

1567

AREA	FORM NO.
	127

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

AUG 21 1989  
NATIONAL REGISTER

WALTHAM, MA MRA  
Town Waltham, Massachusetts

Address 211 Hammond Stret

Historic Name Lord's Castle

Use Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date 1886

Source The Waltham Sentinel

Style late 19th C. eclectic

Architect Rufus E. Lord

Exterior Wall Fabric Perth Amboy  
brick and fieldstone

Outbuildings - none

Pool no structure

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition good

Moved no - Date - n/a

Acreage 15,544 sq.ft. 0.4A 50-14-21

Setting Prominently sited on ample

corner lot in neighborhood of 1890's -

1930's suburban houses. It is bounded

on 2 sides by <sup>W</sup>weeping curve of Lord  
and Hammond Street.

Recorded by Edward W. Gordon

Organization Waltham Hist. Comm.

Date June, 1986

revised by C. Jenkins 3/88

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

UTM REFERENCE 19/315010/4694590

USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON

SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

"Lord's Castle" is Waltham's most highly eclectic late 19th century mansion - with its castellated corner tower and Flemish gables, its form and treatments are unique within the city limits. It has significant historical associations with Rufus E. Lord, prolific late 19th/early 20th century Waltham builder.

"Lord's Castle" meets criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

Built in 1886. "Lord's Castle" is a rare Boston area example of a castle-like mansion. Its style has been called "Norman Gothic". Constructed of yellow brick and possessing an irregular plan, this house is dominated by a robust, 3-story, corner tower. Porches consisting of heavy rubble stone posts with low hip roofs projecting from the main and south facades. Most of this building's architectural interest is associated with its disproportionately large, 3-story tower, with windows exhibiting modified Gibbian surrounds, ocular windows at the 3d level, and extensive corbelling and distinctive castellation. The main facade features a well-crafted, late 19th century, double front doors, flanked to the left by and attractive, colorful, stain glass window. Above the entrance is a Palladian window. In

(cont)

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

Lord's Castle was built in 1886, two years after Waltham's incorporation as a city. In a sense, this eclectic house symbolizes the new sophistication and complexity of the still rural, yet highly industrialized city. Although much of the house's significance lies in the realm of its architectural uniqueness, the house has important historical associations with Rufus E. Lord. Together with Robert E. Glancy, John Lally and others, Mr. Lord played a significant role in Waltham's late 19th/early 20th century construction of private houses and public buildings. Perhaps Lord's best known building aside from his castle, is the Armory building at Sharon and Cushing Streets. Lord chose the house's site on the upper slopes of Prospect Hill for its commanding views. Prior to Lord's purchase of this land, its owner had been Oel Farnsworth. During the late 1850's, this land was seriously considered for the development of a second cemetery (the Mount Feake site was eventually chosen).

It is said to have taken Lord ten years to build this house. Its innovative features included "cemented floors, and unfading green slate roof." Waltham people who worked on its construction included Patrick Mallory and Son: foundation; William Coughlin: rustic stone work; Barker Lumber Company: finish and stone work; Wendall S. Jordan: painting, etc.. Interesting interior features of this 8-room, 7-chimney

(cont)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps/Atlases - 1875, 1881, 1886, 1898, 1901  
Waltham Sentinel  
Waltham Directoris - late 19th century

WALTHAM, MA MRA  
Lord's Castle #127  
211 Hammond Street

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE, Lord's Castle, continued

general, windows contain 1/1 wood sash. The north wall is treated as an octagonal bay with a chimney occupying the bay's main and side facades. The house culminates in a corbelled cornice similar to that of the tower. It is enclosed by a copper-edged, hip-roof, which retains most of its shingles.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, continued

house include 8 mantles, all exhibiting different designs, a fireback displaying a coronet and mottled brown and green hearth tiles. In addition "the entire house was supplied with handsome chandeliers" supplying light by gas or electricity."

