

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only
received SEP 17 1981
date entered OCT 8 1981

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Walpole Town Hall

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number Main Street _____ not for publication

city, town Walpole _____ vicinity of _____ congressional district Ninth

state Massachusetts code 025 county Norfolk code 021

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture <input type="checkbox"/> museum
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial <input type="checkbox"/> park
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational <input type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment <input type="checkbox"/> religious
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government <input type="checkbox"/> scientific
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial <input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military <input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Town of Walpole

street & number Town Hall, Main Street

city, town Walpole _____ vicinity of _____ state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Norfolk Registry of Deeds

street & number Common Street

city, town Dedham _____ state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1976 _____ federal state _____ county _____ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston _____ state Massachusetts 02108

7. Description

Walpole Town Hall

Condition

excellent
 good
 fair

deteriorated
 ruins
 unexposed

Check one

unaltered
 altered

Check one

original site
 moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

Walpole Town Hall is a composite Victorian-style, brick structure sited on a slight rise at the intersection of Main and Stone Streets. The property contains approximately one-third acre of land in the midst of Walpole's commercial district, just east of the original common.

The ground plan of the building is a modified cruciform, with the largest wing at the rear, a perpendicular facade wing, and a 5-story tower centered on the front. The building rises from a granite base through two tall brick stories (three at the rear) to high hip roofs tiled with slate. The rectangular windows are typically paired, with square, glazed transoms and brownstone sills and lintels. A patterned brick entablature ornaments the entire building, while decorative brick stringcourses articulate the front wing.

The symmetrical facade of the Town Hall is three bays across, with a 3-story frontispiece acting as the base for its center tower (rising to 70' above ground). Entrance is made through a one-story portico having paired Corinthian pilasters at the corners and a great brownstone arched opening leading to paired entry doors. This portico is crowned by a simple balustrade of vaguely classical design. The second and third floors of the tower -- separated by panelled brick spandrels -- each have a tripartite window with brownstone trim and glazed transoms. Rising above the main roofline are a fourth level with brick-enframed clock faces on three sides; a stylized cornice with patterned brickwork and bands of terracotta rosettes; an open, wooden belfry; and a flaring steeple roof. Narrow panelled chimneys surmount the side walls of this facade wing; these walls are otherwise articulated by single windows with glazed transoms on the first floor and panelled brick transoms on the second floor.

The side elevations of Town Hall are virtually identical to each other, repeating the architectural motifs of the principal facade wing. Paired windows with glazed transoms form a rhythmic pattern on the sides of the rear wing, interrupted only by a triple window on the first floor of each side. The rear of the building is asymmetrical and has single segmentally arched windows and a full basement level.

The interior of the building originally contained a central stair hall leading to police headquarters and jail cells in the basement, public spaces on the first floor, and balconied courtroom space on the second floor. The original hammer beam and truss system of the second floor and much of the original wainscoting and doorways remain intact, although partitioning has altered the visual character of the first and second floors.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates Dedicated 9/25/1881 **Builder/Architect** J. Williams Beal, Architect
J.W. Coburn, Builder

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Walpole Town Hall is a fine example of a late nineteenth century municipal building, and possesses integrity of location, design, materials, and setting. Town Hall is significant as the seat of town government and as the work of a regionally prominent architect, and thus meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Town Hall, constructed in 1880-81, was Walpole's first municipal structure--evidence of the civic pride generated by the steady prosperity of the town's paper and textile-support factories. The building has served as the seat of town government since its construction, and until 1949 housed the District Court for Western Norfolk County. Until the construction of a new Fire and Police Station in 1952, the Police Station and Lock-up were located in the basement of the Town Hall.

The lot of land on which Town Hall was built was purchased from E.D. Clapp for \$1800. The property may have potential as an archaeological site, as the Clapp Tavern stood on this site from about 1732 until it was demolished for construction of the Town Hall.

The Building Committee for Town Hall included George Craig, a prominent local citizen of the day, and F.W. Bird, a local industrialist. J. Williams Beal, an architect well known in the Boston area, was selected to design the building. Beal was a graduate of MIT School of Architecture and had been employed in the offices of Richard Morris Hunt and McKim, Mead & White before establishing his own firm in Boston. J. William Beal and Sons was responsible for many public buildings and private residences in Walpole (including the Old Stone and Bird Schools, the DeRoma Residence, and Lewis Castle), as well as the County Jail and Hospital in Plymouth, the Executive Building and Clubhouse for Walk-Over Shoe Company in Brockton, and numerous schools and residences throughout the region. The architects' early preference for eclecticism is clearly evident in the Town Hall. J.W. Coburn of Walpole was the contractor for the building, and the Howard Clock Company of Boston furnished the clocks in the tower. The total cost of constructing and furnishing the Town Hall was a modest \$29,322.65.

