

AUG 07 1989

1377

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA FORM NO.

	559
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
10 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

Town Quincy, MA / MRA

Address 20 Sterling Street

Historic Name N/A

Use: Present Two-family dwelling

Original Two-family dwelling

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

DESCRIPTION

Date 1911

Source Building permit

Style Colonial Revival- American Four-Square

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboards

Outbuildings two-car frame garage (1920s)-  
noncontributing (N)

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition Good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage Less than one acre: 9,113 sq. ft.

Setting The house is situated on a prominent  
corner site in a settled Montclair neighborhood  
of one and two-family dwellings.

Recorded by Fannin and Lehner/ J. Johnson

Organization Quincy Historical Commission

Date June 11, 1986/ May 1987

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

SEE ATTACHED MAP

FIM REFERENCE 19/332,030 E/ 4,681,750 N

USGS QUADRANGLE Boston South, MA

SCALE 1: 25,000

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

The Colonial Revival house at 20 Sterling Street is among the best preserved of several American Four-Square houses, built as two-family residences, in Quincy in the nineteen teens. Associated with the development of Quincy's residential subdivisions during the early twentieth century, the house possesses integrity of association, design, materials, location, and feeling. #20 Sterling Street fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

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

SEE INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

SEE INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

- Assessors Records.
- Building permit, garage.
- H. Hobart Holly, Quincy Historical Society.
- Quincy City Directories.
- John Ramsdell. "Historic North Quincy." (written about 1934), typed manuscript at Quincy Historical Society.
- Daniel M. Wilson. Three Hundred Years of Quincy 1625-1925. 1925, p.280-1.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

QUINCY, MA

Form No:

559

Property Name: 20 Sterling St.

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE -- 20 STERLING STREET**

This handsome two-family dwelling at 20 Sterling Street was built for Henry J. Grass at a cost of \$4500 in 1911. Grass was an active carpenter and developer in both the Montclair and Atlantic areas and it is unlikely he ever lived here. By 1923, the property was in the hands of John L. Berlow, a baker, who used it as a summer residence.

This house at 20 Sterling built in 1911 is typical of the two-family dwellings that appeared in North Quincy neighborhoods in the 1900s and nineteen teens. The house was one of several built in the area by Henry J. Grass. Grass was one of the developers most active in the subdivision of the Montclair neighborhood. Development of North Quincy farms for residential subdivisions was advanced by the arrival of the Old Colony Railroad in Quincy in 1845 by the creation of an extensive network beginning in 1888. As in the adjacent North Quincy neighborhoods of Atlantic, Wollaston, and Norfolk Downs, much of the construction of modest suburban houses occurred in Montclair in the first two decades of the twentieth century.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Quincy, MA	Form No: 559
Property Name: 20 Sterling St.	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE -- 20 STERLING STREET**

The Colonial Revival residence at 20 Sterling Street is a fine example of the American Four Square style. Popular in Quincy in the nineteen teens, this mode was a frequent choice for builders of two-family dwellings in North Quincy neighborhoods of the period. The house is set on a typical Quincy granite foundation, has a hip roof with a wide overhang. The roof is punctured by hip dormers. The squareness of the massing is relieved by the presence of angular two-story bay windows on the front and side elevations. The house is fronted by a balustraded porch supported by four columns over a latticed base. The door is framed by sidelights. The fenestration is regular, composed of one over-one sash windows. A two-car garage (1920s) at the rear of the property is noncontributing.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

AUG 7 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Quincy MRA  
State Norfolk County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 31. Glover House Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 32. Granite Trust Company Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 33. Halloran, John, House Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 34. Hardwick House Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 35. Hersey, Ebenezer B., House Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 36. House at 105 President's Lane Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 37. House at 15 Gilmore Street Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 38. House at 20 Sterling Street Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 39. House at 23--25 Prout Street Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 40. House at 25 High School Avenue Entered in the  
National Register  Keeper *Helene Byers* 9/20/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: House at 20 Sterling Street

MULTIPLE NAME: Quincy MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Norfolk

DATE RECEIVED: 8/07/89      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/89  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/07/89      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/21/89  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001377

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    9/20/89 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