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 Group

Name Waltham MRA  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Johnson, Newell D., House

National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

52. Lawton Place Historic District

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

53. Libby, Nelson F., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

54. Linden Street Bridge

Substantive Review

Keeper Betty L. Savage 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

55. Lord's Castle

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

56. Lyman Street Historic District

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

57. Martin, Aaron, Houses

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

58. Martin, Aaron, House  
(786 Moody St.)

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

59. Moody Street Fire Station

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper A. Loree Byers 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

60. Moody Street Historic District

Substantive Review

Keeper Betty L. Savage 3/9/90

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Lord's Castle  
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: 89001567

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTMs       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

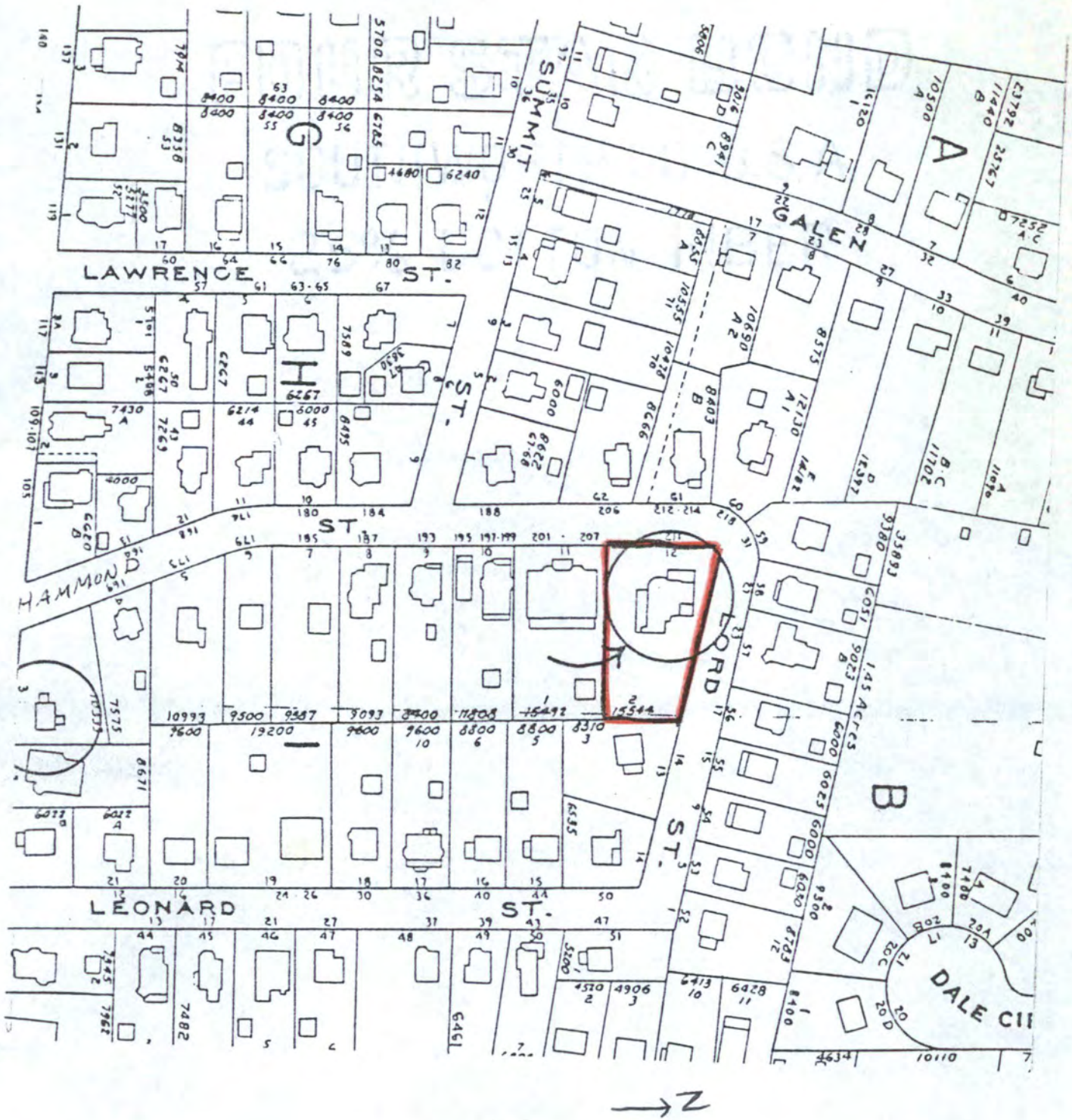
Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Lords Castle

