

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 07 1975

DATE ENTERED

APR 18 1975

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Captain John Cabot House

AND/OR COMMON

Cabot House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 117 Cabot Street

CITY, TOWN

Beverly

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

6th

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

023

Essex COUNTY

CODE

009

3 CLASSIFICATION**CATEGORY**☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT**OWNERSHIP**☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED**STATUS**☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS**ACCESSIBLE**☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO**PRESENT USE**☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☒ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☒ MUSEUM☐ PARK☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER:**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Beverly Historical Society

STREET & NUMBER

117 Cabot Street

CITY, TOWN

Beverly

VICINITY OF

Massachusetts

STATE

01915

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Essex South Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Federal Street

CITY, TOWN

Salem

Massachusetts

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1974

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

Massachusetts

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT
☒ GOOD
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☒ UNALTERED
☐ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE
☐ MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Cabot House, c. 1781, is located on the edge of Beverly's uptown business district facing the main road, Cabot Street, and is bounded by Central Street and Franklin Place. The fenced and landscaped backyard blends with other period homes in the area.

This elegant Federal mansion, five bays wide, is built of brick which was made a few blocks away. It has a hip roof with interior chimneys. The house foundation and entrance steps are granite. The main frame of the house is made of hand hewn 13" x 15" pegged oak members; the 4" x 6" studding is tenoned into the main frame at 12" intervals, and the bracing is morticed and tenoned into the major uprights. There is also a solid brick wall running through the middle of the cellar parallel with the front of the building.

The building is essentially unaltered on the exterior. In 1802, the present two story wooden ell was added to the back of the building. The ell has a gabled roof and is two bays deep, three bays wide.

The elegant roof entablature consists of Greek fretwork topped by large dentils. The front entrance portico is supported by two Ionic columns and has Greek fretwork and dentils running along the porch cornice. The eight-panelled door is flanked by fluted pilasters and topped by a transom and has full-length sidelights which illuminate the classic hall and stairway of the main entrance. All of the facade windows and the windows of the other elevations are topped by skewback brick lintels.

The interior, which has remained intact, has a conventional floor plan consisting of a central hall with double staircase and four rooms per floor. The interior ornamentation is of the "old English Battangley style with heavy, wide, thick architraves, with windows and door heads, solid wainscotting with a heavy base and impost molding, very elaborate mantels with solid panelling above and returned on the chimney breast at the sides." The sitting room fireplace has the original delft tiles in place. Cornice mouldings and chair-rails throughout the house are Chinese influenced, combining scroll, cross, fluted and dentil carving. The stairways are box-panelled and the hall panelling is museum quality.

1. Beverly Citizen, August 3, 1886.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☒ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☐ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☒ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1781

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

On the east side of Cabot Street, surrounded by houses of the same period, stands the magnificent home of Captain John Cabot, one of Beverly's most successful merchants. The 1781 house is architecturally significant not only because it is one of the few remaining mansions of this period which has not been greatly altered, but because it was the first brick mansion built in Beverly. All of the elegant exterior wood and brick work have been preserved, and the interior has been cited by numerous architects who have visited it as one which deserves national recognition and protection.

Historically, the house is significant because Captain John Cabot and his brothers were involved in state politics. John represented the town in the General Court in 1792 and in 1796 was nominated as a candidate for representative to Congress but declined the honor.

Captain Cabot started on a commercial career in Salem, in partnership with his father, after he graduated from Harvard College in 1763. His father died four years later and the following year (1768) Captain John, his mother and his siblings moved to Beverly. John Cabot lived in the house in Beverly built by his mother in 1773 (on the corner of Cabot and Central Streets) until her death in 1781. At that time Captain Cabot built the Cabot House, across the street from his mother's house. In 1802 he sold the house he had built, but leased the southern half for seven years. He moved to Boston c. 1809 and died there in 1821.

Cabot was a prominent merchant in Beverly and for many years was in partnership with his brother, Andrew Cabot. In addition to large foreign and domestic commercial operations, they, together with their brother George, took out Letters of Marque and engaged in privateering on an extensive scale, forming the large importing house of J. & A. Cabot which made Spanish trade its specialty. Captain Cabot was also one of the founders of the First Cotton Manufactory in 1788 which was formed in Beverly.

