

PH0660 9

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
DATA SHEET	
RECEIVED	JAN 6 1978
DATE ENTERED	MAR 30 1978

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC Butterfield-Whittemore House

AND/OR COMMON Samuel Whittemore House

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 54 Massachusetts Avenue

CITY, TOWN Arlington

STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF CODE 025

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 8th

COUNTY CODE Middlesex 017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
			<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
			<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
			<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Ethel B. and Maynard Large

STREET & NUMBER 54 Massachusetts Avenue

CITY, TOWN Arlington

STATE Massachusetts 02174

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Middlesex County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER 208 Cambridge Street

CITY, TOWN Cambridge

STATE Massachusetts 02141

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE 1973
 FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN Boston

STATE Massachusetts 02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

EXCELLENT
 GOOD
 FAIR

DETERIORATED
 RUINS
 UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

UNALTERED
 ALTERED

CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE
 MOVED DATE _____

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Butterfield-Whittemore House is located at 54 Massachusetts Avenue in Arlington. Originally part of an estate of over 80 acres, the house is now at an angle to the road on a small plot of land surrounded by 20th century residential/commercial buildings. A black metal fence separates the property from the well traveled thoroughfare.

The 2 story brickender has a low hip roof and sits on a granite foundation. There are 2 inside end chimneys and 1 interior chimney. The original portion of the house, believed to have been built in 1695 by Jonathan Butterfield Sr., was a central hall plan with one room to either side and two bays deep. The building was extended full width to the rear (west) elevation at a later date. This extension added three bays to the depth of the structure. Later a 1½ story wing was added to the rear (west) elevation.

The clapboarded five bay wide facade faces east toward Massachusetts Avenue. Fenestration is 6/6 with plain architrave and is framed by black shutters. A later date entrance porch shelters the center entry. Slender, turned paired posts with a low railing at their bases support the porch entablature and flat roof with balustrade. The paneled entrance door is surmounted by a fanlight and flanked by sidelights.

The north and south elevations are identical with 6/6 fenestration on the two bay deep original portion of the house. The additional three bays of the later section of the western end of the rear elevation are narrower and have 9/6 sash placed slightly lower than those on the eastern end.

The north elevation of the 1½ story rear wing has an irregular window pattern. The first story is two 6/6 windows, one with plain architrave, the other with ornament. There is a three light casement at the western end. The two windows above are both framed by plain architraves.

The south elevation of the wing is also irregular. A one story shed at the eastern end has a 2/2 window with 2 6/6 windows above in a large dormer. The western end has a 20th century entrance headed by a 3/6 window directly under the eaves.

The west (rear) elevation of the wing has a six panel door and a 6/6 window on the first story and an 8 panel door and 6/6 window above on the second. The second story door is no longer used.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1695-1729

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Jonathan Butterfield

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

*essentially late 19th - early 20th C massive, front
Lebanon 3/15/78*

The Butterfield-Whittemore House is one of the oldest structures in Arlington. It is significant for its long association with two families prominent in the early political, military, religious, and agricultural life of Arlington and Cambridge.

Jonathan Butterfield Sr., cordwainer, first appears in the records as a field driver for Menotomy (a district of Cambridge) in 1693. He married in 1694 and bought several pieces of property along the south side of the present Massachusetts Avenue around the time of the birth of his first child, Jonathan, in 1695. He built the house some time over the next few years and in 1729 sold what had become a 16 acre farm with dwelling house and barn to his son Jonathan.

Jonathan Butterfield Jr. was active in the movement to establish Menotomy as a separate precinct. He served on a committee to call meetings as well as on the committee to build a meetinghouse. Both he and his father signed the Church Covenant in 1739 establishing the Second Church of Cambridge (Menotomy). He was one of the original pew-holders in this church. Over a period of several years both father and son served as the town assessors and as members of the Prudential Committee of their precinct. Jonathan Butterfield Jr. lived in the house for twenty years, expanding his holdings to 46.5 acres. He was childless. In 1749 he moved to the south parish of Bridgewater, selling the farm and all his other property to Samuel Whittemore.

The Whittemore family first came to the Menotomy area when Capt. Samuel Whittemore, father of Samuel III, purchased a house and land in 1730 opposite the Butterfield property on the north side of Massachusetts Avenue. Capt. Whittemore, assessor, Prudential Committeeman, and captain of the Royal Dragons, found fame during the beginning of the Revolutionary War. He had served on various pre-war committees and, on April 19, 1775, when almost 80 years old, he sniped at British soldiers during their retreat from Lexington, killing two. In the engagement he lost part of his cheek, was bayoneted and left for dead. He was found four hours later, recovered, and lived another 18 years.

