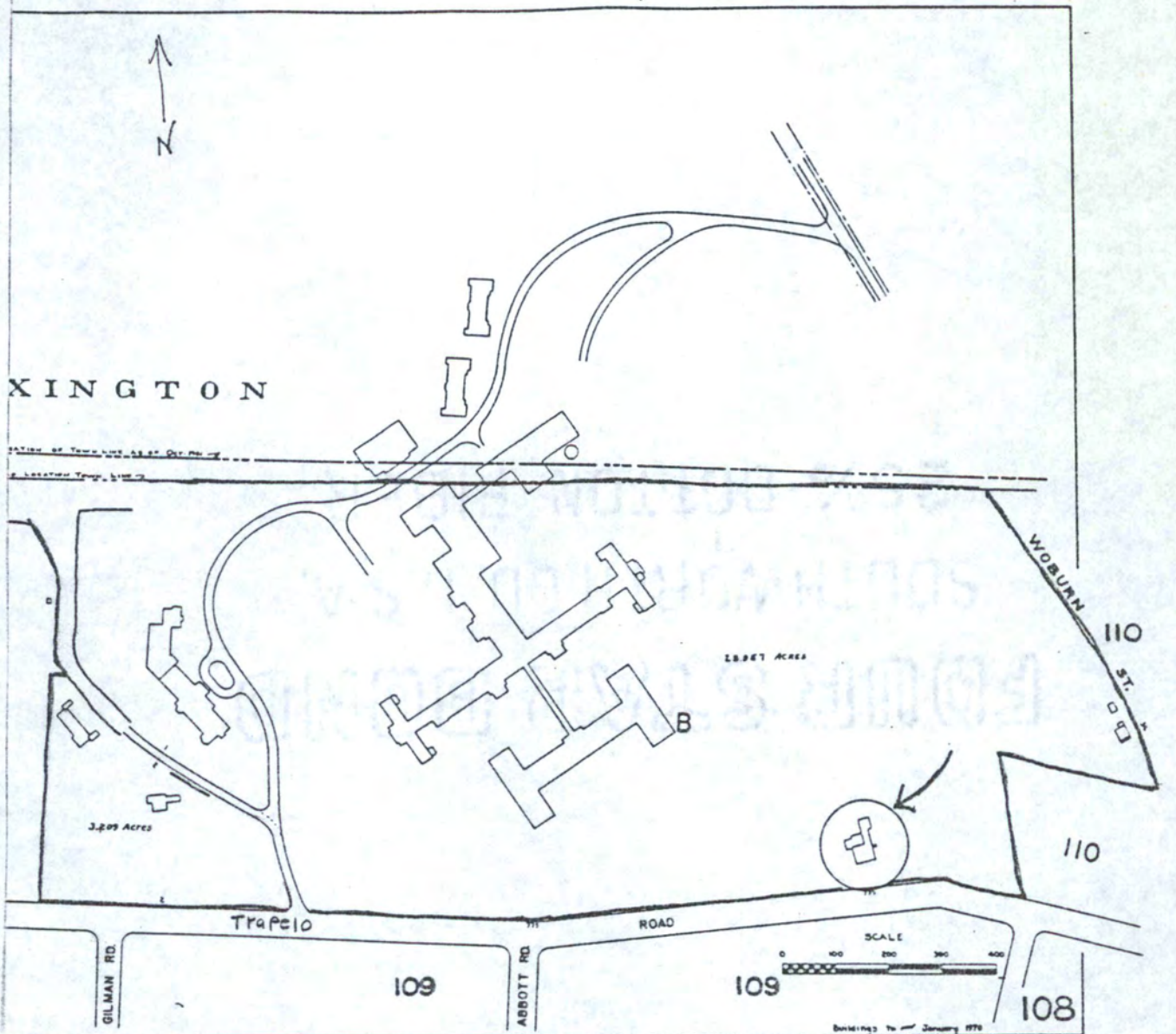
5

4

3

2

1



1970 Atlas, City of Waltham
 Compiled by the Waltham
 Engineering Division
 Scale: 1 inch = 200'

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA
 785 Trapelo Road
 William Wellington House
 108-A-2 MHC #165

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301