

1226
AUG 04 1988

AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

103

Town SomervilleAddress 37 Albion StreetHistoric Name F.G. Williams HouseUse: Present residentialOriginal residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1860Source map research / stylistic analysisStyle ItalianateArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric clapboardOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) noneCondition excellentMoved no Date n/aAcreage less than one acreSetting North side of residential street, on a sizeable corner lot, with a Centre Street address as well Late-19th century surrounds, urban.Recorded by Gretchen G. SchulerOrganization Mass. Historical CommissionDate September 1988

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 assessor's map

Z E N

UTM REFERENCE 19 326/730 4695/060USGS QUADRANGLE Boston NorthSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Frank G. Williams House retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association with Somerville's mid-19th century development. The dwelling is one of the best preserved examples of a center gable Italianate and is architecturally significant as an excellent Somerville representative of the period and style. The Frank G. Williams House fulfills Criterion C of the Nation Register of Historic Places on the local level.

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

The F.G. Williams House is one of the best preserved examples of a center gable Italianate remaining in Somerville. Located on a corner lot giving the house high visibility, it exhibits a traditional three-bay center entrance plan with a substantial rear ell. The dwelling displays fine Italianate detail including the center gable with trefoil window in the peak, round headed windows in the gable-end peaks, high profile bracketed window lintels, and a raking cornice with elaborately carved brackets. The center entrance with half side lights and transom is accentuated by the projecting open porch with squared columns and pilasters and a bracketed cornice.

The near by Gaut House at 137 Highland Avenue retains identical fenestration and bracketing detail. In all likelihood the two houses

