

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jefferson Cutter House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1 Whittemore Park N/A not for publication
city, town Arlington N/A vicinity
state Massachusetts code 025 county Middlesex code 017 zip code 02174

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u> objects
	<input type="checkbox"/> object		<u>8</u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: Arlington MRA
Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1*

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

NR 1984: moved 1989; delisted 1991

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Judith B. McDonough 11/27/91
Signature of certifying official Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:)

Beth B. Savage 1-23-92

Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social/Meeting Hall; Civic

Recreation/Exhibition Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic/Federal

Greek Revival

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite

walls Wood/Clapboard

roof Cedar Shingle

other

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

The Jefferson Cutter House, listed individually in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 as part of the Arlington Multiple Resource Area, was built in 1817, with its entryway updated in the 1830s. It is a five-bay, 2 1/2-story structure with center entry, double interior chimneys set behind the ridge, 6/6 double-hung wood-sash windows, and Beverly jogs symmetrically arranged on either side of the main block.

The entryway and door are elaborately carved and remarkably well preserved. The entryway resembles plates found in Asher Benjamin's The Practice of Architecture (1833), and similar though not identical examples are found in nearby East Lexington. The entryway's pilasters are ornamented at the top with a curvilinear suggestion of Greek fretwork; they support a flat pediment. Two-thirds-length sidelights with delicate vertical muntins sit on a base ornamented with bold bullet molding. The door itself is asymmetrically panelled and elaborately carved, displaying a group of vigorous, intersecting ellipses, horizontally arrayed, together with bullets of various sizes and quarter-round molding. The door may well be the work of owner Jefferson Cutter, who was a millwright and turner by trade; no similar examples have been identified.

The interior remains relatively intact, with very limited alterations and renovations. Most of the doors retain original hardware, and much of the interior trim is original. The original fireplaces survive in both front and rear rooms. During the course of restoration (see below), samples of pattern painting were discovered in the rear room mantles and on the stairway; these were replicated in the restoration work.

In 1989, the house was moved about two miles east to a new location near the Arlington Center Historic District (also NR 1984). It was determined that relocation was the only way of preserving the building, as the original owners had other plans for the land on which it stood and would have otherwise demolished it. The new owners are the Arlington Redevelopment Board, a public body.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 1

Its new site is a small triangle of public land, less than one acre, formed by the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, Chestnut Street, and Mystic Street. It is known today as Whittemore Park, and is designed to be the common public space that Arlington never before had--the house today forms the focal point for the park. The site is located just to the north of the Arlington Center Historic District, abutting the district boundary (see map). Over the past three hundred years, the land has held a succession of buildings, the first being the John Adams House (1652-1845). In 1845, the house was taken down to make room for the tracks of the Lexington and West Cambridge Branch Railroad. A fragment of the tracks, which once linked Arlington and points west to Cambridge and Boston, survives on the lot. A depot, Arlington's first train station, was erected on the site beside the tracks in 1846 and stood there until 1883. Also on the lot at one time was the Winslow/Peirce House, built in 1846 by the owner of an adjacent coalyard.

The portion of the land south of the tracks became town owned in 1850; the remaining section, which held the Peirce House, was taken by the town in 1946, with the Peirce House demolished four years later. The coalyard behind the house also went to the town in 1946, and has served as a parking lot since that time. At one time, Adams Street divided the land that now contains Whittemore Park and the Cutter House into two portions. The street was abandoned and no visible trace of it survives. Also now standing on Whittemore Park are five (5) small plaques detailing the one-acre lot's history, two (2) 20th century fences, and a 20th century monument commemorating Revolutionary War hero Samuel Whittemore; the monument was moved to the newly formed park in 1989. With the exception of the fragment of railroad tracks, none of these elements are considered contributing.

In its original location, the Cutter House was sited close to Massachusetts Avenue, facing south; a turn-of-the-century photograph shows the building fronted by a wood picket fence with granite posts, although in more recent decades, that had been replaced by densely planted and overgrown evergreen bushes. In its new setting, the building continues to face south onto Massachusetts Avenue, and a new wood picket and granite post fence echoes the original.

At the time of its listing in the National Register, the house was covered with aluminum siding, with an asphalt shingle roof; it was otherwise in sound but dilapidated condition. Previously a single-family and then a two-family residence, it had been unoccupied for three years and instead was used as storage space for its owner, an automobile dealership. Many of the windows and much of the exterior trim were in need of repair, as was the cornice over the front door. Before the move, a rear enclosed porch of ca. 1920 was removed. Otherwise, the building was moved in its entirety, and was placed in its new site on the granite blocks that had formed its original foundation. After it was moved, the building was carefully restored with the help of a

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 2

grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The siding was removed to reveal circular-sawn clapboards with lapped and skived joints. These were restored, and a new cedar-shingled roof was installed. Most of the building's original fabric, including its fine door, required only minor repair and restoration; replacement in kind occurred only if deterioration was irreparable. A preservation restriction has been placed on the building.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 3

Archaeological Description

No prehistoric sites are recorded on the property or in the general area (within one mile). In general, the potential for significant archaeological remains, either prehistoric or historic is low because of the small lot size and extensive historic-period development of the parcel dating from the seventeenth through the twentieth centuries.