President George Washington visited the mill in 1789 and recorded an account of that visit in his diary. Captain Cabot was also one of a corporation of five to support the building of the bridge between Beverly and Salem in 1789. With his extraordinary spirit of enterprise and fine business mind, Captain Cabot was a major contributor to the mercantile development of Beverly.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Briggs, L. Vernon, Cabot History and Genealogy 1475-1927
Kilham, Henrietta B., "Cabot-Lee-Kilham House, Beverly, Mass. and Those who lived in it", Old Time New England SPNEA, April 1925, Vol. XV Number 4
Beverly Historical Society original documents

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre *UTM OK*

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 345620 4711870
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C

D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christine Boulding, Assistant Survey Director and Beverly C. Carlman

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

March 1975

STREET & NUMBER

40 Beacon Street

TELEPHONE

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

Elizabeth R. Amador

TITLE

Mass. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

March 26, 1975

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE

4/16/75

ATTEST:

DATE

APR 14 1975

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property Cabot, Capt. John, House
State Mass. Working Number 4.7.75.615

Dukes
Ref # 75000246

TECHNICAL

Photos 1
Maps 1

CONTROL

OK pl
4.9.75

HISTORIAN

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*I doubt the "unaltered"
condition of dom architeures*

Accept
LeBouvier
4-11-75

ARCHEOLOGIST

Accept
M. Baines
10 Apr 75

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
4-11-75

BRANCH CHIEF

Accept
Wingo
4.11.75

KEEPER

[Signature]

National Register Write-up _____

Federal Register Entry _____

6-3-75

Send-back _____

Re-submit _____

Entered _____

APR 16 1975

INT:2108-74



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED APR 07 1975

DATE ENTERED APR 16 1975

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Captain John Cabot House

AND/OR COMMON

Cabot House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Beverly

VICINITY OF

COUNTY Essex

STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT

Alexis Ushakoff Jr.

DATE OF PHOTO

1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT

Cabot House, Beverly Historical Society

4 IDENTIFICATION

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

PHOTO NO. 1

east facade

#1081

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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

