

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AUG 21 1989

NATIONAL
REGISTER

AREA

FORM NO.

69

WALTHAM, MA MRA

Town Waltham, MAAddress 411 Main StreetHistoric Name Hager-Mead 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 ProfessionalOriginal Residential

DESCRIPTION

Date 1795Source DeedsStyle GeorgianArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric ClapboardOutbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

noneCondition GoodMoved no Date n/aAcreage 0.25 Acres 10,765 sq. ft. 61-7-9

Setting In a residential area facing
a heavily-trafficked major thoroughfare

Recorded by Nancy S. SeasholesOrganization Waltham Historical Comm.Date August 1986

revised C. Jenkins 2/88

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 19/316640/4693900USGS QUADRANGLE LexingtonSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Hager-Mead house is one of the very few surviving Georgian houses in the city and is also the last remnant of the embryonic village center that existed at Main Street and Beaver Brook at the turn of the nineteenth century. It thus meets criteria A and C of the National Register, and possesses integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

Set on a main highway amidst predominantly twentieth century houses, this handsome Georgian house is the only one in the area and one of the very few in the city. It is characterized by a five-by-two bay Georgian profile, two ridge chimneys, a molded cornice in front, second floor windows set directly under the cornice, cornice-headed windows on the first floor, cornerboards, and a pedimented entry with modillions, Doric pilasters, and a narrow, six-pane transom. Windows contain original 6/9 double hung sash.

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

Tradition has it that this house was built in 1795 by Samuel Hager and sold in 1796 to Stephen Mead, and deed research indicates that this is correct, although the story is somewhat more complicated. In the third quarter of the eighteenth century the land on which this house is located belonged to Uriah Cutting, who had an inn near the present intersection of Main and Linden streets. In 1777 this parcel, at that time containing a barn, was sold to Stephen Wellman, a blacksmith, and sometime before 1785 he built a blacksmith shop on the land, perhaps because the location near the inn was an advantageous one for a smith. Wellman sold the property in 1789 and it then changed hands several times before being acquired in January 1795 by Samuel Hager, a Watertown farmer. When Hager sold it in September of that year, the property was described as containing a house as well as the shop, so presumably Hager had built this dwelling. The property was finally acquired by Stephen Mead, a Charlestown blacksmith, in 1796; according to a later account there was also a wheelwright's shop on the property east of the house; it was operated by a Captain Morse, who lived in Mead's house.

The house remained in the Mead family until the middle of the nineteenth century. It was acquired in 1869 by James H. Ellison, a large land owner and developer, who owned it until the turn of the twentieth century. It was then acquired by Frederic I. Robinson, a real estate agent. Like Ellison, he rented out this house so it is difficult to tell who occupied it. In 1918 it was owned by Henry C. Eaton, an assistant superintendent at the Waltham Watch Company, and in 1923 rented to Jerome V. H. Downs, an architect.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Waltham Sentinel, October 30, 1856.

Nelson, Charles A.

1879 Waltham Past and Present and its Industries. Thomas Lewis.

Middlesex Deeds - 75:100; 79:73; 104:322; 116:493; 117:509; 118:459; 126:179; 1082:533.

Maps and atlases - 1838, 1854, 1875, 1886, 1900, 1911, 1915, 1918, 1923.

Directories - 1871, 1886, 1901, 1915, 1919, 1923.

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

31. Fitch, Ezra, School Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

32. Flagg, Frederick, House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

33. French, Daniel, School Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

34. Fuller--Bemis House Substantive Review

Keeper Bob L. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

35. Gale--Banks House Substantive Review

Keeper Bob L. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

36. Gibbs, William, House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

37. Gilbrae Inn Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

38. Grove Hill Cemetery Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

39. Hagar--Smith--Livermore--Sanderson
House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

40. Hager--Mead House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Helene 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 Hager--Mead 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: 89001572