There is a high potential for significant historic archaeological remains on the property. Structural remains may survive from the 17th century John Adams House (1652), Arlington's first train station (1846), and the Winslow/Peirce House (1846), all built and no longer extant on the same one-acre lot. Structural remains of outbuildings and occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells) also likely survive associated with each of these buildings. Engineering features, including the railroad bed for the Lexington and West Cambridge Branch Railroad, also likely survive on the property.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

 nationally statewide locally

DEC 9 1991

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C DCriteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Period of Significance

1817-1941

Significant Dates

ca. 1830

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

Unknown

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Jefferson Cutter House, Arlington, is a well-preserved example of the five-bay, double-pile, Federal period house with double interior chimneys. It retains many original details and is unique in Arlington for its finely carved entryway (perhaps inspired by Asher Benjamin plates) and its symmetrical Beverly jogs. The building continues to retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling in its new location, and to fulfil Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level, as well as Exception B.

Constructed two miles north of its present site in 1817, the house was moved to Arlington Center in 1989 after it was determined that relocation was the only means of preserving the building. The house now abuts the Arlington Center Historic District, a district representing the historic and present-day institutional, commercial, and residential core of Arlington. The district includes a mix of building types and styles, with many dating to the early decades of the 19th century. The Cutter House complements the district's character, significance, and integrity.

In its original location, the house held historical associations with Jefferson Cutter and the Cutter family, holders of mill privileges on nearby Mill Brook. The family had settled in the area in 1692. Jefferson Cutter and his brother, Gershom, built several early houses in Arlington, of which this is the best preserved example. Cutter worked as a millwright, turner, and edgetool maker during his career. His mill dam privilege passed ultimately to the Theodore Schwamb Company. Because it no longer retains association with its original site near the Mill Brook, the house no longer meets Criterion A, one of the criteria under which it was originally listed. The Cutter House presently houses public meeting and exhibition space, as well as the offices of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

 See continuation sheet

9. Major Bibliographical References

Reinhardt, Elizabeth W. and Anne A. Grady, "Asher Benjamin in East Lexington, Massachusetts", Old-Time New England, Winter-Spring 1977, pgs 23-35

Also: See Arlington MRA and Arlington Town Center Historic District.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

See continuation sheet

Primary location of additional data:

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of property Less than one acre

UTM References

A

1	9
Zone	

3	2	2	8	2	0
Easting					

4	6	9	7	9	2	0
Northing						

B

Zone						

Easting						

Northing						

C

Zone						

Easting						

Northing						

D

Zone						

Easting						

Northing						

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

See assessor's map

See continuation sheet

Boundary Justification

Included in the boundary is the land known today as Whittemore Park, where the Jefferson Cutter House has been since its 1989 relocation.

See continuation sheet

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
 organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date November 1991
 street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470
 city or town Boston state Massachusetts zip code 02116

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 1

The building's original setting had been severely compromised in recent decades. The western end of Massachusetts Avenue, where the house was located, was historically semi-rural in character, its lands supporting small farms. A turn-of-the-century photograph of the Cutter House shows crops being cultivated in fields behind the house. But in the mid 20th century, as Massachusetts Avenue, always an important thoroughfare, became even more heavily travelled, the area became more densely built up with commercial enterprises, both large and small scale. In recent years, the house, by then on a parcel of less than one acre, had become surrounded on three sides by one of the largest car dealerships in the area. The dealership, owner of the Cutter House, announced plans to take down the house in order to expand their commercial space. With their cooperation, however, the building's ownership passed to the town of Arlington and a new site was found. It was moved to its new location in 1989. While the present location does not replicate the house's original site, it echoes its placement and orientation on the lot.

The Jefferson Cutter House remains one of the best preserved and most elaborate examples of 19th century domestic architecture in Arlington. Like most houses of the period locally, the Cutter House is a center-hall-plan house, five bays wide, 2 1/2 stories in height beneath a gable roof. There are a number of extant examples in Arlington (see Arlington Multiple Resource Area, NR 1984). Most display simple vernacular details, as, in all likelihood, did the Cutter House when it was first constructed. Unlike these other examples, however, the Cutter House is particularly distinguished by its ornately embellished entryway that echoes plates in Asher Benjamin's The Practical House Carpenter (1830) and The Practice of Architecture (1833). The entryway and elaborate door appear to have been added in the 1830s. A number of similar entries have been identified in nearby East Lexington, but the Cutter House is Arlington's single known example.

Elizabeth W. Reinhardt and Anne A. Grady noted in a 1977 article that:

Benjamin's books make Greek design appealing . . . Grecian motifs were larger in scale, more generously and broadly conceived than the outmoded Roman. They were therefore both less expensive and easier to execute. Benjamin's plates and text are quite explicit in the ways by which his design could be translated into wood, the basic material of county construction. . . Any skilled carpenter, using one of Benjamin's pattern books, could easily adapt the new style to his own needs with assurance.

("Asher Benjamin in East Lexington, Massachusetts," in Old-Time New England, vol. LXVII, Nos. 3-4, Winter-Spring 1977, pp. 23-24)

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 2

It is likely that carpenter/craftsman Jefferson Cutter was familiar with Benjamin's examples. His incised pilasters display slightly curved Greek fretwork, a variation of Benjamin's Greek-inspired design that is common on the East Lexington houses. And the device of mounting multipaned three-quarter sidelights on ornamented bases also resembles East Lexington examples, though Cutter's version again does not duplicate its neighbors. The door itself, with its elaborate carvings of bullets and ellipses, is apparently unique, the product of Cutter's own design. No other examples have been identified in Arlington or elsewhere.

