

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

1563  
AUG 21 1989

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

AREA FORM NO.

|  |     |
|--|-----|
|  | 160 |
|--|-----|

Town WALTHAM, MA MRA  
Waltham, MA

Address 562 Lexington Street

Historic Name John Sanderson 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 Residential

Original Residential

DESCRIPTION

Date 1826

Source Sanderson 1927

Style Federal

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric Clapboard/brick

Outbuildings Garage NC

Major Alterations (with dates) north wing added (n.d.)

Condition Good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage 21,821 sq.ft. 0.504 ac 33-2-27

Setting In residential area on major thoroughfare - faces large open field

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|315840|4695830

USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Waltham Historical Comm.

Date August 1986

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The John Sanderson house is one of the few surviving Federal farmhouses in the city and the only one with a rear wall of brick. For almost a hundred years it was the residence of members of the Sanderson family, a family prominent in this part of Waltham since the seventeenth century. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and strong associations with Waltham's agricultural history. 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.

Set on a main thoroughfare in an area of predominantly twentieth century houses, this is one of five Federal farmhouses in the Piety Corner/Lexington/Lincoln streets area, but the only one in the city with a brick rear wall. Aside from the rear wall, this house has many features typical of Federal farmhouses of its period: a five-by-two bay profile, two rear chimneys, cornerboards, simple molded window surrounds, a front entrance with sidelights down to chairrail height, and a granite foundation.

It is a two story clapboard clad structure enclosed by a gable roof of low pitch. The symmetrical five bay facade is centered on the entry with projecting hip roof porch. The four windows flanking the entry contain 6/1 sash. There are five windows aligned at the second story; the outer and central window windows also contain 6/1 sash; the two intervening windows have been filled.

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

This house was reportedly built in 1826 by John Sanderson, a brother of Nathan Sanderson of the house at 107 Lincoln street (see form). This house is on land that was part of the holdings of Jonathan Sanderson, Sr., one of the earliest settlers in the Piety Corner area (see 428 Lexington Street form). When Sanderson divided his property among his sons, this part may have gone to John who probably built a house a little northeast of the present one sometime between 1701 and 1707 (Sanderson 1927:6; Worcester 1899:16). In any case, before 1719 this land and house was acquired by another son, Samuel, and then passed to his son, Jonathan Jr., and eventually to the latter's son, John, who replaced the old house with this one.

John Sanderson died at sea in 1831, and in 1837 his youngest brother, Charles, bought the estate, then about 35 acres, from the widow. After Charles' death, it was inherited by his widow Orilla, and his sons, Charles and Lowell. Young Charles was also lost at sea in 1855 so, after 1868 when Lowell came of age, the property was owned by Lowell and Orilla Sanderson. Lowell Sanderson was apparently something of a recluse and had no regular job; he died in 1915 and left the property to Albina S. Butterfield, the wife of Herbert F. Butterfield, a machinist; she was not a member of the Sanderson family.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Sanderson, Edmund L.

1927 The Story of Piety Corner. Typescript. Waltham Public Library.

1936 Waltham as a Precinct of Watertown and as a Town: 1630-1884.

Publication No. 5. Waltham Historical Society.

Worcester, Benjamin

1899 The Sanderson Homes at Piety Corner. Privately printed.

Childs, Marjorie. Card file. Waltham Public Library.

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                                      |
|--|---|
| 71. Potter--O'Brien House<br>Entered in the National Register        | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 72. Prospect House<br>Entered in the National Register               | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 73. Robbins, Royal E., School<br>Entered in the National Register    | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 74. Sanderson, John, House<br>Entered in the National Register       | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 75. Sanderson, Nathan, I, House<br>Entered in the National Register  | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 76. Sanderson, Nathan, II, House<br>Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 77. Sanderson--Clark Farmhouse<br>Entered in the National Register   | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 78. Smith, Marshall, House<br>Entered in the National Register       | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 79. Smith, Perez, House<br>Entered in the National Register          | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 80. St. Charles Borromeo Church<br>Entered in the National Register  | Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Sanderson, John, 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: 89001563

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage               verbal boundary description  
 UTMs                   boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