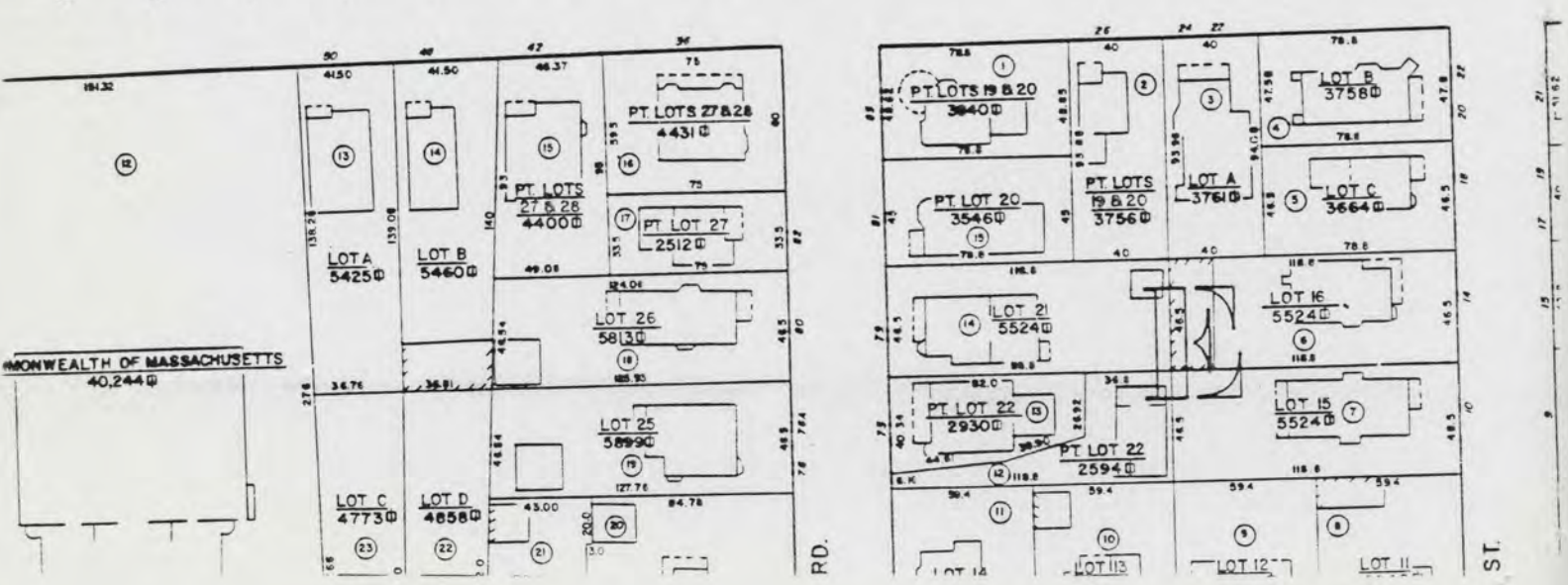
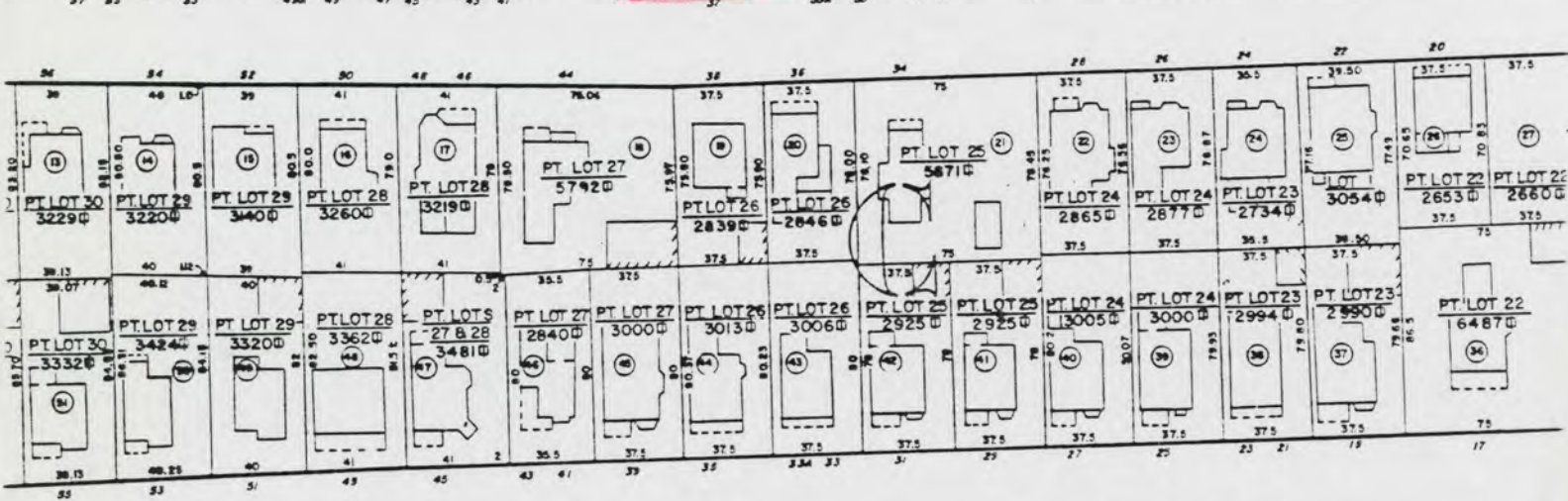
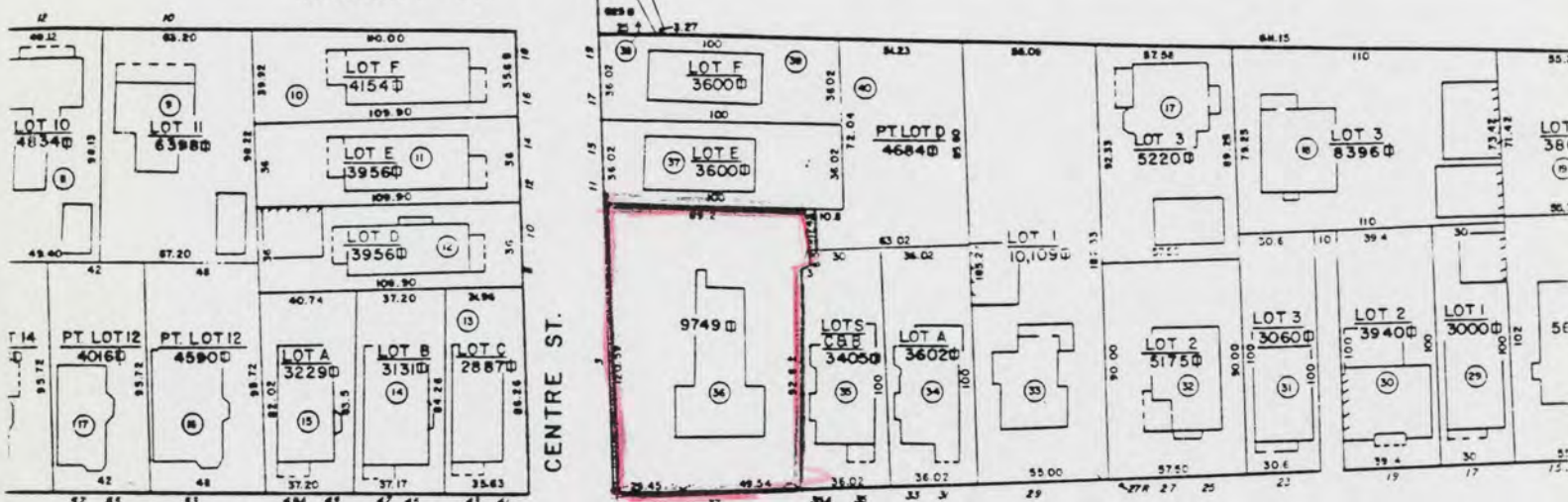
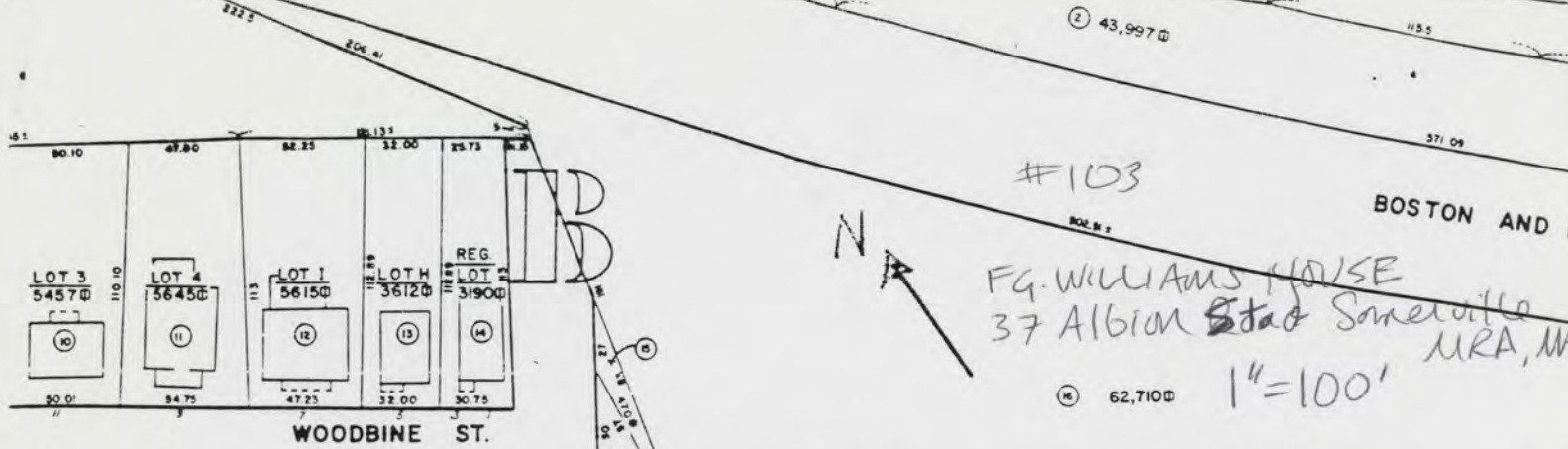
HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