Also unique to the Cutter House are the paired narrow side ells, one bay wide, known as Beverly jogs. The Cutter House boasts the only Arlington example of this unusual Massachusetts feature of the early 19th century.

The fragment of railroad track on the property is also considered significant. Part of the transportation network once vital to Arlington's growth and development, this remnant will shortly be the only evidence of local rail lines surviving as the soon-to-be-developed Minuteman Bikeway takes form along the bed of other still-extant tracks through the community.

(continued)

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 3

Archaeological Significance

Historic archaeological remains described previously have the potential for providing detailed information on the social, cultural, and economic patterns that characterized general patterns of settlement in Arlington from the 17th through the 19th centuries. Analysis of occupational-related features can also provide information on specific inhabitants who lived on the property. This type of information is particularly important in relation to the 17th century John Adams House, which represents a period for which few examples survive, even in archaeological contexts.

(end)

Jefferson Cutter House
1 Whittemore Park
Arlington, Massachusetts

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
Jefferson Cutter House	1817	B	C
Railroad Tracks (fragment)	ca. 1846	ST	C
20th Century Plaques (5)	20th Century	OB	(5)NC
20 Century Fences (2)	ca. 1991	ST	(2)NC
Samuel Whittemore Monument	20th Century	OB	NC

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

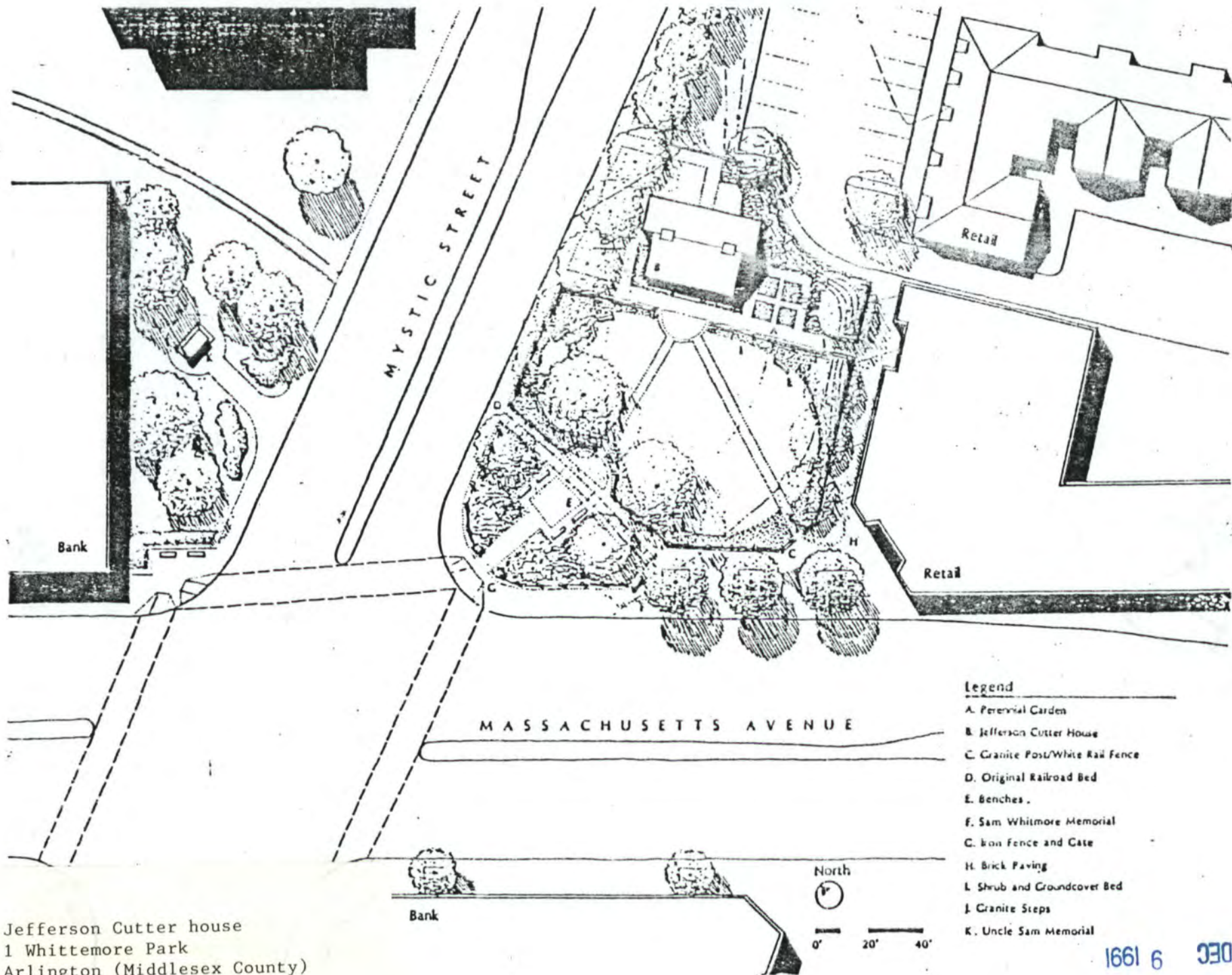
National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number Photos Page 1

Photograph Captions

1. The existing front elevation at 1146 Massachusetts Avenue after the aluminum siding had been removed.
2. West elevation at previous site after aluminum siding had been removed.
3. West elevation at previous site showing rear addition to be removed.
4. Front of house showing cribbing prior to the move.
5. Cribbing steel in place, dollies about to be installed.
6. The house moved off its previous foundation.
7. House on site but not yet located over new foundation.
8. Rear of structure showing new sills installed.
9. West elevation at new site.
10. Rear elevation at new site.
11. Front elevation at new site.
12. Completed project.