His son, Samuel III, also served in the Revolutionary War. He served for five days in 1776 in a company under Capt. William Adams. This company assisted in General George Washington's assault on Dorchester Heights. Samuel III and his son Samuel continued in the tradition of Capt. Samuel Whittemore and became involved in local politics, serving as precinct treasurers and selectmen. Another grandson of the captain revolutionized the wool carding industry with his invention of the card-manufacturing machine. Together with his brother William, he brought prosperity to the town with their new manufacturing industry.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

- Arlington Vital Records to 1850, New England Historical and Genealogical Society, Boston, 1904.
 Cutter, Benjamin and William R., History of the Town of Arlington, David Clapp & Son, Boston, 1880.
 Paige, L., History of Cambridge, Mass., 1630-1877, H.O. Houghton and Co., Boston, 1877.
 Parker, Charles, Town of Arlington, Past and Present, C.S. Parker & Son, Arlington, 1907.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1/4 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A	110	3214	101210	416	016	31210	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING					ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING
C							D			

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE	Blaine Mallory and Joseph Orfant, National Register Editor Marianne Balazs, Arlington Historical Commission		
ORGANIZATION	Massachusetts Historical Commission	DATE	October 20, 1977
STREET & NUMBER	294 Washington Street	TELEPHONE	617-727-8470
CITY OR TOWN	Boston	STATE	Massachusetts 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL STATE LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elijah Reed Amador

TITLE Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

DATE 12/5/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST: <i>W. M. [Signature]</i>	DATE 3-30-78
DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER
DATE 3-16-78	

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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Butterfield-
CONTINUATION SHEET Whittemore House ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 1

The house remained the property of the Whittemore family until shortly after the death of Samuel III's son Jonathan. Then a farm of about 78 acres, property was subdivided and developed as Whittemore Park in the early 20th century. Today the area contains simple two-family houses and small scale commercial development.

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MAR 30 1978

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9

PAGE 1

Bibliography, continued:

Whittemore, B.A., "The Whittemore Family in America", The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, January, 1952-October, 1954.

Whittemore, B.B., A Genealogy of Several Branches of the Whittemore Family, Francis P. Whittemore, Nashua N.H., 1890.

Wyman, T.B., Charlestown Genealogies and Estates, David Clapp and Son, Boston, 1879.

Property Butterfield - Whittemore House

State Mass.

Working Number 1.6.78.2196

Middlesex

TECHNICAL

Photos 3
Maps 1

CONTROL

pl
OK 1.9.78

HISTORIAN

Accept
Franklin
2.22.78

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*portions of house supposedly built
1695.*

accept
Barman
2-16-78

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*family clearly significant, would
have preferred ^{more} complete discussion of evolution,
but relatively clear from photos*

Accept
Lebovich
3/15/78

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

signed
3/20/78

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 5.2.78

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered MAR 30 1978

INT:2106-74



2111 BIRCH
WOLF-CITY

Butterfield-Whittemore House
Arlington, Massachusetts
1975
Edward Jacoby
Architectural Photography Group
#1 93
East facade
Middlesex
County

JAN 6 1978

MAR 30 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

APG

Architectural Photography Group

All reproductions of this
Photograph must be credited

To: © EDWARD JACOBY

East facade
Butterfield-Whittemore House

54 Massachusetts Ave

9-75 A-103



Butterfield-Whittemore house, 54 Massachusetts
Avenue, Arlington

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Butterfield-Whittemore House
Arlington, Massachusetts
1975

MAR 30 1978

Edward Jacoby
Architectural Photography Group

#3 83

North elevation

Middlesex County JAN 6 1978



Butterfield-Whittemore House, 54 Massachusetts
Avenue, Arlington

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Butterfield-Whittemore House