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

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Captain John Cabot House

AND/OR COMMON

Cabot House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Beverly

____ VICINITY OF

COUNTY

Essex

STATE

MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

United States Geological Survey, Salem, Mass quadrangle

SCALE

1:24,000

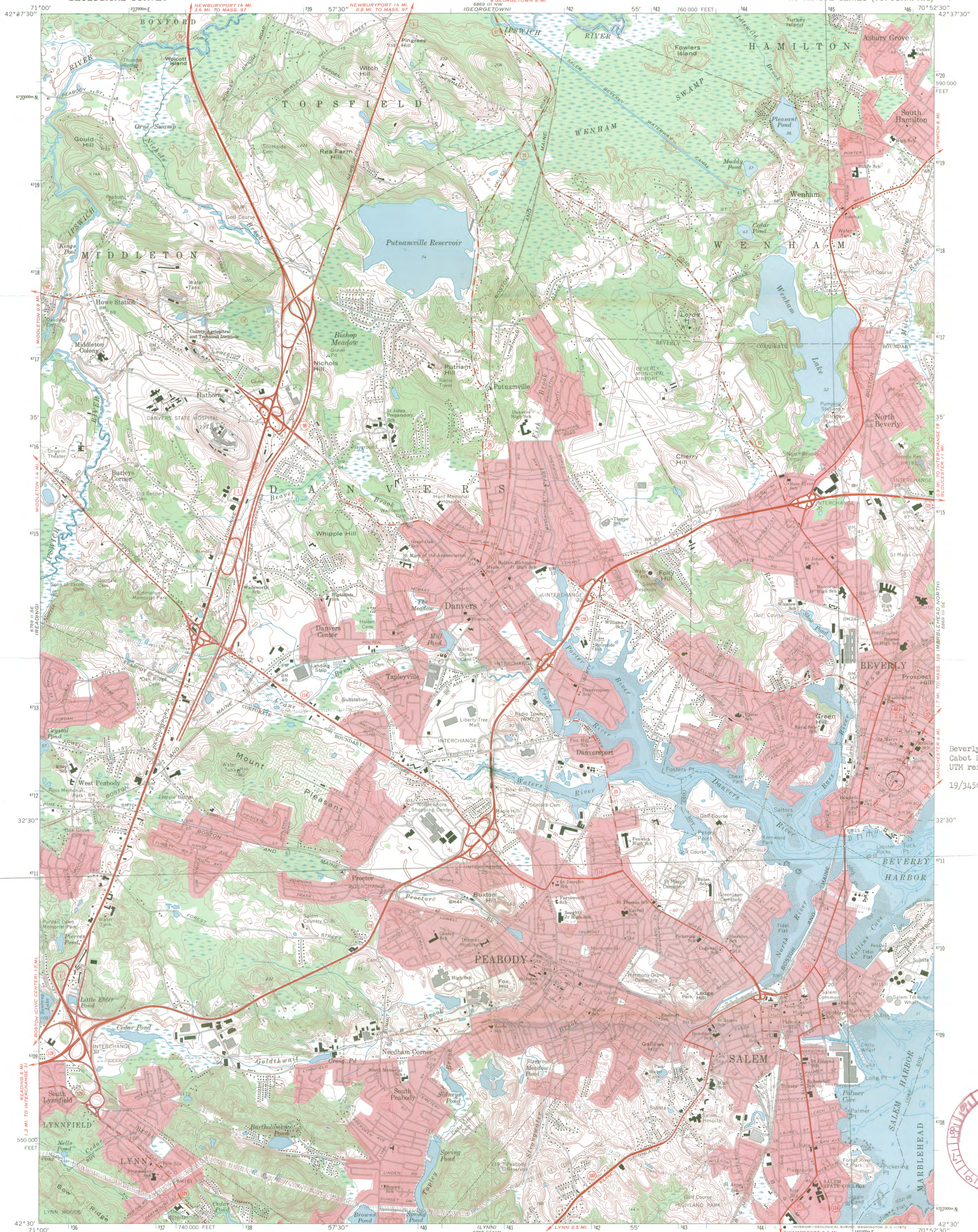
DATE

1970

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

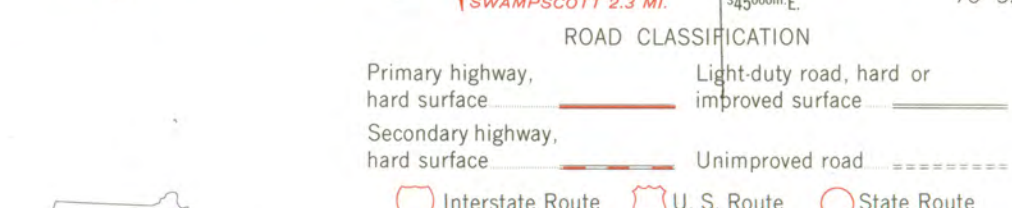
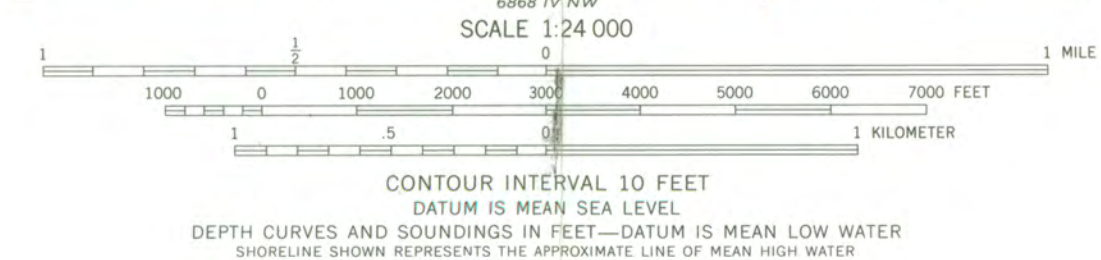
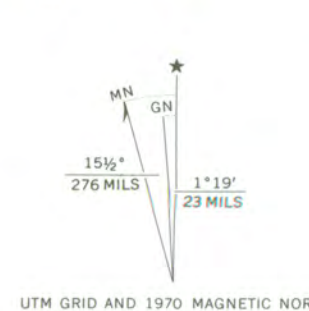
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



Beverly, Captain John
Cabot House
UTM reference:
19/345620/4711870



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1938. Topography by planimetric surveys 1942
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 240 and
241 (1970). This information is not intended
for navigational purposes.
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Boundaries in tidalwater areas from information supplied
by Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



SALEM, MASS.
N4230—W7052.5/7.5

1970

AMS 6869 III SW—SERIES V814

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered PR 16 84

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cabot, Captain John, House	Beverly Essex County
Day, Josiah, House	West Springfield Hampden County
Hall, Isaac, House	Medford Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy	State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. Edward W. Brooke	Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon, Executive Director
Hon. Michael J. Harrington	Massachusetts Historical Commission
Hon. Silvio O. Conte	40 Beacon Street
Hon. Torbert H. MacDonald	Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Regional Director, North Atlantic