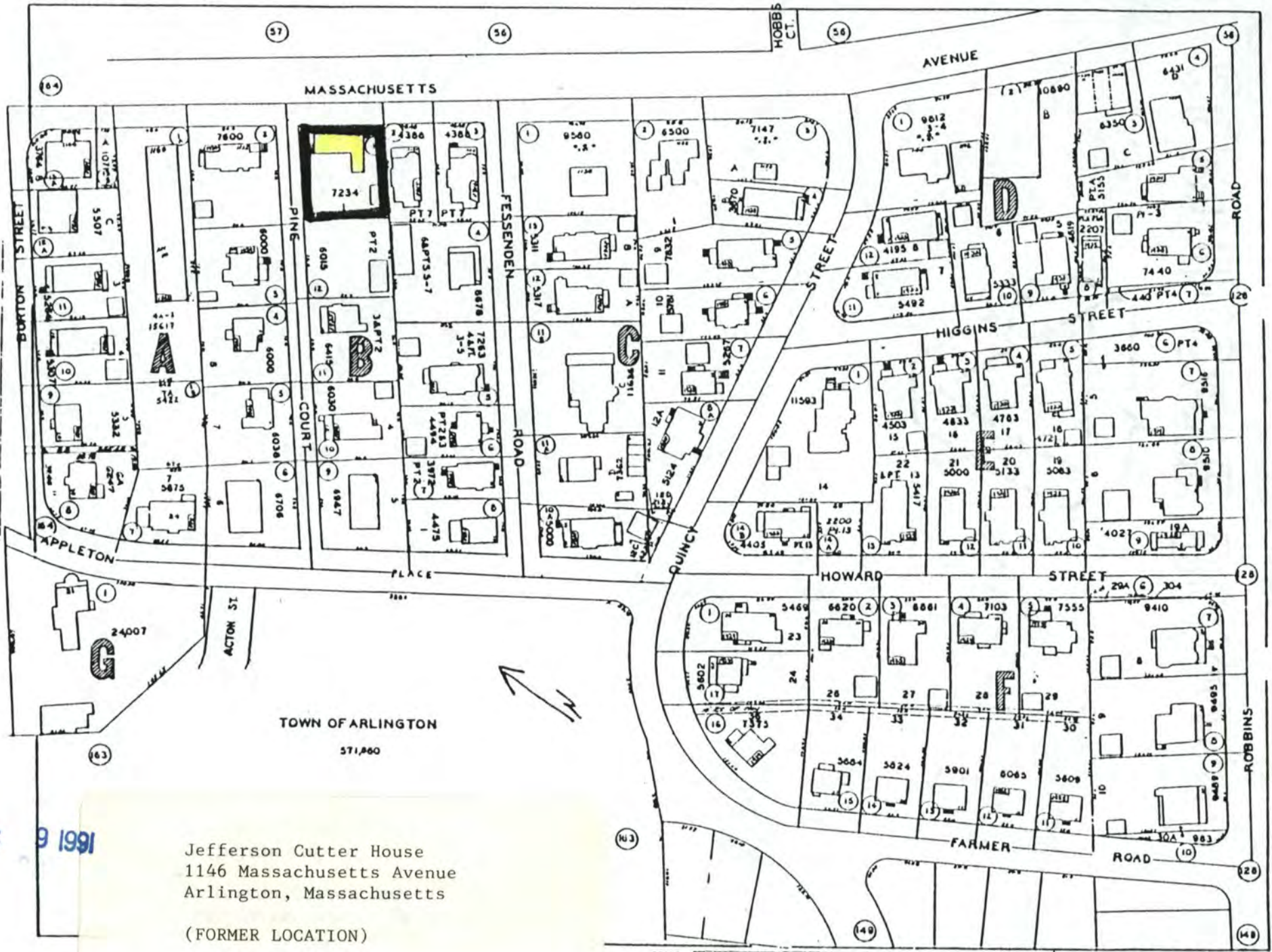


Jefferson Cutter house
 1 Whittemore Park
 Arlington (Middlesex County)
 Massachusetts

(SITE MAP)

JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE, ARLINGTON

DEC 6 1991



Jefferson Cutter House
 1146 Massachusetts Avenue
 Arlington, Massachusetts

(FORMER LOCATION)

DEC 9 1991

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____


SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 85001028 Date Listed: 01/23/92

Cutter, Jefferson, House Middlesex MA
Property Name County State

Arlington MRA
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

1-23-92
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

8. Statement of Significance: Area(s) and Period(s)

Transportation is justified as an area of significance under **Criterion A** related to the importance of the rare surviving remnant of the Lexington and West Cambridge Branch Railroad tracks located on the site.

The appropriate period of significance is "1817; c.1846" to include the contributing tracks.

This information was discussed with Doug Kelleher, MASHPO, by telephone.