Walpole Town Hall is a notable example of late Victorian civic architecture. The simple composition is reminiscent of school buildings of the period in its steepled tower, hip roofs, and rows of simple paired windows. The classically-influenced design of the main structure is well-balanced and restrained, and focuses on the more decorative tower, with its eclectic Romanesque and classical motifs.

Current plans for Town Hall include moving town offices to a surplus school nearby and returning the Police Department to the basement and first floor of this building. Walpole Town Hall will thus continue to serve its original civic functions. The building's nomination to the National Register would help insure its continued recognition as an important part of Walpole's past.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Biographical Dictionary of American Architects, Deceased, Withey, Henry F. and Elise R. Hennessey & Ingalls (orig. 1956), 1970 ed.
 Records, Town of Walpole.
 A History of Walpole, Mass. from Earliest Times. Lewis, Isaac Newton, 1905.

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED
 ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Acreeage of nominated property approx. 0.9 acre
 Quadrangle name Medfield, MA Quadrangle scale 1:25,000

UMT References

A	<u>19</u>	<u>313790</u>	<u>4668205</u>	B			
	Zone	Easting	Northing		Zone	Easting	Northing
C				D			
E				F			
G				H			

Verbal boundary description and justification A rectangular lot at the northwest corner of the town property at the intersection of Main and Stone Streets running 125' along Stone and approximately 120' along Main Street - Sets building off from other town owned structures.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wendy Frontiero, Preservation Planner with Thompson S. Lingel, Consultant
 organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date July 24, 1981
 street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470
 city or town Boston state Massachusetts 02108

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Patricia S. Weslowski

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date 7/11/81

For HCRS use only
 I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register
 Entered in the National Register date 10/8/81
 Keeper of the National Register
 Attest: _____ date _____
 Chief of Registration

DUE 4th 10/7/81 - 11/1/81

dnr-3

Name Walpole Town Hall

State, County MA, Norfolk

Working Number 9.17.81.339

Fed Nom or Request-Agency _____

Federal Register Date 2.2.82

Nomination
 Determination of Eligibility
 On Nomination Form

Bldg(s)
 Site
 Object
 Structure
 District

Within:
 Multiple Resource Area
 Thematic Group

Maps 1
Photos 2

Nomination prepared by:
 State Staff
 Local
 Other

Entered in the
Action: National Register
 ACCEPT 10/8/81
 RETURN _____
 REJECT _____

Check if Appropriate:
 State Request for Review
 Keeper's Decision to Review
 2nd Return

I. Evaluation of Resource (cont. on back if necessary)

II. Evaluation of Nomination

	Good	Adequate	Poor	Comments
1. Descriptive Statement Short Format <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
2. Significance Statement Short Format <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No				
3. Concepts/Integrity				
4. Concepts/Criteria				
5. Concepts/Boundaries				
6. Contextual Evaluation				

General Comments (cont. on back if necessary):

Reviewer/Date _____

See Attached _____



WALPOLE TOWN HALL

WALPOLE, MA
Town Hall

Norfolk Co.

SEP 17 1981

North facade

Photo by Richard Rockwood,
1981

Negative filed with

Walpole Historical Commission

Photo 1 of 2

OCT 8 1981

RICHARD ROCKWOOD
Photographer



WALPOLE, MA
Town Hall

Norfolk Co.

