

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Massachusetts

COUNTY:
Norfolk

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE
OCT 15 1974

1. NAME

COMMON:

The John Partridge House

AND/OR HISTORIC:
same

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

315 Exchange Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Millis

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:

10th

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY:

Norfolk

CODE

021

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY
(Check One)

- ☐ District ☒ Building
☐ Site ☐ Structure
☐ Object

OWNERSHIP

- ☐ Public
☒ Private
☐ Both

Public Acquisition:

- ☐ In Process
☐ Being Considered

STATUS

- ☒ Occupied
☐ Unoccupied
☐ Preservation work
in progress

ACCESSIBLE
TO THE PUBLIC

- Yes:
☐ Restricted
☐ Unrestricted
☒ No

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- ☐ Agricultural ☐ Government ☐ Park
☐ Commercial ☐ Industrial ☒ Private Residence
☐ Educational ☐ Military ☐ Religious
☐ Entertainment ☐ Museum ☐ Scientific

☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) _____



4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:

Mr. and Mrs. Craig F. Lichman

STREET AND NUMBER:

315 Exchange Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Millis

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Norfolk County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

Dedham

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE OF SURVEY:

1973

☐ Federal☒ State☐ County☐ Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

Massachusetts Historical Commission

STREET AND NUMBER:

40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Boston

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
MassachusettsCOUNTY:
NorfolkFOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE

OCT 15 1974

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

The John Partridge House, built c. 1659, is a 2½ story clapboard ridge roof Colonial with center chimney. It faces west on five acres of wooded land. The house is a near-duplicate of the Cooper-Frost-Austin House in Cambridge, built in 1657. While the Partridge House was partially burned by Indians in 1676, it was renovated to its original condition in the same year. It is five bays wide and two deep with a kitchen ell extending to the rear from the southeast corner. All of the narrow windows are 9/6 sash; those on the top floors are shuttered and those on the ground level have plain surrounds with a slightly protruding wooden lintel. The enclosed vestibule, in the center of the facade, is topped by a triangular pediment and flanked by plain pilasters.

There have been two additions to the house, one being a 19th c. open shed-roof porch on the south elevation, enclosed in the 1920's. The second is a library ell, c. 1940, running parallel to the kitchen ell, off the rear northeast corner of the house.

The interior of the building has retained as much of its original fabric as has the exterior. The first floor consists of a dining room, living room, borning room, keeping room, and kitchen. Seven fireplaces are built around the central chimney stack. The dining room's fireplace is classic in design, with reeded pilasters, and is flanked on one side by beehive ovens. The handsome panelling on the fireplace mantel is continued in the pine single-board panelling which encircles three walls of the room below the chair rail. The ceiling exposes its summer beam, floor joists, and chimney, front and end girts. The room also retains its original flooring, pine boards which reach a width of 15". The living room, opposite the dining room in the front of the house, was originally wainscotted with wide vertical panels, but these have been plastered over. The keeping room runs from front to back on the north side. Its fireplace has been plastered over. Off this room, to the south and in the rear, is the borning room, located behind the central chimney. The kitchen once contained an "Indian room" and escape way, to the left of the fireplace, which connected the kitchen to the back bedroom through the attic. This, however, has been essentially demolished.

The second floor contains four rooms, three of which boast wide vertical plank wainscot on the walls, wide floor boards, and exposed roof beams. The hardware in the house is all 18th c.

At the turn of the century, the house was moved 40' on the original land to make way for a change in the roadway which passes the house.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. 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) 1659

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| ☐ Aboriginal | ☐ Education | ☐ Political | ☐ Urban Planning |
| ☐ Prehistoric | ☐ Engineering | ☐ Religion/Philosophy | ☐ Other (Specify) _____ |
| ☐ Historic | ☐ Industry | ☐ Science | _____ |
| ☐ Agriculture | ☐ Invention | ☐ Sculpture | _____ |
| ☒ Architecture | ☐ Landscape | ☐ Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| ☐ Art | ☐ Architecture | ☐ Theater | _____ |
| ☐ Commerce | ☐ Literature | ☐ Transportation | _____ |
| ☐ Communications | ☐ Military | | |
| ☐ Conservation | ☐ Music | | |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The John Partridge House is the oldest dwelling in Millis. It was built in 1659 by John Partridge Sr. when Millis was still a part of Medfield and was comprised of a few scattered farms. John Partridge Sr. was primarily a farmer, but in 1672 he was also chosen clerk of the market. Of his several children, only John Partridge, Jr. remained in Millis. In 1682 John Jr. sold his house on Bridge Street and moved back to the present house. In 1704, two years before he died, John Sr. sold the property to his son. John Partridge Jr. became a schoolmaster in 1710 and a church deacon in 1714.