=====
DISTRIBUTION:

- National Register property file
- Nominating Authority (without attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Cutter, Jefferson, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Arlington MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 12/09/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 1/23/92
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 85001028

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 1/23/92 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept and
REVIEWER Savage
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 1/23/92

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 _____



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA
PHOTO #1 OF 12
~~DATE, 1~~

EXISTING FRONT ELEVATION
AT PREVIOUS ~~DATE~~
1146 MASSACHUSETTS AVE.
AFTER REMOVAL OF ALUMINUM
SIDING

APR 11 1991



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 2 OF 12

WEST ELEVATION AFTER REMOVAL
OF ALUMINUM SIDING
AT PREVIOUS 1146 MASSACHUSETTS
AVENUE LOCATION

APR 11 1991



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ADUNGTON, MA
PHOTO # 3 OF 12

WEST ELEVATION AT PREVIOUS
SITE SHOWING REAR ADDITION
TO BE REMOVED



JEFFERSON CUTLER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 4 OF 12

FRONT OF HOUSE SHOWING CRIBBING
PRIOR TO MOVE.

APR 11 1991



Jefferson Cutter House
Arlington, MA
#5
Cribbing in place of steel about to be installed
(1/19)

JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 5 OF 12

CRIBBING STEEL IN PLACE
DOLLIES ABOUT TO BE INSTALLED

APR 11 1991



Jefferson Cutter House
Dorlington, MA
#12
House moved off existing foundation
11/1991

JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
DORLINGTON, MA
PHOTO #6 OF 12

HOUSE MOVED OFF ITS
EXISTING FOUNDATION

APR 11 1991



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
AQUINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 7 OF 12

HOUSE ON SITE BUT NOT YET
LOCATED OVER NEW FOUNDATION

APR 11 1991



Jefferson Cutter House

ARLINGTON, MA

#8

REAR OF STRUCTURE SHOWING NEW SILLS (INSTALLED)

1/1/91

JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE

ARLINGTON, MA

PHOTO # 8 OF 12

REAR OF STRUCTURE

SHOWING NEW SILLS

BEING INSTALLED

APR 11 1991



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE

ARLINGTON, MA

#9

WEST ELEVATION, NEW SITE

11/91

JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA
PHOTO #9 OF 12

WEST ELEVATION AT NEW SITE

APR 11 1991



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA

#10

REAR ELEVATION, NEW SITE

1/1/91

JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 10 OF 12

REAR ELEVATION AT
NEW SITE

APR 11 1991



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
DORLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 11 OF 12

FRONT ELEVATION
AT NEW SITE

APR 11 1991



JEFFERSON CUTTER HOUSE
ARLINGTON, MA
PHOTO # 12 OF 12

COMPLETED PROJECT

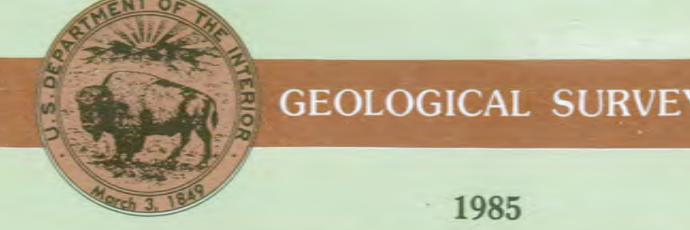
APR 1 | 1991

1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map



7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works. Control by USGS, NOS-NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies. Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1985. Supersedes Boston North and Lexington 1:250,000 maps dated 1971. Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS chart 13272 (1982). This information is not intended for navigational purposes. Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19. 10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, maintained since 1927 North American Datum. To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 6 meters south and 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks. There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map.

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTOUR ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.5 METER
DOTTED CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS
DASHED CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET
DASHED LINE REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE
OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
SOUNDING HEIGHTS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.9 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM		ADJOINING MAPS	
Meters	Feet	1	2	3	4 5
1	3.2808			1	Billerica
2	6.5617			2	Reading
3	9.8425			3	Salem
4	13.1234			4	Malden
5	16.4042			5	Lynn
6	19.6850			6	Franklinham
7	22.9659			7	Boston South
8	26.2467			8	Hull
9	29.5275				
10	32.8084				

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (km) at center of map
Magnetic declination (mm)
Diagram is approximate

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

- Primary highway, hard surface
- Secondary highway, hard surface
- Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
- Unimproved road, trail
- Route marker: Interstate, U. S. State
- Route marker: standard page; narrow page
- Bridge: drawbridge
- Footbridge; overpass; underpass
- Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown
- House; barn; church; school; large structure
- Boundary:
 - National with monument
 - State
 - County, parish
 - Civil township, precinct, district
 - Incorporated city, village, town
 - National or State reservation; small park
 - Land grant with monument; found section corner
 - U. S. public lands survey; range, township; section
 - Range, township; section line; location approximate
- Fence or field line
- Power transmission line, located tower
- Dam; dam with lock
- Canal; water gate
- Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument
- Well; water well; spring
- Mine shaft; prospect; shaft or cave
- Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation
- Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression
- Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand
- Bathymetric contours: index, intermediate
- Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream
- Rapid, large and small; falls, large and small
- Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp
- Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland
- Soil: mangrove
- Onshore: viewpoint

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request.