SEP 17 1981

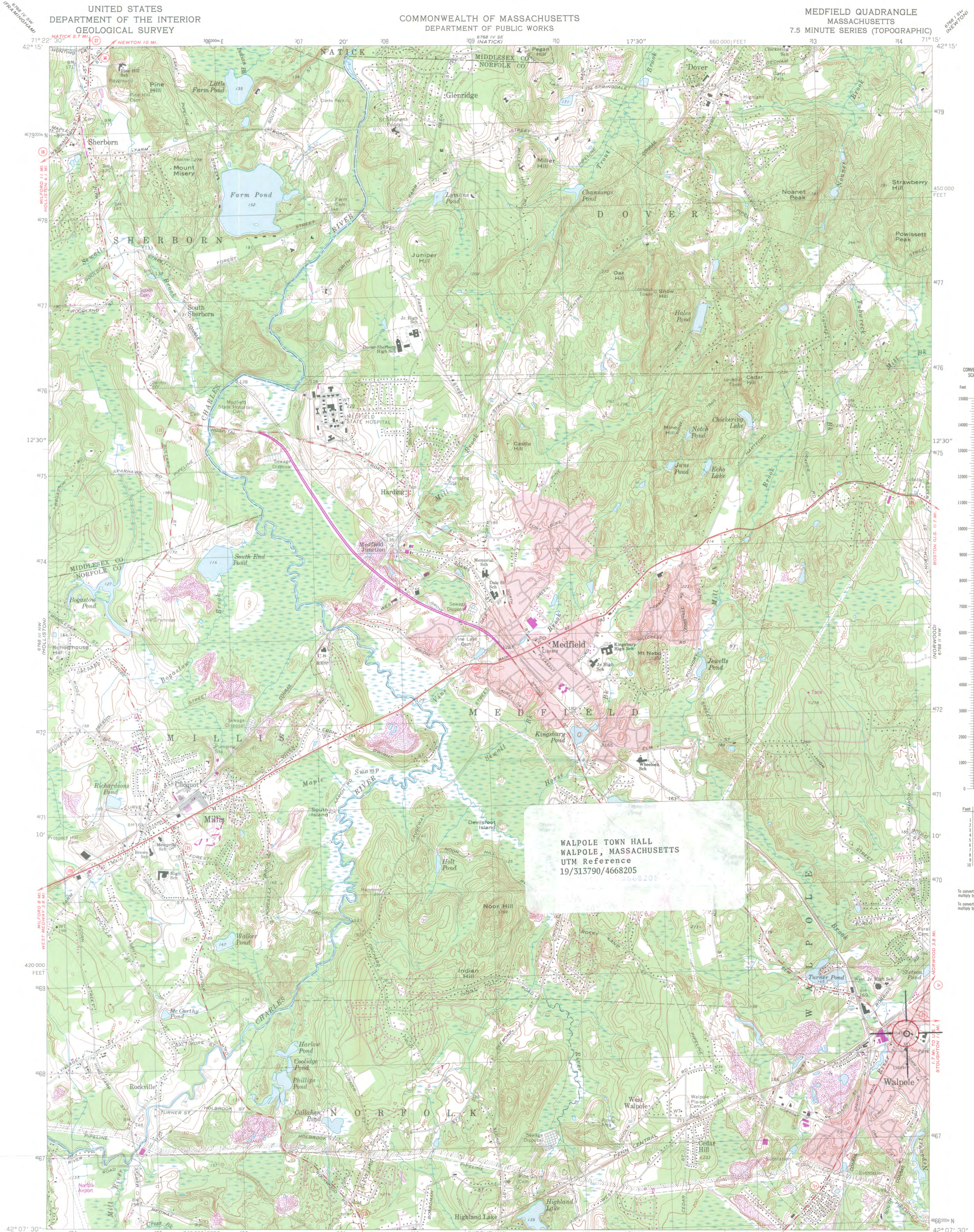
East Elevation
Photo by Richard Rockwood,
1981

Negative filed with
Walpole Historical Commission
Photo 2 of 2

OCT 8 1981

RICHARD ROCKWOOD
Photographer

THIS PAPER MANUFACTURED BY KODAK



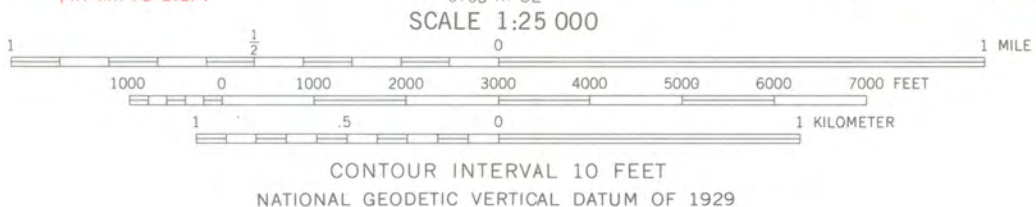
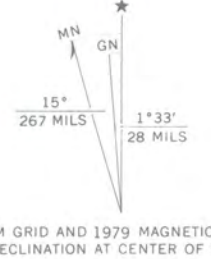
WALPOLE TOWN HALL
WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS
UTM Reference
19/313790/4668205