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

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



362 Lexington St.  
WALTHAM, MA MRA  
#160

Sanders, John, House

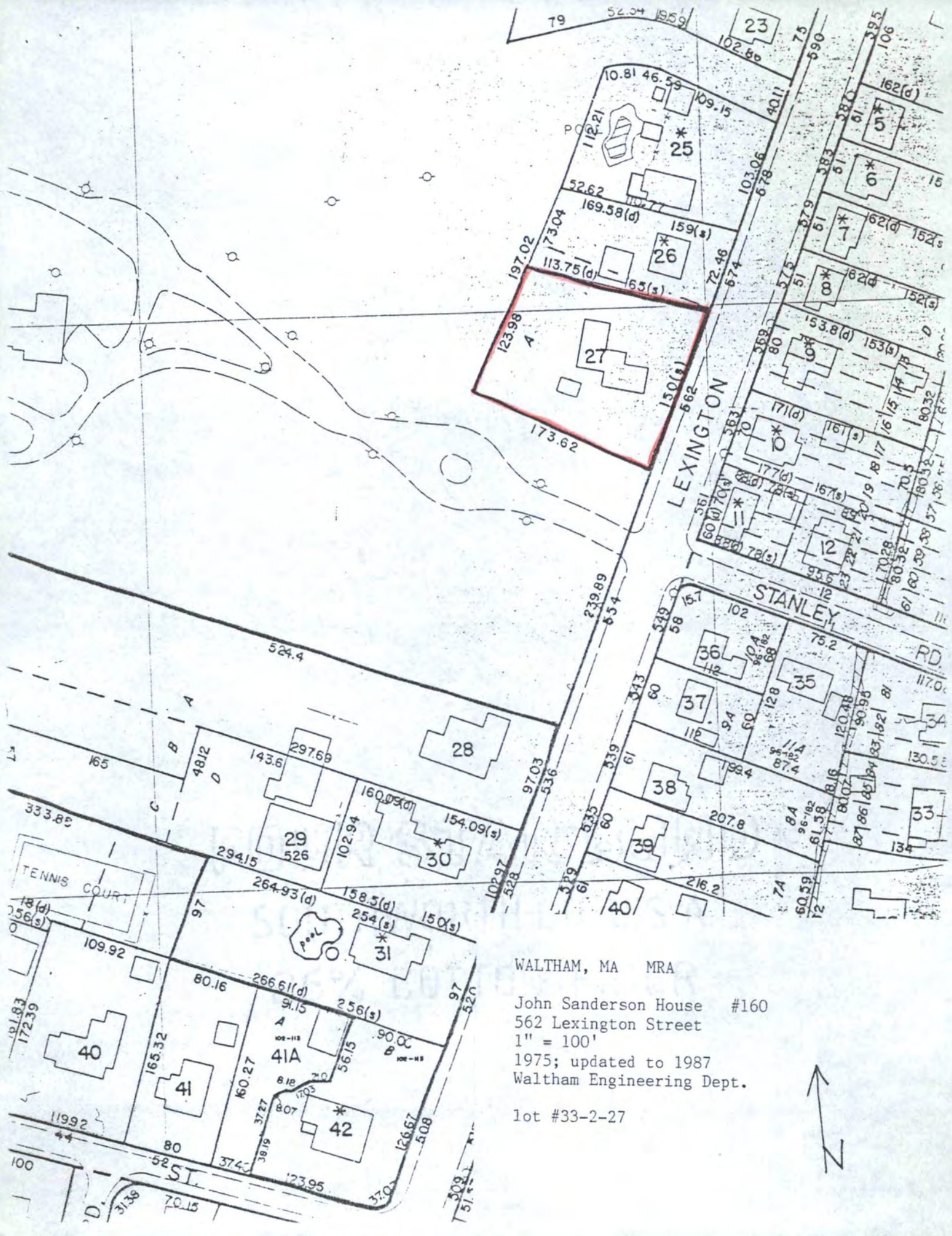


562 Lexington St.

WALTHAM, MA MRA

#160

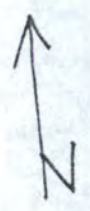
Sanderson, John, Hase

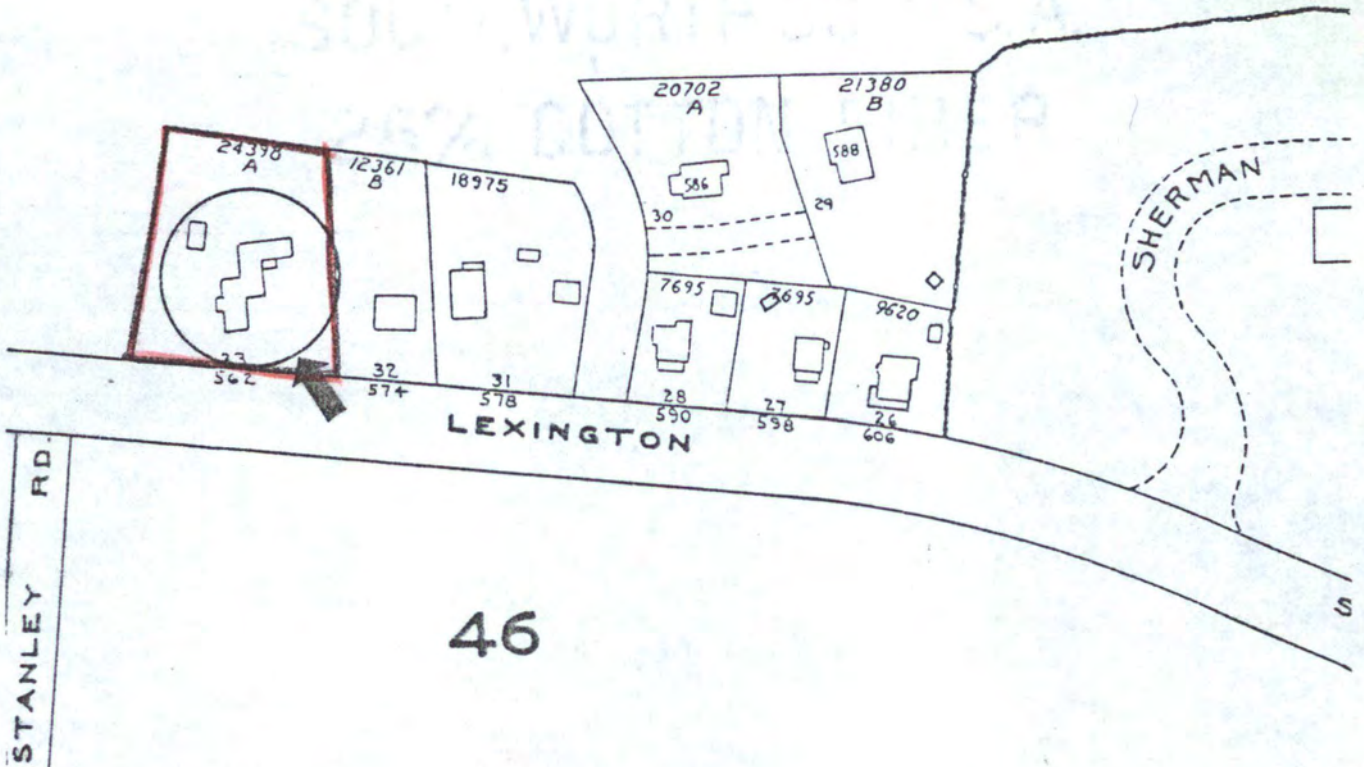
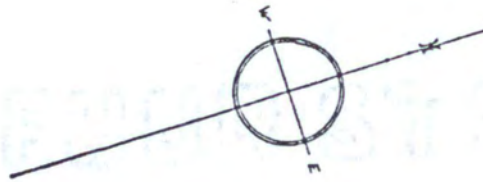


WALTHAM, MA MRA

John Sanderson House #160  
 562 Lexington Street  
 1" = 100'  
 1975; updated to 1987  
 Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #33-2-27





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

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA  
 562 Lexington Street  
 John Sanderson House  
 51-A-33

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301