Located on Albion Street, once known as Forest Place, the Frank G. Williams House was one of the first houses built in the "Polly Swamp" area. By 1880 there were at least five dwellings in this subdivision laid out by the mid 19th century land owners, the Stearnes. Subsequent development of the immediate area occurred at the end of the 19th century when William Stearnes subdivided remaining lands of the family farm. Much of the housing stock included modest mansard cottages and two-family vernacular housing.

Frank Williams, the mid 19th century owner and resident of this dwelling worked in Boston and dealt in kitchen furnishings.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Hopkins, G.M. Atlas of the City of Somerville, 1874.
Directories of the City of Somerville, 1870s.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 4 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Somerville MPS
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

71. Tufts, Peter and Oliver, House

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

72. Warren, H., House

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

73. West Somerville Branch Library

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

74. Williams, Charles, House

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

75. Williams, Charles, Jr., House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

76. Williams, F.G., House

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

77. Worthen, Daniel, House

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

78. Wright House

~~Entered in the~~
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

79. Wyatt, George, House

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Attest

80. Somerville Theatre

~~Entered in the~~
~~National Register~~
Substantive Review

Keeper

Entered in the

National Register

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Williams, F. G., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Somerville MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/04/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/18/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001226

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 9/18/89 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 _____



37 Albion

1. 37 Albion Street
2. Somerville, MA
3. C. Zellie
4. 1984
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking northeast
7. #103 Williams F. G. House
Somerville MA 02144

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500253