Region

PR

MMott/cha

4-21-75

FEDERAL ASSISTANCE		2. APPLICANT'S APPLICATION	3. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER	4. NUMBER
1. TYPE OF ACTION ☐ PREAPPLICATION ☒ APPLICATION (Mark appropriate box) ☐ NOTIFICATION OF INTENT (Opt.) ☐ REPORT OF FEDERAL ACTION	5. FEDERAL EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO. 046-002-284	6. PRO-GRAM (From Federal Catalog)	7. TITLE Historic Preservation	8. TYPE OF APPLICANT/RECIPIENT A-State B-Interstate C-Substate D-District E-City F-School District G-Special Purpose District H-Community Action Agency I-Higher Educational Institution J-Indian Tribe K-Other (Specify):
9. TYPE OF ASSISTANCE A-Basic Grant B-Supplemental Grant C-Loan D-Insurance E-Other Enter appropriate letter(s) ☐ A ☐	10. TYPE OF APPLICATION A-New B-Renewal C-Revision D-Continuation E-Augmentation Enter appropriate letter ☐ A	11. TYPE OF CHANGE (For 15c or 15d) A-Increase Dollars B-Decrease Dollars C-Increase Duration D-Decrease Duration E-Cancellation Enter appropriate letter(s) ☐ ☐ ☐	12. EXISTING FEDERAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER 25-76-00330-00	13. REMARKS ADDED ☐ Yes ☒ No
14. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION	15. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 OFFICIAL (Name and telephone no.) same as 35	16. FEDERAL AGENCY A-95 ACTION		
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NR Data Sheet

DATE: 3/18/77
 Reviewer INITIALS: *goff*
 NR DOE April 16, 1975

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Cabot, Captain John, House

OTHER NAMES: Cabot House MA (sec)

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 117 Cabot Street

CITY, TOWN Beverly

STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6th

COUNTY Essex code 009

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR

Substantially intact-1
 unknown - 4
 not applicable - 7

EXTERIOR

Substantially intact-2
 unknown - 5
 not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS

Substantially intact-3
 unknown - 6
 Not applicable-9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED
 Unexcavated

UNALTERED
 ALTERED
 Reconstructed
 Excavated

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED
 Unknown

ACCESS Yes-restricted

Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district?

YES

NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK?

YES

NO

IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE:

YES

NO

Saved?

YES

NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then-

private residence

now-

museum

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC

ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC

AGRICULTURE

ARCHITECTURE

ART

COMMERCE

COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION

ECONOMICS

EDUCATION

ENGINEERING

EXPLORATION

INDUSTRY

INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

LAW/Gov't/politics

LITERATURE

MILITARY

MUSIC

PHILOSOPHY

POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION

SCIENCE

SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN

TRANSPORTATION

OTHER (SPECIFY)

entertainment

health

recreation

settlement

socio/cultural

urban & commun

planning

Claims

"first" YES

NO

"oldest" YES

NO

"only" YES

NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: GEORGIAN

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

personal

(label role

&

appropriate date)

events

institutional

✓ DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1781

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: 1802

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): 1792

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

less than one

✓ COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

BRICK, GRANITE FOUNDATION; 3 STORIES, SQUARE WITH PEAK ^{2-story} FRAME ELL.

TRUNCATED HIPPED ROOF, INTERIOR SIDE CHIMNEYS, FRONT CENTER RECESSED

PANELED ENTRANCE WITH TRANSOM AND SIDELIGHTS, ARTICULATED BY 1-STORY DISTAL

IONIC PORCH WITH LETTERED FRIEZE, ^{PROJECTING 1-story BAY} SIDE ENTRANCE VESTIBULE WITH PANELED

DOOR, ~~SIDE LIGHTS AND DORIC PILASTERS~~, BRICK BELT COURSES, DENTICULATED

CORNICE; REFINED INTERIOR WOODWORK; ~~2-STORY GABLED ELL~~ ADDED, 1802. ²

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

GEORGIAN. FIRST BRICK HOUSE BUILT IN BEVERLY; BUILT FOR CAPTAIN ¹

² JOHN CAROT, PROMINENT MERCHANT AND FOUNDER OF THE FIRST COTTON MANUFACTORY (1788).