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

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



20 Sterling St. Street

Quincy, MA

by: Fannin/Lehner

date: Spring 1986

at: planning dept - Quincy

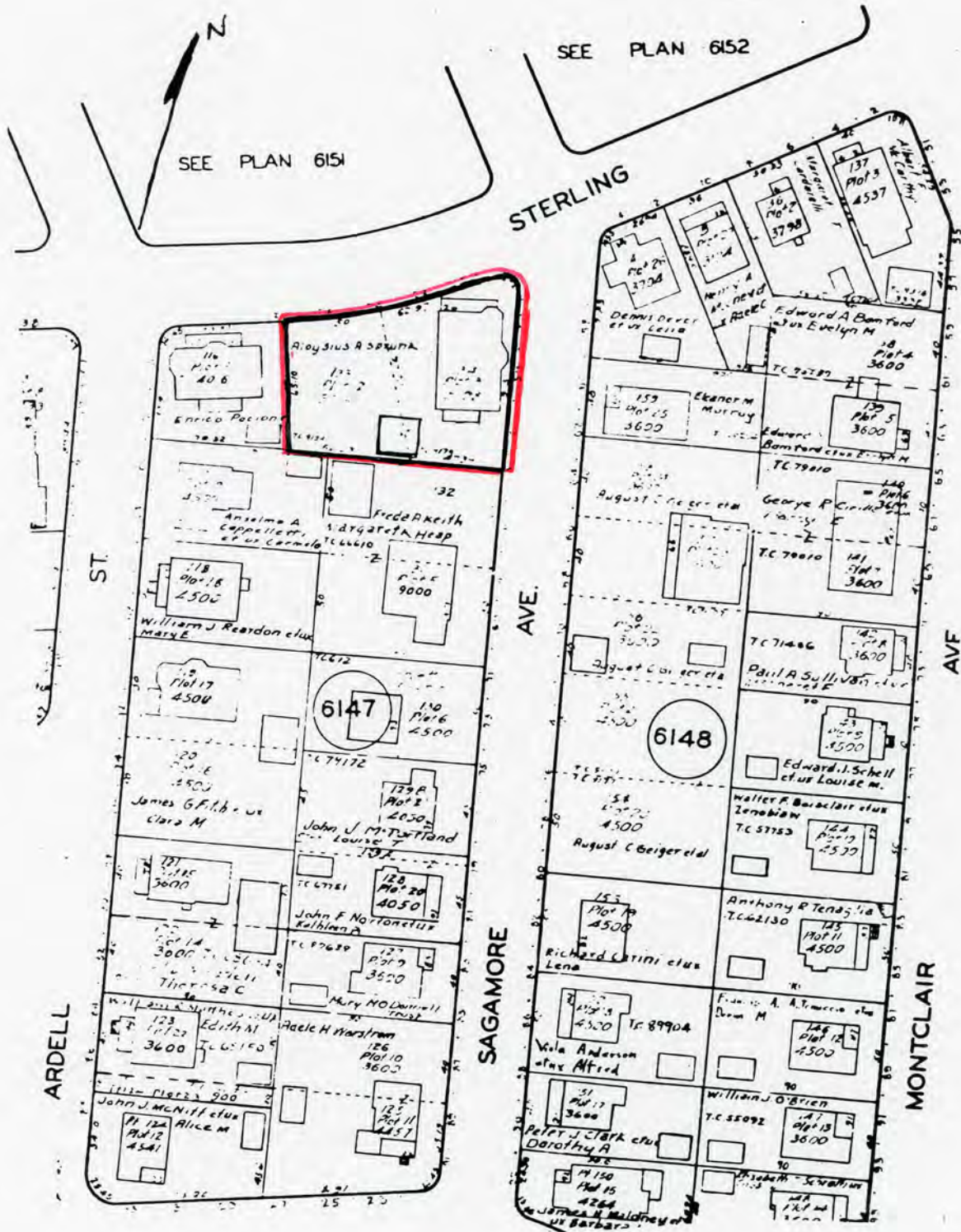
view: South

Plot # 559

JUL

1987.

Quincy, <sup>MA</sup> Mass.



Address 20 Sterling Street

QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS / MRA

Assessors Map # 6145-46-47-48

1979

Scale: 1 inch equals 80 feet

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000289