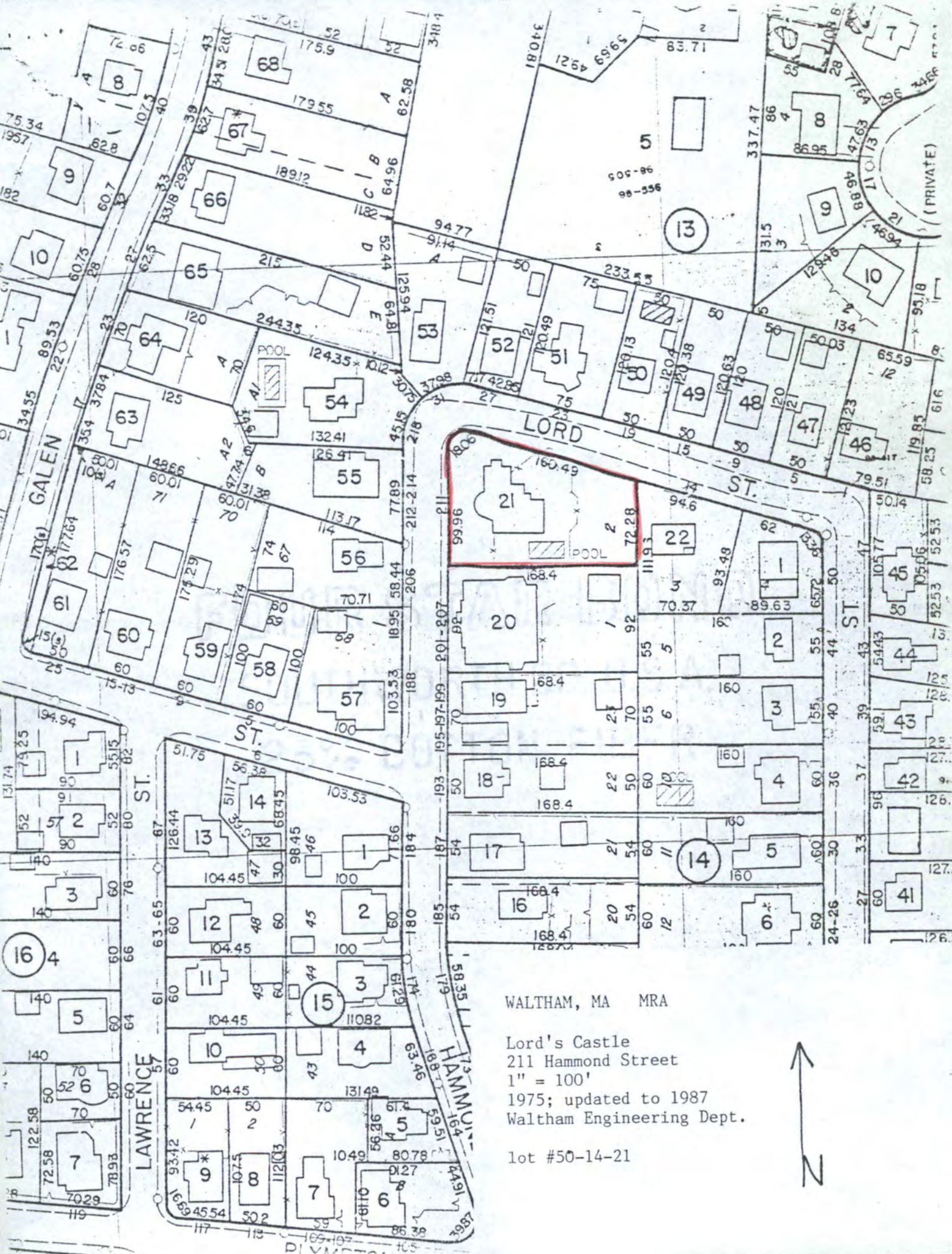
211 Hammond Street

MA # 127  
Waltham MA MA



1970 Atlas, City of Waltham  
 Compiled by the Waltham  
 Engineering Division  
 Scale: 1 inch = 140 feet

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA  
 211 Hammond Street  
 Lord's Castle  
 20-I-12 MHC #127



WALTHAM, MA MRA

Lord's Castle  
 211 Hammond Street  
 1" = 100'  
 1975; updated to 1987  
 Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #50-14-21



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301