Feet	Meters
1	3048
2	6096
3	9144
4	12192
5	15240
6	18288
7	21336
8	24384
9	27432
10	30480

To convert feet to meters
multiply by 0.3048
To convert meters to feet
multiply by 3.2808

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
and Massachusetts Harbor and Land Commission
Topography by planetable surveys 1937-1938. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 19
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown
Revisions shown in purple compiled in cooperation with State of
Massachusetts agencies from aerial photographs taken 1977 and other
source data. This information not field checked. Map edited 1979



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST



MEDFIELD, MASS.
N4207.5-W7115.7.5
1970
PHOTOREVISED 1979
AMS 6768 III NE-SERIES V814



HISTORICAL COMMISSION

The TOWN OF WALPOLE

WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS 02081

(617) 668-2550

June 25, 1981

RECEIVED

JUN 29 1981

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Rep. John J. Moakley
Senate Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Joe:

The Town Hall in Walpole will be celebrating its centennial in October of this year (1981). We plan to have a town celebration on October 18, 1981 at 2 p.m. It would be nice if we could raise a flag on this occasion that has flown over the Capital. Would you be able to arrange for us to have one? I read an article recently about how many requests are made, but I thought we'd give it a try.

In a related matter, I have requested National Register status for the building. I would like to have it accepted so we could present it at the October 18 celebration. I need help in pushing it along. I'll send you a copy of the request when it is completed in a day or so.

We'd certainly be honored if you could join us on October 18 if you're available.

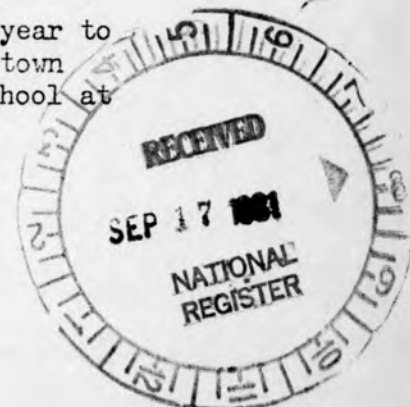
Yours truly,

Maureen G. Rivers, Chairman
Walpole Historical Commission

P. S. The Town Hall will close as a town hall this year to be rehabilitated as our police station. The town offices are moving into a recently vacated school at a savings of \$1,000,000!

EWC

CC: Rep. Frank Woodward
Board of Selectmen
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Town Administrator





**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

September 11, 1981

Ms. Carol Shull
Acting Keeper
National Register Division
National Park Service
U.S. Dept. of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Boston: Field's Corner Municipal Building (local)
Walpole: Walpole Town Hall (local)
Winchester: Sanborn House (state)

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer.

As you will see from the enclosed letter, the town of Walpole will be celebrating its centennial on October 18, 1981, and would like to make acceptance of the Town Hall in the National Register a part of the ceremony. The MHC would be most appreciative if your staff could complete review of the nomination by then.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director

CJ/mt
encls.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

DATE

10/8/81

TELEPHONE REPORT

TIME OF CALL

11:15

AM
PM

1. CALL TO: FROM (Name)

2. ADDRESS (Tel. No. if needed)

3. SUBJECT, PROJECT NO., ETC.

Walpole Town Hall - Walpole, MA

4. DETAILS OF DISCUSSION

Called regarding listing of property 10/8/81

Cong. Kennedy - 224-4543

Cong. Tsongas - 224-2742

Cong. Moakley

Carlton Currens - 225-8273

Paul O'Conner - ^{FTS} 223-5715 -

SHPO - Mass - Candy Jenkins

Cong. John F. Moakley

Room 1900 C

JFK Bldg

Boston, Mass 02203

NAME OF PERSON PLACING/RECEIVING CALL

TITLE

OFFICE

A Byers

NR

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **MASSACHUSETTS**

Date Entered **OCT 8 1981**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Walpole Town Hall	Walpole Norfolk County

Also Notified

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Paul E. Tsongas
Honorable John Joseph Moakley

Honorable John Joseph Moakley
Room 1900 C
JFK Building
Boston, MA 02203

Attn: Paul O'Conner

Mid-Atlantic Region, NPS

NR Eady/ts/10.13.81

For further information, please call the National Register at (202) ~~943-6401~~

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

272-3504