

1516

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

AUG 21 1989

NATIONAL REGISTER

AREA	FORM NO.
	175

WALTHAM, MA MRA

Town Waltham, MA

Address 38 Linden Street

Historic Name Eastern Middlesex County-  
Second District Court

Use: Present Institutional

Original Same

DESCRIPTION

Date 1938-1940

Source placque in lobby

Style Art Deco

Architect Charles R. Greco

Exterior Wall Fabric YELLOW BRICK

Outbuildings -- none

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition good

Moved no-- Date n/a --

Acreege 61-8-1<sup>1.56</sup> A 59,130 sq.ft.

Setting Situated near major Main/Linden  
Sts. intersection, late 19th early 20th c.  
residential area to rear sides. Faces  
supermarket parking lot.

Recorded by Ed Gordon

Organization Waltham Historical Comm.

Date June 1986

revised by C. Jenkins 3/88

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

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

UTM REFERENCE 19/316870/4693900

USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON

SCALE 1:25,000

### **NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

The Eastern Middlesex County Second District Court is Waltham's most full-blown example of the Art Deco style. It was designed by Boston/Cambridge architect Charles R. Greco and was built in 1938-1940. It also represents an expansion of the county court system; the first Middlesex District Court dates from the mid-19th century and is located in Cambridge (NR-1983). The Courthouse possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and associations; it 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 Eastern Middlesex County Second District Court is constructed of yellow brick and cast stone. Its main facade is treated as a projecting center pavilion with side wings. A broad flight of stairs lead to the heavy metal double front doors. The stairs are flanked by high stone, "shoulders" which support distinctive Art Deco lamps on Ram's head bases. In general windows are set within tall vertical bays. The central pavilion features tall openings filled with glass bricks. The center pavilion is surmounted by a skylight set within a stepped cast stone platform. This building's lobby contains well-crafted mosaic tile--covered walls. This building is one of three Art Deco buildings in Waltham. (see #s 37, Area B)

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

The Eastern Middlesex County Second District Court was built in 1938-1940. It represents the work of Boston/Cambridge architect Charles R. Greco. This courthouse was "the dream" of Judge P. Sarsfield Cuneff; On April 22, 1940, 750 people assembled for this courthouse's dedication. This building's architect Charles R. Greco (1874-1963) was born in Cambridge. He graduated from English High School in 1892 (Cambridge) and studied engineering at Harvard. For many years he was associated with the Boston architectural firm of Wait and Cutter. This firm was responsible for the Middlesex County Court buildings at East Cambridge and Boston-area armories. Greco was the chief architect of Waltham News Tribune, April 23, 1940. Cambridge Historical Commission survey series--Vol. I East Cambridge. Henry Withey--Dictionary of American Architects (deceased), 1970.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Waltham News Tribune, April 23, 1940. Cambridge Historical Commission survey series-- Vol. I, East Cambridge. Henry Withey--Dictionary of American Architects (deceased), 1970.

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 Group

Name Waltham MRA  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 21. Colburn, Gilbert, House Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Melores Byers 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 22. Company F State Armory Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Melores Byers 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. Dow, Lenoir, House Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Melores Byers 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- see* 24. Dunbar--Stearns House Substantive Review *for* Keeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 25. East Main Street Historic District Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Melores Byers 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 26. Eastern Middlesex County District Court Second Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Melores Byers 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- see* 27. First Congregational Church Substantive Review *for* Keeper Beth J. Savage 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- see* 28. First Parish Church Substantive Review *for* Keeper Beth J. Savage 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 29. Fisher, Henry N., House Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Melores Byers 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 30. Fiske, Elijah, House Entered in the National Register *for* Keeper Melores 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 Eastern Middlesex County Second District Court  
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: 89001516

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  
 UTM's       boundary justification