JEFFERSON
CUTTED HOUSE
UTM DEF.
19 322 820 469 920
1 WHITTEMORE
RD
DORLINGTON, MA



November 27, 1991

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the resubmitted nomination:

Jefferson Cutter House, 1 Whittemore Park, Arlington (Middlesex County),
Massachusetts, 02174.

There have been no owner objection for the property listed above.

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by myself, as the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. No comments have been received to date.

Sincerely,

Judith B. McDonough
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
State Historic Preservation Officer

enclosure

cc: Arlington Redevelopment Board
Andrew Vorce, Town Planner
Gayle C. Kiely, Chairperson, Arlington Historical Commission
Charles Lyons, Chairman, Arlington Board of Selectmen

Massachusetts Historical Commission, Judith B. McDonough, *Executive Director, State Historic Preservation Officer*
80 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116 (617) 727-8470

Office of the Secretary of State, Michael J. Connolly, *Secretary*

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
	446-A

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 80 BOYLSTON STREET
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02116

~~MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION~~
~~204 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108~~

 PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
 staple to left side of form
 Photo number _____

Town Arlington, MA

Address 1146 Massachusetts Avenue

Historic Name Jefferson Cutter House

Use: Present Dwelling

Original Dwelling

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1817

Source Parker's History of Arlington

Style Federal

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Vinyl siding

Outbuildings Garage

Major alterations (with dates) ca. 1920:

Rear enclosed porch

Moved No Date N/A

Approx. acreage less than one acre

Setting The house is located close to the street along a residential section of Massachusetts Avenue.

UTM: ^{19/}321080/4698780

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date 12/84

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Despite its vinyl siding, the Jefferson Cutter House remains a distinguished example of the five-bay Federal plan. It retains its original character and many original details. The house is particularly noteworthy for its finely carved entryway and its symmetric half-gabled wings. The Greek Revival entrance surround is probably a ca. 1830 addition. The entryway's Greek fret-adorned pilasters supporting a simple pediment, as well as its two-thirds-length sidelights with delicate muntins, closely resemble plates from Asher Benjamin's The Practical House Carpenter (1830). Several homes in adjoining East Lexington display similar entryways. The Jefferson Cutter House also boasts narrow ells on either side, only one bay wide, which are known as "Beverly

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state jogs." It is the only history and how the building relates to the development of the community.) house in Arlington known to have this unusual Massachusetts feature.

The Cutter family had settled in the area in 1692. The family enjoyed mill privileges along Mill Brook for many generations. Jefferson Cutter and his brother, Gershom, built several early houses in Arlington, of which this is the best preserved example. Cutter worked as a mill wright, turner, and edgefoot maker during his career. His mill dam privilege passed ultimately to the Theodore Schwamb Company.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The Jefferson Cutter House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and associations. It fulfills criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places for its associations with one of Arlington's founding families, & as a distinguished example of early 19th century domestic architecture,

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Parker's History of Arlington
Assessors Records

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Arlington Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Bassett, Maria, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 9/27/85

Attest

name change
12. Buildings at 1334 and 1339 Massachusetts Ave.

already listed Dist
~~Entered in the~~
Substantive Review

for Keeper

_____ 5

Attest

13. Call-Bartlett House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

14. Capitol Theater Building

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

15. Chapel of St. Anne

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

16. Cushman House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

17. Cutter, Jefferson, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

18. Cutter, Second, A.P.,
House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

19. Damon House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

20. Farmer, Kimball, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 4/18/85

Attest

8500/028
4/18/85

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Cutter, Jefferson, House (Arlington MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. MAR / 6 / 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/86
Date Due: 4/4/85 - 4/20/85
Action: ACCEPT 4-18-85
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