Arlington, Massachusetts

1975

MAR 30 1978

Edward Jacoby

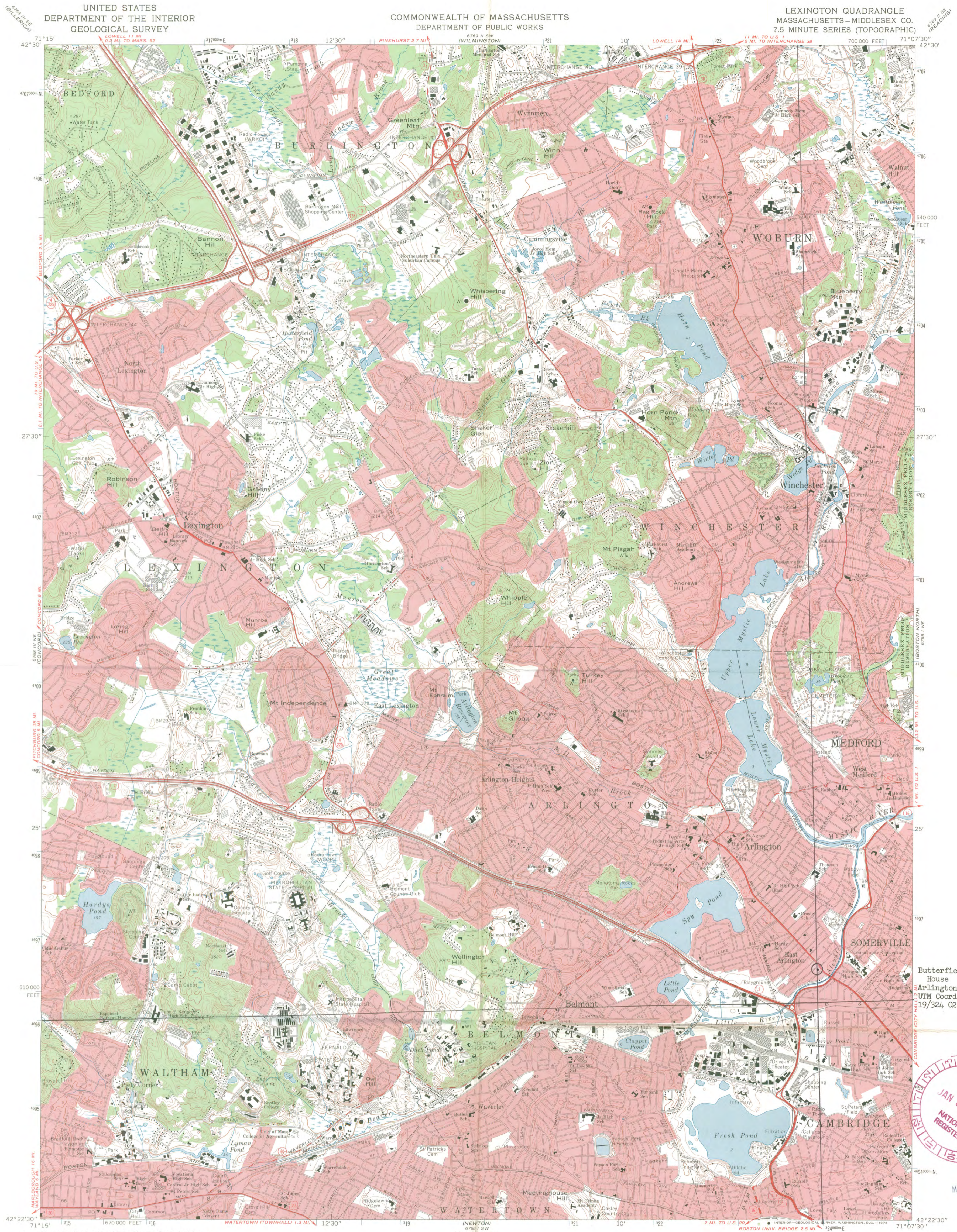
Architectural Photography Group

#2 **g3**

Western end of south elevation

Middlesex County

JAN 6 1978

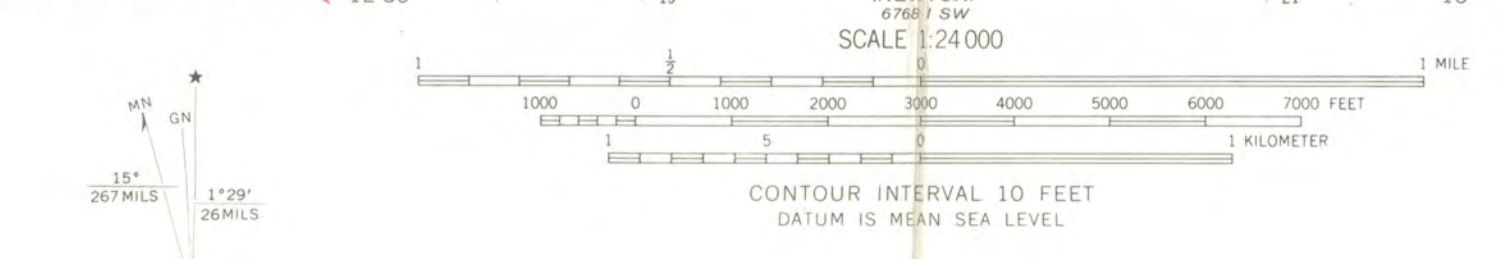


Butterfield-Whittemore House
Arlington, Massachusetts
UTM Coordinates:
19/324 020/4696 380