---

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

---

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



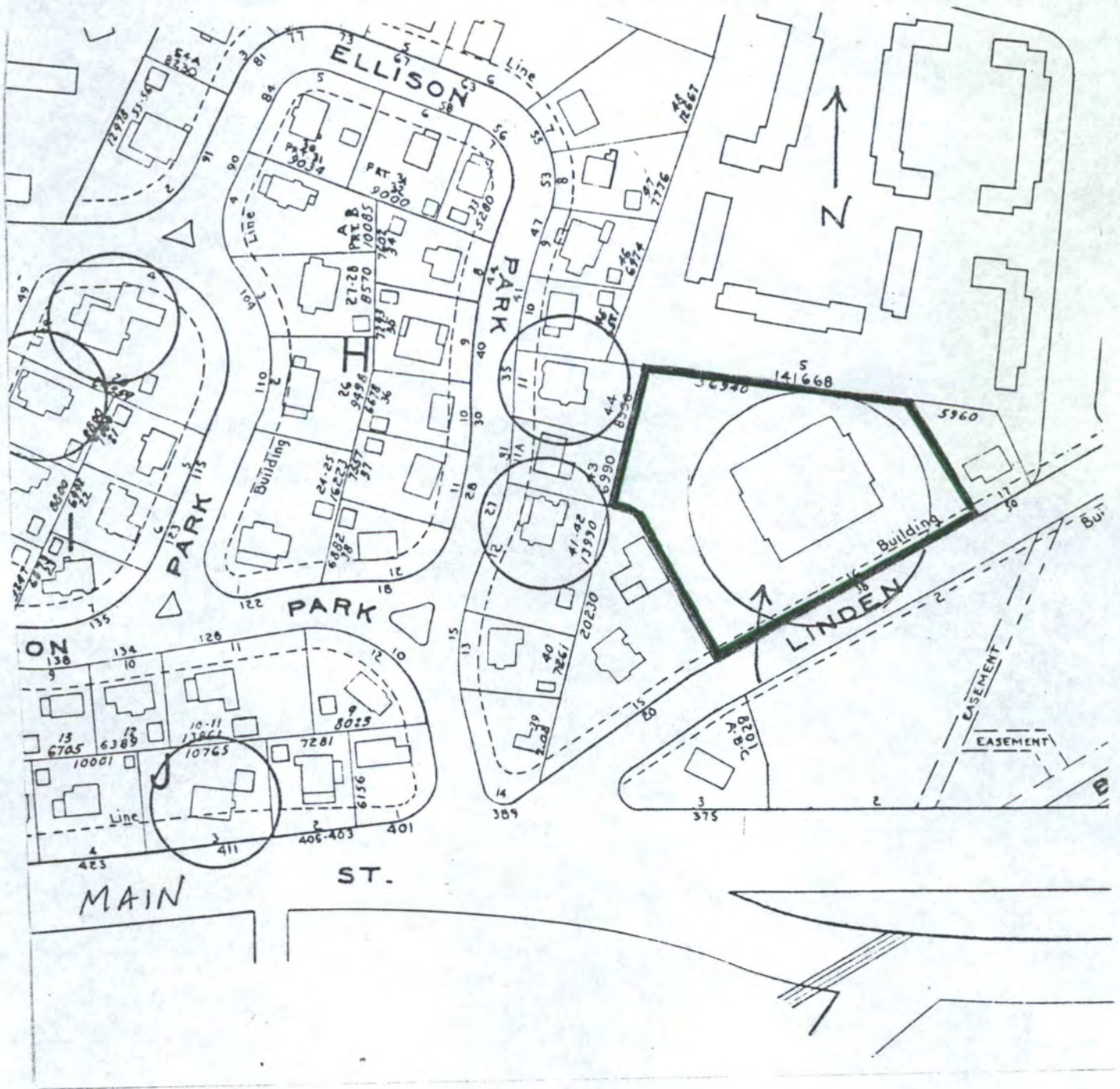
Eastern Middlesex County Second  
District Court