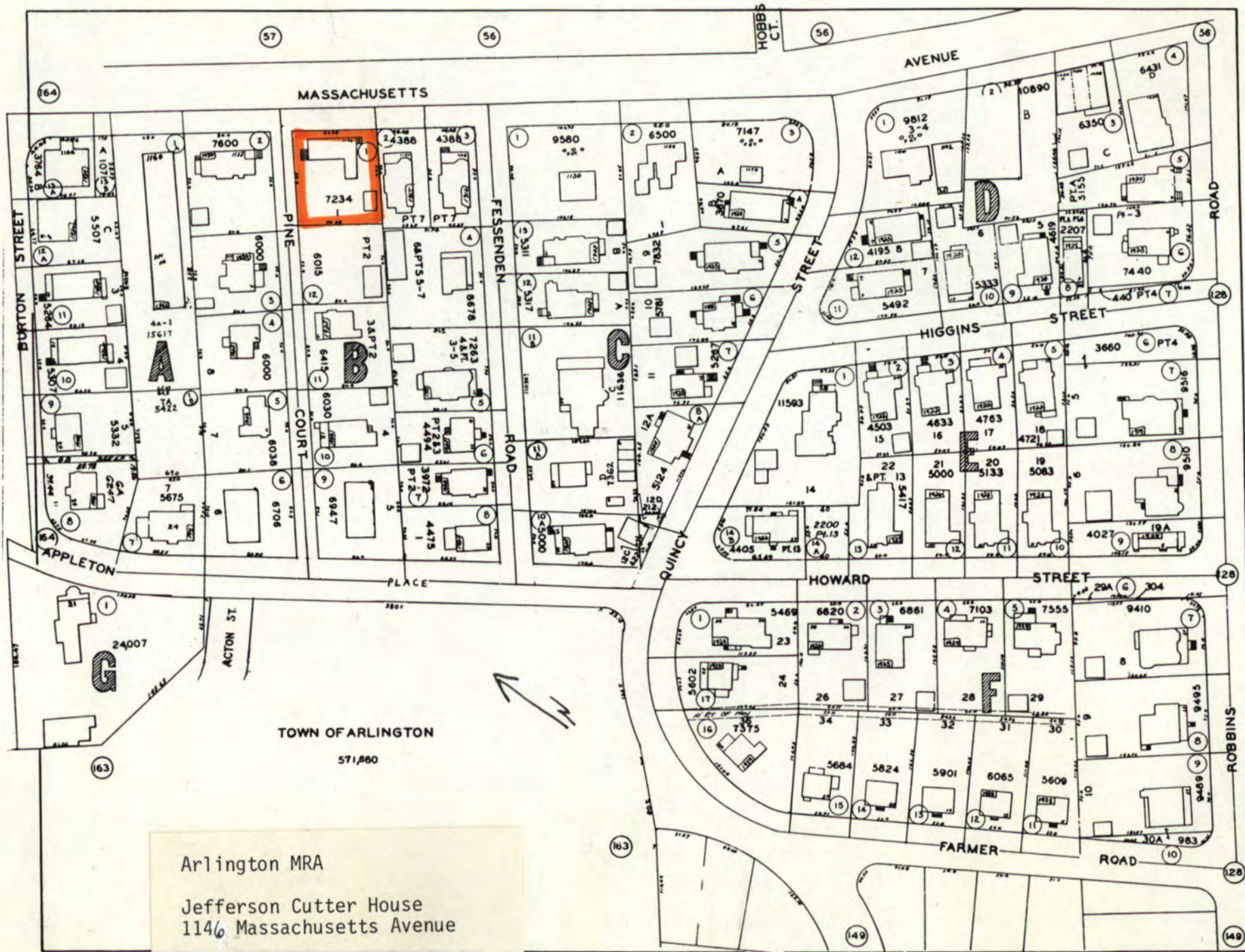
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



CUTLER,

Jefferson. Huse
Arlington MA
Middlesex Co, MA



57

56

56

56

164

MASSACHUSETTS

AVENUE

BURTON STREET

PINE

FESSENDEN

QUINCY STREET

ROBBS ROAD

7234

9580

6500

7147

9812

10890

6431

5507

7600

24388

4388

6000

7632

4195 B

5333

2207

7440

3284

6000

6000

8878

3317

578

5492

4619

5333

440

5307

15617

6030

7263

39311

528

4503

4633

4763

3660

9332

5422

6038

4475

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11503

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262

11503

4503

4633

4763

4721

5748

5675

6706

4475

262

11503

4503

4633

4763

4721

TOWN OF ARLINGTON

571,860

Arlington MRA

Jefferson Cutter House
1146 Massachusetts Avenue

SCALE 0 40 80 160 FEET

BLOCK PLAN NO. 148

Copy



APR 11 1991

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

NATIONAL
REGISTER

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Jefferson Cutter House (Town Center Historic District Amendment)
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 1 Whittemore Park N/A not for publication
city, town Arlington N/A vicinity
state Massachusetts code 025 county Middlesex code 017 zip code 02174

3. Classification

Ownership of Property <input type="checkbox"/> private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public-local <input type="checkbox"/> public-State <input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	Category of Property <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s) <input type="checkbox"/> district <input type="checkbox"/> site <input type="checkbox"/> structure <input type="checkbox"/> object	Number of Resources within Property <table border="0"> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Contributing</td> <td style="text-align: center;">Noncontributing</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>0</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">buildings</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: right;">sites</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: right;">structures</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: center;">_____</td> <td style="text-align: right;">objects</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>1</u></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>0</u></td> <td style="text-align: right;">Total</td> </tr> </table>	Contributing	Noncontributing		<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings	_____	_____	sites	_____	_____	structures	_____	_____	objects	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total
Contributing	Noncontributing																			
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	buildings																		
_____	_____	sites																		
_____	_____	structures																		
_____	_____	objects																		
<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	Total																		

Name of related multiple property listing:
Arlington MRA (Arlington Town Center Historic District) Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 1 *
* Moved into Historic District

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

Signature of certifying official Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission;
State Historic Preservation Officer
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. See continuation sheet.

John B. McDunough *April 5, 1991*
Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau _____

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register.
 See continuation sheet.
- determined eligible for the National Register. See continuation sheet.
- determined not eligible for the National Register.
- removed from the National Register.
- other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/Single dwelling

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Social/Meeting Hall; Civic

Recreation/Exhibition Hall

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(enter categories from instructions)

Early Republic/Federal

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

foundation Granite

walls Wood/Clapboard

roof Cedar Shingle

other _____

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AEP 1 1001

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation SheetJefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, MassachusettsSection number 7 Page 1

Amendment to Arlington Town Center Historic District, Arlington, Massachusetts

Description

The Jefferson Cutter House, listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1984 as part of the Arlington Multiple Resource Area, was built in 1817, with its entryway updated in the 1830s. It is a five-bay, 2 1/2-story structure with center entry, double interior chimneys set behind the ridge, 6/6 double hung wood-sash windows, and Beverly jogs symmetrically arranged on either side of the main block.