The architectural significance of the house is notable as it is not only a handsome example of early Colonial architecture, but it also retains much of its original fabric and structural details. The owners have carefully restored it and plan to open it to the public.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

1. Town Records, Town of Medfield, 1659.
2. Jameson, Rev. E. O., History of Medway, Providence, R.I. 1886.
3. Tildon, William F., History of Medfield, Boston, 1887.

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 Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds		LATITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	LONGITUDE Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		42 ° 10' 34 "	71 ° 21' 37 1/2 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 5 acres

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

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Elizabeth Amadon, State Survey Director, By Mindy Arbo

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: 1/8/74

STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 02108
617-727-8470 CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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 Honorable John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Title Chairman, Massachusetts Historical Commission

Date 4/24/74

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

R. P. Montross
Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date 10/15/74

ATTEST:

Constance L. ...
Keeper of The National Register

Date 10-11-74

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PROPERTY Pattidge, The John, House STATE Mass.
WORKING NUMBER 5.3.74.696
TECH REVIEW
PHOTOS 2
MAPS 1

~~North~~
Norfolk

CONTROL REVIEW #10 already is missing cm
OK 58
74

HISTORIAN
Accept
W.R. Luce
7/24/74

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN Despite changes & move ...
Accept
JCT
7/15/74

ARCHEOLOGIST Called Mindy Arbo - 9/12/74
5 acres is acreage
R. Luce.

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF Call to make sure the
5 acres in #7 are the acreage
Accept
Cole
9/12/74

BRANCH CHIEF
Accept
Hunt
10/19/74

KEEPER
W. Hunt
10/11/74

National Register Write-up Nov 5, 1974
Federal Register entry 12/3/74

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____
Entered _____
OCT 15 1974



NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Norfolk	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER OCT 15 1974	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: John Partridge House			
AND/OR HISTORIC: same			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 315 Exchange Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Millis			
STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	COUNTY: Norfolk	CODE 021
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Promotional Resources Development			
DATE OF PHOTO: 10/10/73			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Promotional Resources Development, 40 Grove Street Wellesley, Mass.			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.			

#1 of 2 East elevation, rear of the house.

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
John Partridge House	same	
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Norfolk	Millis
STREET AND NUMBER		
315 Exchange Street		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Promotional Resources Development	10/10/73	Promotional Resources Development, 40 Grove Street, Wellesley
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		
Facade, facing west.		

