

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Edmund & Ellen Dwight House is notable as one of Winchester's finest mid-nineteenth century estate houses, built for Ellen Dwight, a great-granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson. The Dwight House exemplifies the ample houses on expansive grounds built by numerous Boston businessmen seeking a country setting outside of Boston. Therefore the Dwight House meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

The design of the Dwight House is thought to have been loosely based on the plan for Monticello, the home of Thomas Jefferson, who was the great-grandfather of Ellen Dwight. The Dwight house is a two-and-one-half story house based on a rectangular plan with a central elliptical bay. A three-sided verandah with segmental openings and chamfered posts encircles the house. The house is sited on a hill, with a broad expanse of lawn reaching down to the wooded shore of Upper Mystic Lake. From the verandah there are panoramic views of the lake and distant hills. Originally the house was clapboard clad, but during a 1896 "Victorianization" the present stucco cladding was applied. The architect of the renovations was Robert Coit, who designed numerous Winchester residences, the Winchester Boat Club, the Winchester Public Library, and the additions to the First

continued

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

The Dwight House was built in 1858 as the centerpiece of a twelve-acre estate along the western shore of Upper Mystic Lake. Ellen Randolph Coolidge Dwight (d.1894) was a great-granddaughter of Thomas Jefferson. Her husband, Edmund Dwight, was a wealthy Boston businessman. The Dwights purchased the twelve-acre tract, which sits on the Winchester/Arlington boundary, from John Dixwell.

In 1895 or 1896 the estate and grounds were sold to Stephen Swan Langley (b.1847). Langley was raised by his grandparents on the Swan farm which occupied the land of the present-day Winchester Country Club. He attended Phillips Andover, and eventually went into the notions business. His business was located in Boston at 76 Franklin Street. Although it was destroyed in the Boston fire of 1872, Langley recovered his losses, and by 1898 claimed to be doing over a million dollars worth of business annually.

Circa 1940 the property was sold to Louis Chick, a Vice President of Lever Brothers. At that time the property was divided, with two acres remaining around the house. The stables were converted to a residence and sold as a separate parcel (this now stands on the Arlington side of the boundary). Four acres were sold to four M.I.T. professors who built houses there in 1941. Five one-acre parcels on the Arlington side were also sold off.

In 1944 Edward McDonald assumed ownership of the Dwight House, until 1956, when it was purchased by the present owner, C. Shannon.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES Scrapbook #35, Winchester Archival Center.

Interview and tour of the Dwight House with Mr. & Mrs. Shannon, 10/87, by H.White

Measured drawings of the Dwight House, in the possession of the owner; drawn by David Fixler, Heritage Conservation & Recreation Service, Office of Archaeology & Historic Preservation, done in 1980.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Winchester

Form No:

19

Property Name: Dwight House

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE continued,

Congregational Church. Coit himself resided in Winchester, at 19 Hillside Avenue, in a house thought to have been designed by him.

On the interior, the focal point of the plan is the first floor octagonal room. It contains a parquet floor said to be laid in a pattern identical to a floor at Monticello. The elaborate yellow marble fireplace surround has acanthus leaf, waterleaf and egg and dart moldings. Ceilings of the first story are approximately twelve feet in height; the ceilings are embellished with ornate plaster moldings around the perimeter. Windows of the lower story are full-length six-light windows, which when raised, provide egress to the verandah. The right parlor/library has a green marble fireplace. A section of the mantelpiece has been removed. The dining room contains a coffered ceiling which appears to date from the 1890s remodelling.

There are two sets of entrance doors. The outer doors are double doors with upper panels of etched glass.

