

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AUG 21 1989

NATIONAL
REGISTER

1522

AREA

FORM NO.

	122
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WALTHAM, MA MRA

Town Waltham, MAAddress 177 Weston St (8 Caldwell St) akaHistoric Name Edwin C. Johnson House

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

Use: Present Private residenceOriginal " "

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1847-1853Source Deed research, mapsStyle Greek Revival/ItalianateArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric ClapboardOutbuildings Garage-NC

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

Major Alterations (with dates) noneCondition Good-excellentMoved no Date n/aAcreage 15,009 sq.ft. 0.34A 58-15-49Setting Situated on rise above Weston St.Faces ample front yard which runseastward to contemporary suburb, homes
bordering Caldwell St.UTM REFERENCE 19/314150/4693580USGS QUADRANGLE NATICKSCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Ed GordonOrganization Waltham Historical CommissionDate August, 1986

revised by C. Jenkins 3/88

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Edwin C. Johnson House is a large well detailed and preserved example of the transitional Greek Revival/Italianate style. It displays a symmetrical three bay facade, wide cornerboards and entablature and a projecting roof with return eaves, as well as an entry with sidelights, transom and dentilated pediment. It also represents the earliest suburbanization of Weston Street. It possesses integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and 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.

#117 Weston St. is a stately example of a ca. late 1840's/early 1850's Greek Revival/Italianate house. Its massing, center hall plan, cornice headed windows and gable roof with return eaves are essentially Italianate. Its pedimented entrance enframent (pilasters, side lights, entablature and pediment) along with its wide cornerboards, and fascia boards are Greek Revival stylistic characteristics. This building retains its clapboard sheathing. Interestingly, the windows of the 2-bay side walls have been placed nearly flush with the corner pilasters. Two cornice headed windows appear at attic level. A stylish cupola which appears in a late 19th century birds-eye, has been removed.

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

#177 Weston Street was built ca. 1847-1853 on land that had been part of Nehemiah Warren's extensive farmlands. Nehemiah Warren had owned much of the land in the Weston St./Main St. area beginning ca. 1830. He was the father of Nathan Warren, Waltham historian whose house is still extant at 50 Weston St. Weston St. is a very old highway which dates back to at least the early 18th century. In a sense, the construction of 177 Weston St. represents the beginnings of suburban house construction in the area. Edwin C. Johnson purchased this house's lot (originally much more extensive than it is today, extending northward to Main St.) from Nehemiah Warren for \$1500 on October 15, 1846. (Middlesex 495:201). This house's form and elements suggest a construction date closer to 1854 than 1846. This house appears labeled Johnson on the 1854 Waltham map. This property was sold in a deed of July 1, 1862 (892:449) by Edwin C. Johnson to Harvey Garcelon of Portland, Maine. Garcelon paid Johnson \$4,900.00 for this house and its 7 acres. Garcelon, in turn sold it just over one year later to Charles H.B. Caldwell for \$6,000 on 1 September 1863 (914:225). It remained in the Caldwell family until July 3, 1883 (1637:375)--at that time Frederick A. Caldwell, a guardian of his father's estate, sold it to Charles W. Bemis and John Derby. The 1886 atlas indicates that at least 3 other buildings besides 177 Weston St were part of this property. Caldwell St. appears on this Atlas as Highland St. Later, owners of 177 Weston St. included Frank E. Tower and Minnie E. Adams.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps/Atlases - 1836, 1854, 1874, 1881, 1886, 1900-1915
Middlesex Deeds

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 21 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

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

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. Hall, Henry C., House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

42. Hammond, Ephraim, House

Substantive Review

Keeper Beth A. Savage 9/16/89

Attest _____

43. Hammond, Jonathan, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

44. Hardy, Nahum, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

45. Harrington Block

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

46. Harrington, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

47. Hill, Rev. Thomas, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

48. Hobbs Brook Basin Gate House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

49. Holbrook, Richard, Houses

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

50. Johnson, Edwin C., House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Johnson, Edwin C., House
NAME:

MULTIPLE Waltham MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/21/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/05/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/21/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/05/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001522

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 9/28/89 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

☐ UTMs ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



Johnson, Edwin C, H&R

Johnson H&R

177 WESTON ST

MITCHELL 122

WALTHAM, MA MRA



Edwin C. Hesse
Johnson Hse
127 Weston St
MHC #122
Waltham, MA M24



Johnson Hsc
177 Weston St
Waltham MA 02451
#122



35-J-49 MHC # 122



WALTHAM, MA MRA

Edwin C. Johnson House #122

8 Caldwell Street

1" = 100'

1975; updated at 1987

Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #58-15-49



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301