County Courthouse  
WALTHAM, MA MIRA  
38 Linden St  
MAG 175



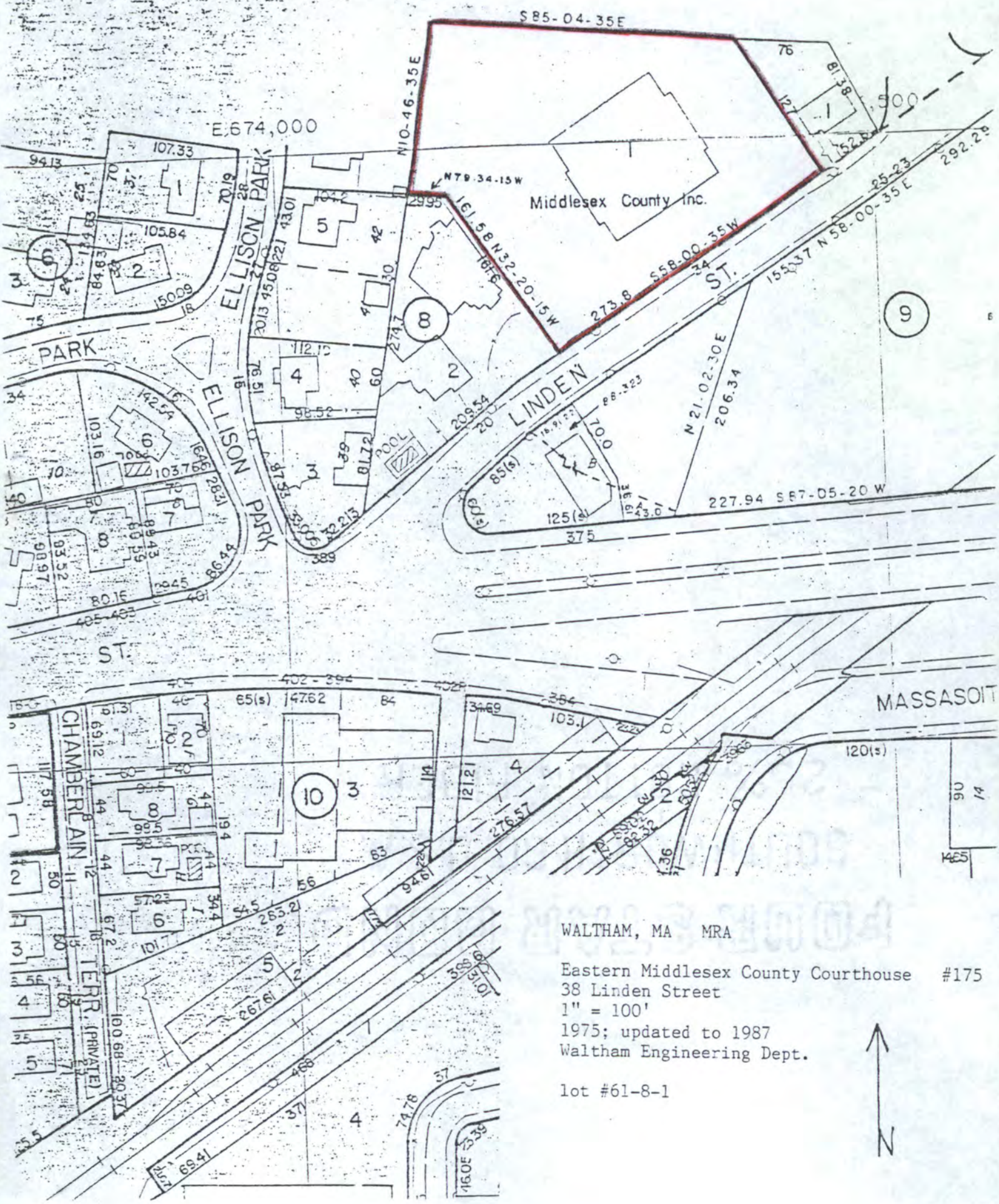
Eastern Middlesex County Second District Court

Waltham, MA MRA  
MITC # 175  
38 Linden St



1970, Atlas, City of Waltham  
 compiled by the Waltham  
 Engineering Division  
 Scale: 1 inch = 140 Feet

WALTHAM, MA. MRA  
 38 Linden St.  
 Second Eastern Middlesex  
 County Court House  
 14-G-16, MHC 175



WALTHAM, MA MRA

Eastern Middlesex County Courthouse #175

38 Linden Street

1" = 100'

1975; updated to 1987

Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #61-8-1



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301