

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Mass.	
COUNTY: Plymouth	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER APR 11 1972	DATE

1. NAME			
COMMON: Pilgrim Hall			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 75 Court Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Plymouth			
STATE Massachusetts		CODE 025	COUNTY: Plymouth
		CODE 023	

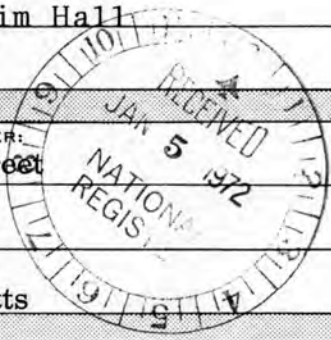
3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☒ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☐ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☒ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☒ Museum	☐ Park ☐ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) _____ _____
☐ Comments _____			

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Pilgrim Society			
STREET AND NUMBER: Pilgrim Hall			
CITY OR TOWN: Plymouth	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC: Plymouth County Register of Deeds			
STREET AND NUMBER:			
CITY OR TOWN: Plymouth	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: 1. Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1967 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local			
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Massachusetts Historical Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: Office of the Secretary, State House			
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



STATE: Massachusetts
COUNTY: Plymouth
ENTRY NUMBER: APR 11 1972
FOR NPS USE ONLY
DATE

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☒ Excellent	☐ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☒ Altered	☐ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Pilgrim Hall was built in 1824-5 from the designs of Alexander Parris. This two-story rectangular structure is built in the form of a Greek temple. The original wooden portico with Doric columns has been replaced by a modified Tuscan hexastyle portico of dressed granite. The smooth surface provided by this material, which is also used to face the main facade, contrasts with the rough granite ashlar of the side and rear facades. The only ornamental features found on the building interrupt these smooth wall surfaces. Giant Tuscan pilasters decorate each end of the main facade. Above the entrance, which is centered on the wall, is set a square two-stage, recessed panel. A fanlight decorates the pediment.

In 1904, a flat-roofed library wing, the same height as the eave line of the main building, was added to the northwest side of the Hall. Although the basic construction material is rough granite ashlar, a facing of dressed granite blocks, set in from the corners and roof line, forms a panel covering most of the main wall, which is broken by three large windows. Above these openings a succession of slightly projecting courses topped by a band of three recessed panels suggests an entablature, cornice and parapet.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CONTINUATION SHEET: Pilgrim Hall, Plymouth, Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

2. Statewide Preservation Plan, First Edition, 1970.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Office of the Secretary, State House
Boston, Massachusetts 025



3. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1824

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☒ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Pilgrim Hall Museum, whose cornerstone was laid on September 1, 1824, is recognized by the American Association of Museums as the first public museum in this country. Under the direction of the Pilgrim Society of Plymouth, it has been the major institution for the interpretation and preservation of Pilgrim history and artifacts. The Museum features distinguished collections of the fine and decorative arts, anthropological collections and an outstanding research library.

The architect of Pilgrim Hall was Alexander Parris of Boston, who also drew the plans for Boston's St. Paul's Church and the Quincy Market. Following the Greek Revival style then popular, Parris designed Pilgrim Hall as a Greek Temple. Although Parris' wooden portico with Doric columns has now been replaced by a Tuscan portico in granite, the major portion of the original building remains intact.

Since its construction, Pilgrim Hall has been the site of Plymouth's celebration each December of Forefather's Day. Begun shortly before the Revolutionary War, the annual observance commemorates the original landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth in 1620. Forefather's Day orations, extolling the virtues of the Pilgrim settlers, have been delivered by many famous Americans, among them Edward Everett, Lyman Beecher, Mark Hopkins, Senator Charles Sumner and Senator Henry Cabot Lodge.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Coleman, Lawrence Vail, The Museum in America. Washington, D.C., 1939.

Thacher, James, History of Plymouth. Boston, 1835.

Willison, George F., Saints and Strangers. New York, 1945.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0		70 40 08	41 57 32	
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0				
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Anne Wardwell, Survey Director

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: March 18, 1971

STREET AND NUMBER: Office of the Secretary, State House

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☒ Local ☒

Name: John F. X. Darrow
Secretary of the Commonwealth and
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Title: Commission

Date: March 18, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert M. Utley
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 4/11/72

ATTEST:
William M. Muntaght
Keeper of The National Register

Date: APR 11 1972

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

UTM REF 19/361700/4646370
unc-17-75

Lat/Long reversed
unc 4/28/74

Plymouth
Mass

Pilgrim Hall

DATE OF RECEIPT

1/5/72

YES

NO

NUMBER

REGISTER:

1
1

9-19-72

DATA PAGE
PHOTO (S)
PHOTO DESCRIPTION (S)
MAP (S)
MAP DESCRIPTION (S)
LOGGED
ACKNOWLEDGE



RESUBMIT

1/5/72

Leck 3/15/72 jlj de

REVIEW

OK
means
3/15/72

HISTORIAN

Oleg. Lyles
3/20/72

ARCHEOLOGIST

ARCHITECT

OK Chambers
3-16-72

ASST. KEEPER

OK Muller
3/23/72

KEEPER

OK Wm
3/27

WRITER/EDITOR

OK Marvise
3/21/72

CHIEF, OAMP

EDITORIAL PROCESSING, EDITOR

Federal Registry Entry

5-2-72

Annual Edition Entry

Logged

APR 11 1972

Card

APR 11 1972

REMARKS:

WORKING NUMBER

15,72.4
.57

cong. dist #12



Plymouth, Mass

Pilgrim Hall

West facade

NR Number

April 11, 1972

Title:

Pilgrim Hall

Loc.