2 of 2

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



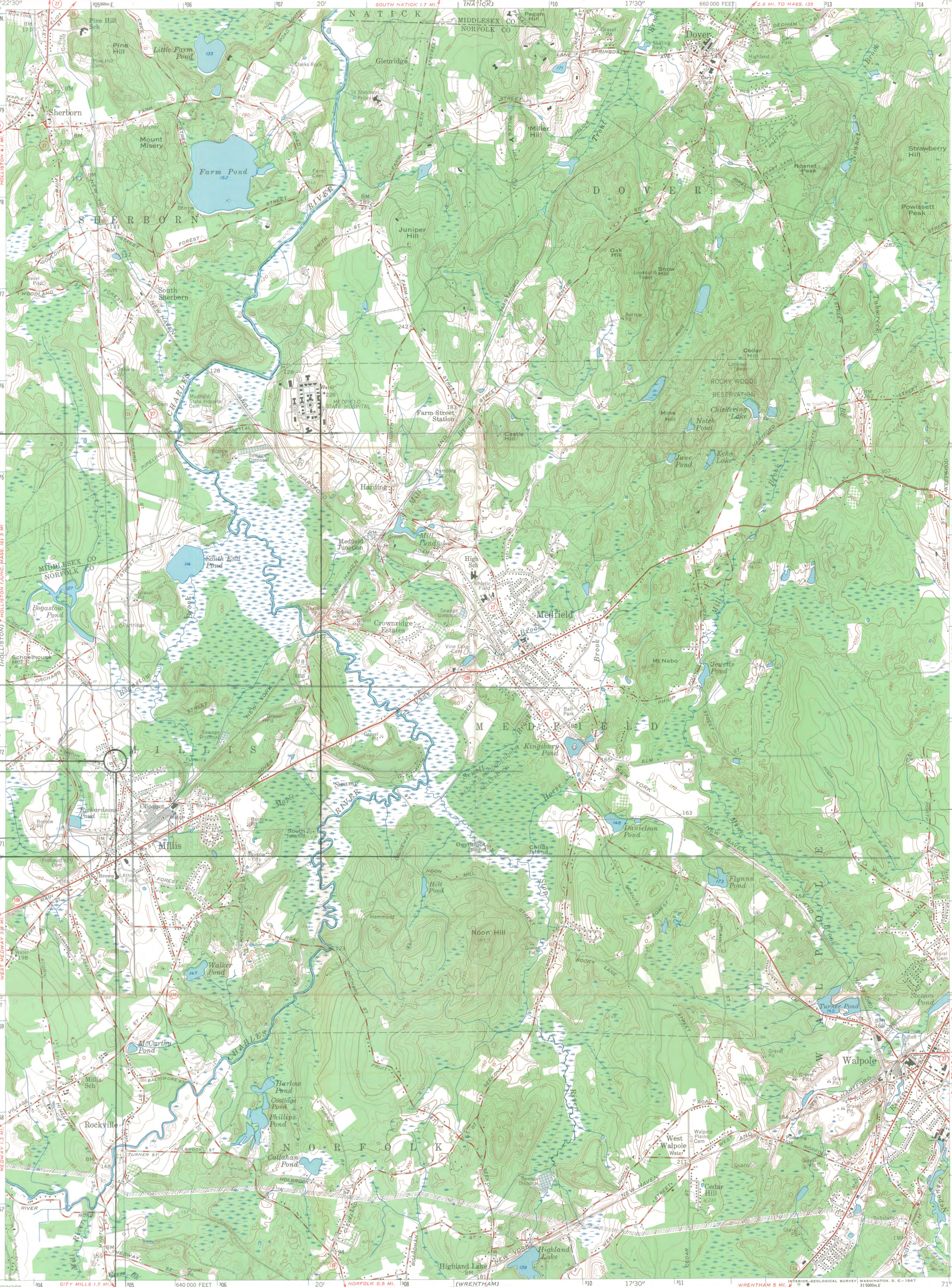
JOHN PARTRIDGE HOUSE,
MILLIS

Latitude 42° 10' 34"

Longitude 71° 21' 37½"



413
Zn 19
E305040
N 467/810



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey

Control by USGS, Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey

Topography by planetable surveys 1937-1938

Culture revised 1957

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

1 0000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET

DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
State Route ○



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

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

MEDFIELD, MASS.

N4207.5-W7115/7.5

1957

AMS 6768 III NE-SERIES V814

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

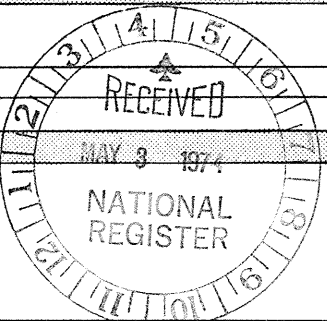
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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

STATE	Massachusetts
COUNTY	Norfolk
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME			
COMMON: John Partridge House			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Same			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 315 Exchange Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Millis			
STATE:	Massachusetts	CODE	COUNTY:
		025	Norfolk
			021
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE:		U.S.G.S. Medfield Mass. 1957	
SCALE:		1:24,000	
DATE:		1957	
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

Date Entered OCT 15 1974

Name

Location

Partridge, John, House

Millis
Norfolk County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Margaret M. Heckler
Regional Director, North
Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F.X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108