As part of the 1896 remodelling, a two-story addition was made on the northeast corner of the main block. In 1985 a one-story addition was made to the northwest corner of the main block.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

MAY 22 1989

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

Section number _____ Page _____

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

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | |
|-----|---|---|--|
| 11. | Cole House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 7/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 12. | DeRochmont House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 7/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 13. | Dike--Orne House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 7/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 14. | Dwight, Edmund, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 7/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 15. | Elder, Samuel, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 9/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 16. | Everett Avenue--Sheffield
Road Historic District | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Beth J. Sarge</u> 7-5-89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 17. | Firth--Glengarry Historic District | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 7/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 18. | Gardner, Edward, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Beth J. Sarge</u> 7-5-89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 19. | Gardner, Patience and Sarah, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 7/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |
| 20. | Ginn Carriage House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Shelton Byers</u> 7/5/89 |
| | | | Attest _____ |

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

Signed _____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Dwight, Edmund, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Winchester MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 6/22/11 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 8/07/11
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000633

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 _____DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

RECOM./CRITERIA *Accept*

REVIEWER *Edson Beall*

DISCIPLINE *History*

TELEPHONE _____

DATE *8.4.11*

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



"Brooksmouth"

5 Cambridge St. 1/88

Winchester, Ma. MRA

Dwight, Edmund, Hase

MHC Inv. #19

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000303

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Dwight, Edmund, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Winchester MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

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

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000633

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 7/5/89 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

NR IND 7/5/89
NR MRA 7/5/89

19



(Winchester, Mass. M.R.A.)

WINCHESTER

Address 5 Cambridge Street

Historic Name Edmund Dwight House

Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1858

Source Deeds

Style Italianate

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric stucco

Outbuildings 2 garages/NC

Major Alterations (with dates) 1896-Victorian remodelling; 1985-one-story addit. to rear.

Condition Excellent

Moved no Date

Acreage .64 acres 20-0001

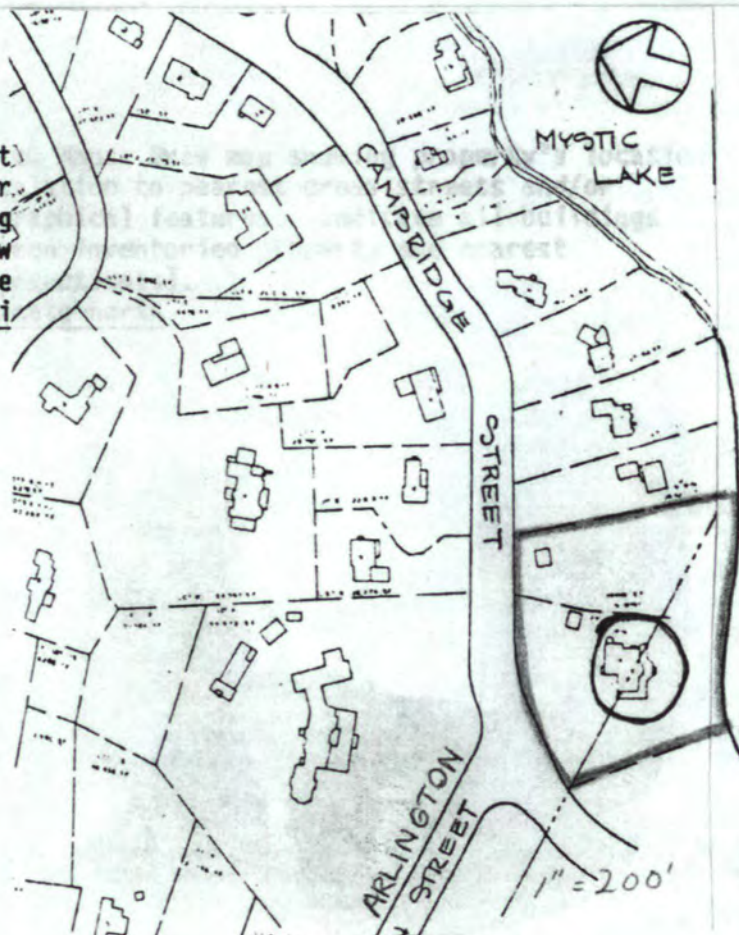
Setting Rural setting along Upper Mystic Lake western shore. Rear of house faces major early road to Cambridge.

Recorded by Carol Ely, Bettina Cooper

Organization Winchester Historical Comm.

Date 8/78; revised by H.White 10/87

Sketch in r. geog. betw. into Indi



UTM REFERENCE 19.322820.4700220

USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON, MASS.

SCALE 1:25,000

MAY 22 1989

633

AREA

FORM NO.

19

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

(Winchester, Mass. M.R.A.)