MAR 30 1978

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts
Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys
1943. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1971
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark
buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

LEXINGTON, MASS.
N4222.5—W7107.5/7.5
1971
AMS 6768 I NW—SERIES V814

YTD
2/11/78
2-7-78

Dear Sir - I received your letter of Jan 11-78 concerning our historical home. We have tried in the last fifty years to keep our property in number one condition. Vandels broke down our fence almost three years ago, we decided to put up a wrought iron fence to show the beauty of our home - in other words the fence complements the historical setting. We paid \$600.00 for this work. We would like to receive something to help pay for this so other may admire the "Whittemore" estate - Thank You very much

Maynard Large

P.S. if there is any benefits we may receive on any restoration of our home please let us know we as senior citizens on a fix income. This fence is fifty feet long - we would with your help put the fence on both sides of the house - Thank you
M.F.

Butterfield - Whittemore House

Fed. 1-24-78

rec'd 1-6-78

THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES	
DATE REC'D	JAN 31 1978
DATE REC'D	
INITIALS	

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered MAR 30 1978

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Harvard Lampoon Building	Cambridge Middlesex County
Butterfield-Whittemore House	Arlington Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

880 Mott/js 4/10/78

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Butterfield-Whittemore House
 ② OTHER NAMES: Whittemore, Samuel, House
 ③ date of entry: MAR 30 1978
 ④ county code: 17

⑤ LOCATION street & number: 54 Massachusetts Ave.
 city / town: Arlington
 vicinity of: _____
 state: MA
 county: Middlesex
 ⑥ NPS REGION: NA

⑦ OWNER PRIVATE STATE MUNICIPAL COUNTY MULTIPLE FEDERAL (agency name): _____
 ⑧ ADMINISTRATOR: _____

⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS HABS HAER NHL ⑩ FUNDED? YES NO ⑪ CONGRESS, DISTRICT: 8th
 ⑫ SOURCE OF NOMINATION STATE FEDERAL
 if state who prepared form? _____

⑬ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES, NAME _____ NO
 ⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES, NAME _____ NO
 ⑮ ACREAGE: _____
 LOCAL PRIVATE ORGANIZATION

⑯ CONDITION deteriorated altered original site
 excellent ruins unaltered moved
 good unexposed reconstructed unknown
 fair unexcavated excavated
 ⑰ features: INTERIOR SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-4 NOT APPLICABLE-7
 EXTERIOR SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-5 NOT APPLICABLE-8
 ENVIRON SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-3 NOT INTACT-0 UNKNOWN-6 NOT APPLICABLE-9

⑱ ACCESS YES-Restricted YES-Unrestricted No Access Unknown
 ⑲ ADAPTIVE USE YES NO ⑳ SAVED? YES NO
 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? yes no

㉑ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE: ENGINEERING-11 LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 POLITICS/GOVT.-21 RECREATION-28
 ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 COMMERCE-6 ENTERTAINMENT-26 LAW-16 RELIGION-22 SETTLEMENT-29
 ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 COMMUNICATIONS-7 EXPLORATION-12 LITERATURE-17 SCIENCE-23 URBAN PLANNING-31
 AGRICULTURE-3 CONSERVATION-8 HEALTH-27 MILITARY-18 SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 OTHER (SPECIFY) _____
 ARCHITECTURE-4 ECONOMICS-9 INDUSTRY-13 MUSIC-19 SOCIAL/CULTURAL-30
 ART-5 EDUCATION-10 INVENTION-14 PHILOSOPHY-20 TRANSPORTATION-25
 ㉒ CLAIMS: explain
 'first'
 'oldest'
 'only'

㉓ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: _____ CURRENTLY: _____
 ㉔ dates of initial construction: _____ major alterations: _____ historic events: _____
 ㉕ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION: _____

㉖ architectural style(s): _____ ㉗ architect: _____ ㉘ master builder: _____ ㉙ engineer: _____

㉚ landscape architect / garden designer: _____ ㉛ interior decorator: _____ ㉜ artist: _____ ㉝ artisan: _____ ㉞ builder/contractor: _____

㉟ NAMES give role & date
 PERSONAL:
 EVENTS:
 INSTITUTIONAL:

㊱ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP