

FORM B - BUILDING

AUG 21 1989

1531

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

NOT FOR
REGISTER

AREA

FORM NO.

51

WALTHAM, MA MRA

Town Waltham, MAAddress 96 Pine StreetHistoric Name Waltham Gas and Electric Co.

Generating Plant _____

Use: Present Electric substationOriginal Electric Generating

DESCRIPTION

Date 1900-1909Source Patrick Korrell, Boston EdisonStyle early 20th c. utilitarianArchitect unknown--Exterior Wall Fabric Poured, scored
concreteOutbuildings Transformer house to rear - NCMajor Alterations (with dates) Windows filledwith concrete N.D.Condition goodMoved no -- Date n/a --Acreage 0.19 A 40,049 sq.ft. 69-3-3Setting Faces residential street, to rearare mid-19th c. bldgs. of Waltham Gas LightCo.Recorded by Ed GordonOrganization Waltham Hist. Comm.Date July, 1986

revised by C. Jenkins 3/88

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 see attached map

UTM REFERENCE 19/316100 /4693150USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTONSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

96 Pine St. is an interesting, essentially intact example of an early 1900's electric generating station. It was initially operated by the Waltham Gas and Electric Company. 96 Pine Street satisfies criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places, and possesses integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and associations.

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

This electric generation station is composed of poured and scored concrete. Its boxy rectangular form and rusticated walls are reminiscent of a truncated Italianate palazzo. The nine bay Pine Street facade is symmetrically composed with long first story windows aligned with squared second story windows; all are headed by splayed lintels derived from the Federal style. The rear elevation is similar and gains an exposed basement story due to the sloping site. The side elevations are also similar to each other, exhibiting a more random fenestration pattern along with entries in the outer bays. The window openings toward the front of the building are at a higher level. All window openings have been filled with concrete.

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

The Waltham Gas and Electric Company built this electrical generating plant at some point between 1900-1909. The building's site appears vacant on the 1900 Atlas. At that time three residences were located on this parcel including 62-64, 68-74 and 100 Pine St. (all of these buildings are no longer extant). According to Patricia Korell of Boston Edison, the Waltham Gas and Electric Co. sold the plant to Boston Edison in 1909. The Waltham Gas Light Co. was incorporated in 1853. In 1886 an electric plant was added to the equipment and on Dec. 24 of that year the electric light was first used for street and store illumination in the city. In 1890, a contract was made to supply power to the Newton St. R.R., over the next two decades there would be an increasing demand for power for industrial pursuits. To meet the needs of the young and growing municipality (Waltham was incorporated as a city in 1884) new buildings were erected by the Gas Company--including the electric generating substation at 96 Pine St. In 1917 the steam apparatus was retired and the building became a substation. Although the original brick gas company buildings are now used as a paperbag factory, this later building continues the site's 130 year association with the illuminating industry.

Pine St. ranks among the oldest streets on Waltham's South Side. In 1854, it was one of only two east-west streets east of Moody St. Pine St. linked Moody St. with Newton St. It was probably laid out after the completion of the Moody St. bridge in 1846.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Priscilla Korell--Boston Edison
Edmund Sanderson--Waltham Industries, Waltham Historical Society, 1957.
D.H. Hurd--History of Middlesex Co., 1890
Atlases--1900, 1911, 1915

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 Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____92. Waltham High School Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____

93. Waltham Water Works Shop

for Keeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____

94. Warren, Nathan, House Substantive Review

for Keeper Patricia Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____95. Wellington, Benjamin, House
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____96. Wellington, William, House
Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____

97. Wellington--Castner House

for Keeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____98. Wetherbee House Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____99. White, Warren, House Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89
Attest _____

100. Whitney--Farrington--Cook House

for Keeper Melrose 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 Waltham Gas and Electric Company Generating Plant
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: 89001537

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
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

 sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



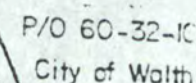
Waltham Gas & Electric Co. Operating Plant