Plymouth County, Mass

Plymouth Pilgrim Hall

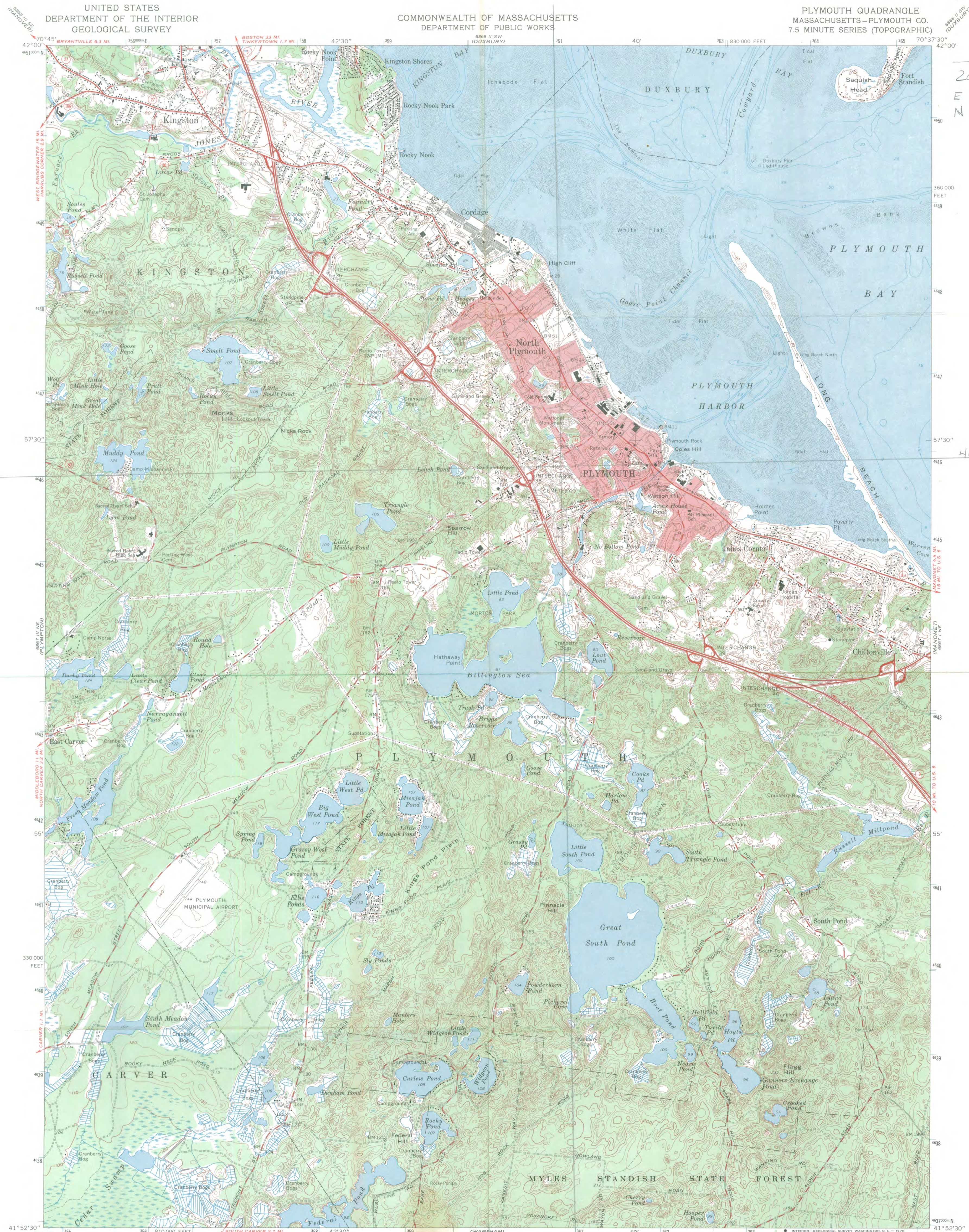
exterior view of west facade

19

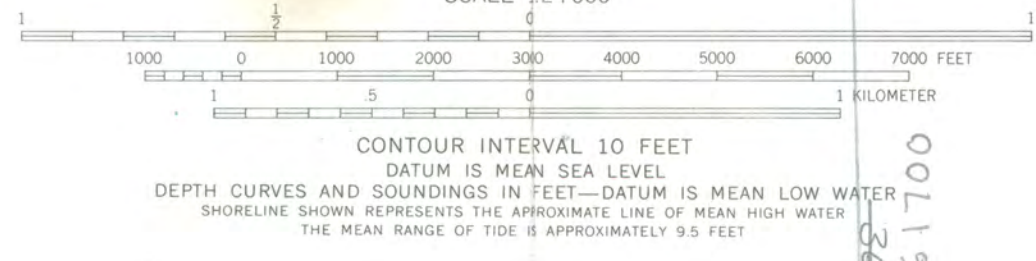
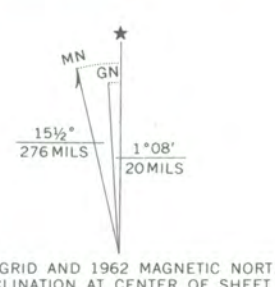
PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STUDIO ONE
PLYMOUTH KINGSTON

PIGIRIM HALL
UTM REF
Zone 19
E 361700
N 4646370
Wm
9-17-75



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1934. Revised 1962
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Chart 245 (1960)
This information is not intended for navigational purposes
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 area in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
U.S. Route	State Route

PLYMOUTH, MASS.
N4152.5—W7037.5/7.5



**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Plymouth	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
APR 11 1972	

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: Pilgrim Hall			
AND/OR HISTORIC:			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 75 Court Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Plymouth			
STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	COUNTY: Plymouth	CODE 023
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U. S. G. S. Plymouth, Mass.			
SCALE: 1 : 24,000			
DATE: 1962			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

APR 11 1972

Date Entered

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
North Easton Railroad Station	North Easton Bristol County
Pilgrim Hall	Plymouth Plymouth County
Rocky Hill Meetinghouse and Parsonage	Andover Essex County
French Cable Station	Orleans Barnstable County
Isaac Davis Trail	Acton, Concord Middlesex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy	State Liaison Officer
Hon. Edward W. Brooke	Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Hon. Margaret M. Heckler	Secretary of the Commonwealth
Hon. Hastings Keith	Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Hon. Michael J. Harrington	Commission
Hon. Robert F. Drinan	Office of the Secretary
Director, Northeast Region	State House
	Boston, Massachusetts 02133

4/5/72

HR
NRowland:rm

-NOTIFICATION OF GRANT-IN-AID ACTION