Town WINCHESTERAddress 5 Cambridge StreetHistoric Name Edmund Dwight HouseUse: Present dwellingOriginal dwelling

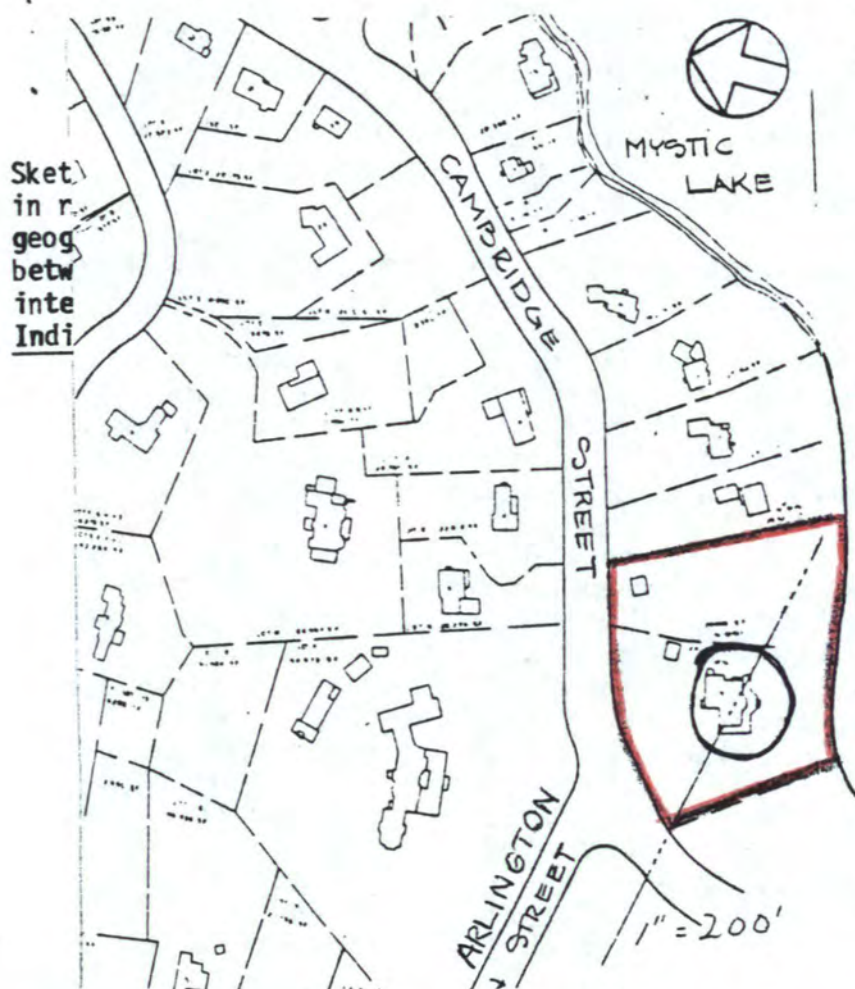
DESCRIPTION

Date 1858Source DeedsStyle ItalianateArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric stuccoOutbuildings 2 garages/NC

Major Alterations (with dates) 1896-Victorian remodelling; 1985-one-story addition to rear.

Condition ExcellentMoved no Date Acreage .64 acres 20-00Setting Rural setting along UpperMystic Lake western shore. Rear ofhouse faces major early road to Cambridge.Recorded by Carol Ely, Bettina CooperOrganization Winchester Historical CoDate 8/78; revised by H.White 10/87

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

UTM REFERENCE 19.3 22820.47 00220USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON, MASS.SCALE 1:25,000



89000633

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

May 31, 2011

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Mr. Loether:

Re: Technical correction for the Edmund Dwight House, Middlesex County, MA

It has recently come to our attention that the Edmund Dwight House straddles the Winchester/Arlington town line. The house, located at 5 Cambridge Street, was individually listed in the National Register on July 5, 1989 as part of the Winchester Multiple Resources Area.

We have enclosed a copy of the first page of the nomination showing the Arlington/Winchester town line running diagonally through the Edmund Dwight House. The town line has not changed, but the detail was overlooked in 1989. Please let me know if you need additional information to correct your records.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosure

XC: Winchester Historical Commission
Arlington Historical Commission