90 Pine St

Wt 51

Waltham MA, Ma

—



Waltham Gas and Electric Co. Generating
Plant #51

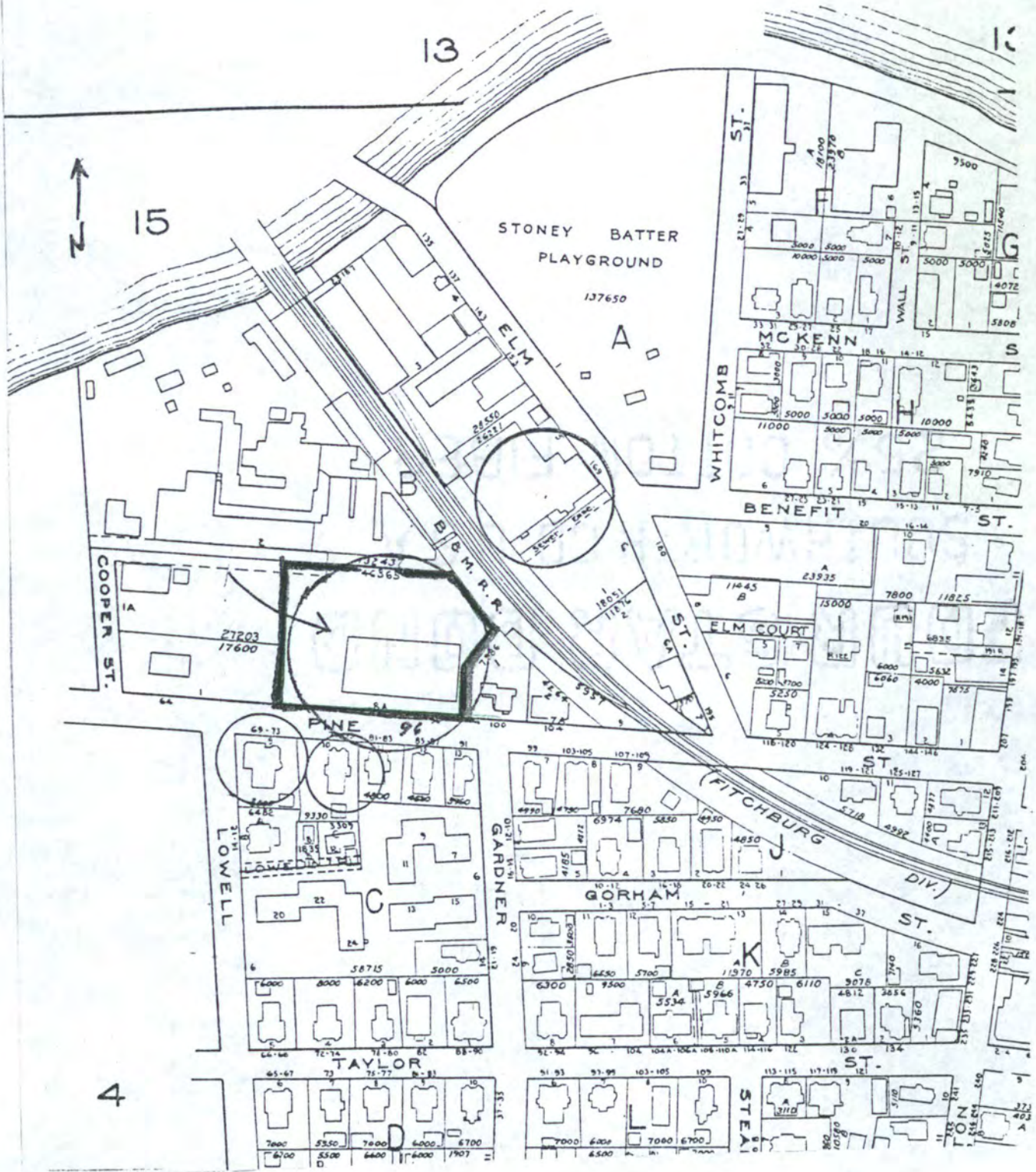
$$1'' = 100'$$

1975; updated to 1987

Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #69-3-3





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

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA
 96 Pine Street

3-B-8A MHC #51

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301