1. STATE APPLICATION IDENTIFIER 74070490			2. (Reserved for use by State central information reception agency)		
3. GRANTOR: a. Federal agency Department of the Interior					
b. Organizational unit National Park Service					
c. Administering office - (1) Name Division of Grants					
(2) Address - Street or P.O. Box 18th and C Streets, NW.			City Washington	State D.C.	Zip Code 20240
4. FEDERAL AGENCY GRANT IDENTIFIER: a. Code 25-75-00289-00			b. Title Pilgrim Hall Development		
c. Purpose The ceiling and walls will be repaired and painted and three picture frames will be restored.					
5. GRANTEE: a. Name Massachusetts Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon, Exec. Dir., MA Historical Commission					
b. Address - Street or P.O. Box 40 Beacon Street			City Boston	State Massachusetts	Zip Code 02108
6. GRANTEE TYPE (Check only the single most applicable box)					
a. State ☒	b. Inter-state ☐	c. County ☐	d. City ☐	e. School district ☐	f. Special unit ☐
g. Community action ☐		h. Sponsored organization ☐		i. Other ☐	
7. APPLICATION RECEIPT DATE Year Month Day 76 2 3		8. ACTION DATE Year Month Day 76 2 25		9. EFFECTIVE STARTING DATE Year Month Day 76 2 25	
10. ENDING DATE Year Month Day 79 2 24					
11. TYPE OF ACTION (Check as many boxes as apply to this action)					
a. New grant ☒	b. Continuation grant ☐	c. Supplemental grant ☐	d. Change in existing grant		
(identify agency in item 16)			(1) Increase in duration ☐	(2) Decrease in duration ☐	(3) Cancellation ☐
			(4) Increase(\$) ☐	(5) Decrease(\$) ☐	
12. AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION a. Federal - (1) basic \$ 4,068			b. State \$ 4,202*		c. Local \$
(2) Supplemental \$			d. Other \$		
13. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (if none, clarify in item 16)			a. Program Number 15.904		b. Supplemental Program Number
14. AUTHORIZATION					
a. Federal Budget Accounts		10-58-1040-0-1-405			
b. Public Laws		PL Title Sec. 89 665	PL Title Sec.	PL Title Sec.	
c. U.S. Code		16 U.S.C. 470			
15. FACILITY LOCATION: (For facility grant actions only)					
a. City 75 Court Street, Plymouth			b. County Plymouth		CD 12
16. REMARKS *Pilgrim Society					