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

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



411 MAIN ST.
WALTHAM, MA MRA
#69

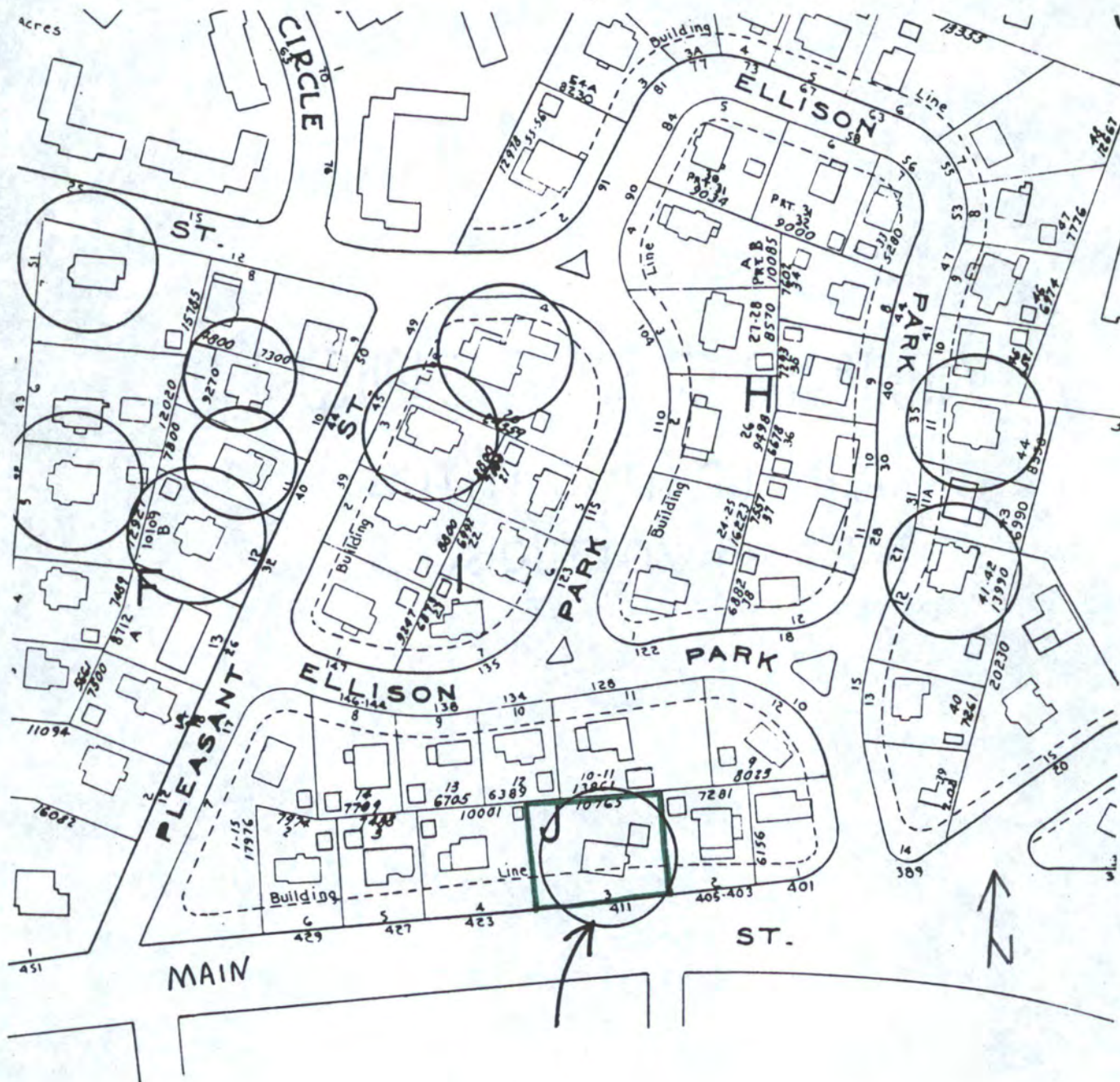
Hager-Mead House

WALTHAM, MA MRA

Hager-Mead House #69
411 Main Street
1" = 100'
1975; updated to 1987
Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #61-7-9





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

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA
 411 Main Street
 Mead House
 14-J-3

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301