

MAY 23 1989

686

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

A

78 NEW

Photo (3"x3" 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

Town WakefieldAddress 34 Salem StreetHistoric Name E.-Boardman HouseBoardman's FollyUse: Present DwellingOriginal Dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1820Source Merrill-Woodbury ListStyle FederalArchitect Elias BoardmanExterior Wall Fabric clapboardOutbuildings garage-noncontributingMajor Alterations (with dates) all to rear, early 1900sCondition FairMoved NA Date NAAcreage Less than one acreSetting At corner of two streets, faces north set on slight rise.UTM REFERENCE 19/330050/4708110USGS QUADRANGLE Reading, MASCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Architectural Preservation AssociatesOrganization Wakefield Historical CommissionDate March 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

"Boardman's Folly", so dubbed because local residents thought it much too grand for Wakefield, is an excellent and well-preserved example of high style Federal design and reflects the Boston/Beacon Hill influence of its builder, Elias Boardman. The house retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, association and feeling, and meets criterion C of the NRHP on the local level.

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

One of the most high style Federal houses in Wakefield, this 5 bay, three story, Federal dwelling with a hip roof and interior chimneys had been extended and slightly altered, but retains its mansion house form and elegant details. It would not be out of place in the more affluent, stylish Salem, Massachusetts. Ornament is focused on the center door surround. It is composed of very narrow pilasters supporting an ornate and full classical Doric entablature with modillion blocks, an elliptical leaded fanlight, and 3/4 length sidelights. Third floor windows are smaller than the others, a typical Federal device. The cornerboards are embellished with capitals and bases, and the whole is set on long granite block foundations. The rear ell is probably Greek Revival and has 6/6 windows. The Palladian window, which came from a house in Groton, Mass., appears to have been added at a later date.

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

When Elias Boardman, a contractor, designed and built this large, ornate house, South Reading, as it was called before 1868, dubbed it "Boardman's Folly", as they thought it an extravagance. In doing so the more conservative town residents distanced themselves from those of Beacon Hill, where Boardman's earlier building experience was gained.

Boardman's family continued to dominate this area, with three other family residences to the south on Pleasant Street, which was laid out in 1839 just up to this house.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

maps 1830

1857 J. Walton

1874 E. Boardman Est.

Directory 1888

Merrill, Morrison, "Wakefield's Old Houses", unpublished

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

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

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

Substantive Review

1. Beacon Street Tomb

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Beth L. Savage 7/4/8Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

2. Beebe Homestead

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

3. Boardman, E., House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

4. Boit, Elizabeth, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

5. Building at 35--37 Richardson Avenue

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/86

Attest _____

6. Building at 38--48 Richardson Avenue

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

7. Center Depot

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

8. Church--Lafayette Streets
Historic DistrictEntered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

9. Common District

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Beth L. Savage 3/2/90

Attest _____

10. Cowdry, Jonas, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Boardman, E., House
NAME:

MULTIPLE Wakefield MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/23/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/06/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/22/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/07/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000686

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 7/6/89 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
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



A 78

34 Salem St.

Bowdoin E., Huse

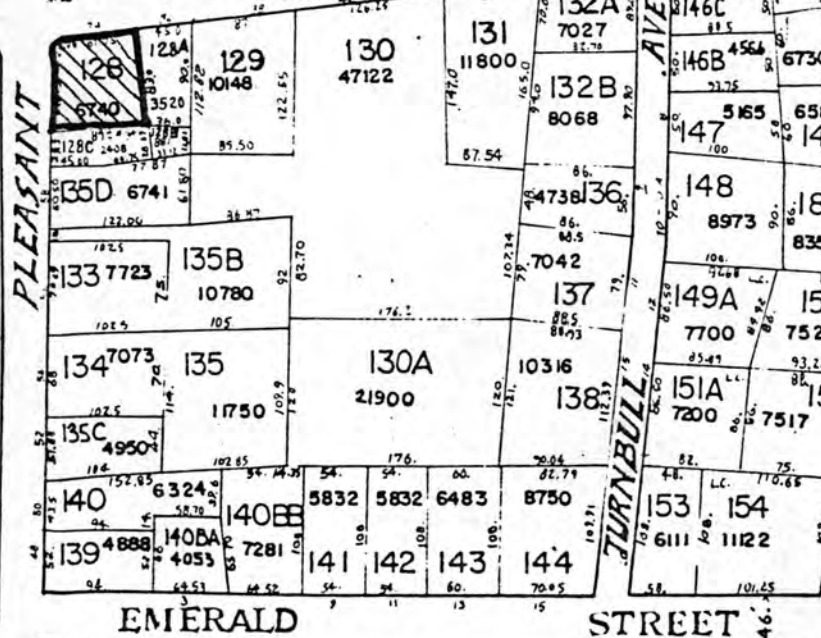
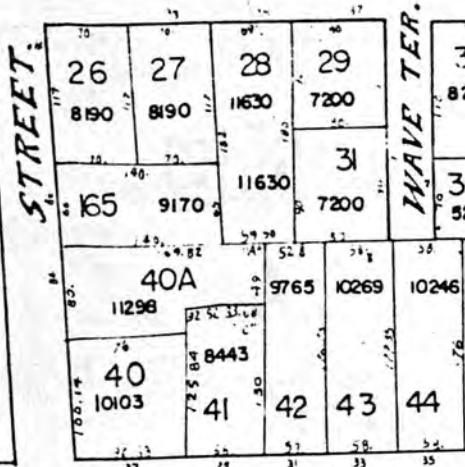
Watfield M. R. H. H.

A 78

34 SALEM



SCALE: 1"=80"



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000300