The entryway and door are elaborately carved and remarkably well preserved. The entryway resembles plates found in Asher Benjamin's The Practice of Architecture (1833), and similar though not identical examples are found in nearby East Lexington. The entryway's pilasters are ornamented at the top with a suggestion of Greek fretwork, and support a flat pediment. Two-thirds-length sidelights with delicate vertical muntins sit on a base with bold bullet molding. The door itself is asymmetrically panelled and elaborately carved, displaying a group of bold, intersecting ellipses, horizontally arrayed, together with bullets of various sizes and quarter-round molding. The door may well be the work of owner Jefferson Cutter, who was a millwright and turner by trade; no similar examples have been identified.

The interior remains relatively intact, with very limited alterations and renovations. Most of the doors retain original hardware, and much of the interior trim is original. The original fireplaces survive in both front and rear rooms. During the course of restoration (see below), samples of pattern painting were discovered in the rear room mantles and on the stairway; these were replicated in the restoration work.

In 1989, the house was moved about two miles to a new location in the Arlington Center Historic District (also NR 1984). It was determined that relocation was the only way of preserving the building, as the original owners had other plans for the land on which it stood and would have otherwise demolished it. The new owners are the Arlington Redevelopment Board, a public body.

Its new site is a small triangle of public land, less than one acre, formed by the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, Chestnut Street, and Mystic Street. Also on the site is a fragment of the tracks of the street railway that once travelled down Massachusetts Avenue into Cambridge and Boston. The site is located in the middle of the Arlington Center Historic District, a short distance across Massachusetts Avenue from the Old Burying Ground to the south. In its new location, the building continues to face south onto Massachusetts Avenue. It forms the focal point for the town's newly designated Whittemore Park. The Cutter House presently houses public meeting and exhibition space, as well as the offices of the Arlington Chamber of Commerce.

(continued)

APR 11

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 7 Page 2

At the time of its listing in the National Register, the house was covered with aluminum siding, with an asphalt shingle roof; it was otherwise in sound but dilapidated condition. Previously first a single family and then a two-family residence, it had been unoccupied for three years and instead was used as storage space for its owner, an automobile dealership. Many of the windows and much of the exterior trim were in need of repair, as was the cornice over the front door. Before the move, a rear enclosed porch of ca. 1920 was removed. Otherwise, the building was moved in its entirety, and was placed in its new site on the granite blocks that had formed its original foundation. After it was moved, the building was carefully restored with the help of a grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. The siding was removed to reveal circular-sawn clapboards with lapped and skived joints. These were restored, and a new cedar-shingled roof was installed. Most of the building's original fabric, including its fine door, required only repair and restoration; replacement in kind occurred only if deterioration was irreparable. A preservation restriction has been placed on the building.

In its original location, the house held historical associations with Jefferson Cutter and the Cutter family, holders of mill privileges on nearby Mill Brook. The family had settled in the area in 1692. Jefferson Cutter and his brother, Gershom, built several early houses in Arlington, of which this is the best preserved example. Cutter worked as a millwright, turner, and edgetool maker during his career. His mill dam privilege passed ultimately to the Theodore Schwamb Company.

Archaeological Description

No prehistoric sites are recorded on the property or in the general area (within one mile). In general, the potential for significant archaeological remains, either prehistoric or historic is low as a result of small lot size, extensive urban development in the area and because the house was moved from its original location in 1989.

(end)

8. Statement of Significance

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally statewide locally

Applicable National Register Criteria A B C D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions) A B C D E F G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Community Planning and Development

Period of Significance

1817-1940

Significant Dates

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Significant Person

N/A

Architect/Builder

N/A

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

See continuation sheet

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Jefferson Cutter House,
Arlington, Massachusetts

Section number 8 Page 1

Significance

The Jefferson Cutter House is a well-preserved example of the five-bay, double-pile, Federal period house with double interior chimneys. It retains many original details and is unique in Arlington for its finely carved entryway (perhaps inspired by Asher Benjamin plates) and its symmetrical Beverly jogs. The building continues to retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling in its new location, and to fulfil Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places, as well as Exception B. It contributes to the Arlington Center Historic District, a district representing the historic institutional, commercial, and residential core of Arlington. Because it no longer retains association with its original site near the Mill Brook, the house no longer meets Criterion A.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Jefferson Cutter House
Arlington, Massachusetts

Photograph Captions

1. The existing front elevation at 1749 Massachusetts Avenue after the aluminum siding had been removed.
2. West elevation at existing site after aluminum siding had been removed.
3. West elevation at existing site showing rear addition to be removed.
4. Front of house showing cribbing prior to the move.
5. Cribbing steel in place, dollies about to be installed.
6. The house moved off its existing foundations.
7. House on site but not yet located over the proposed foundation.
8. Rear of structure showing new sills installed.
9. West elevation.
10. Rear elevation.
11. Front elevation with fence and exterior lighting installed.
12. Completed project.

4/10/91

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

Cutter, Jefferson, House Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS
(Arlington MRA)

REMOVAL APPROVED

Keeper _____

Beth L. Sawel
5/25/91

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: REMOVAL

PROPERTY NAME: Cutter, Jefferson, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Arlington MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 4/11/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 5/26/91
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 85001028

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 5/25/91 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

*Automatic removal since
move was unapproved in
accordance with reg. 36 CFR 60.*

RECOM./CRITERIA Approve
REVIEWER Jared
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 5/25/91

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