

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

1508

AUG 21 1989

NATIONAL
REGISTER

AREA

FORM NO.

	118
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WALTHAM, MA MRA

Town Waltham, MAAddress 475 South St.Historic Name Samuel Harrington HouseUse: Present private residenceOriginal "

DESCRIPTION

Date c. mid 1700'sSource paper by Elizabeth A. Kahn
Bill Collec. of W.P.L.Style GeorgianArchitect -- unknownExterior Wall Fabric clapboardOutbuildings attached stableMajor Alterations (with dates) rear lean to
dates to late 18th c., side ell built in 186.Condition goodMoved -- no Date -- n/a0.624 Acres
Acreage 27,200 sq. ft. 74-2-2Setting retains something of its Pre 20th c.
rural character, situated at angle to sweep-
ing curve of South St. shaded by old treesUTM REFERENCE 19/313920/4692340USGS QUADRANGLE NATICKSCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Ed GordonOrganization Waltham Historical Comm.Date July, 1986

revised C. Jenkins 2/88

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 - see attached sheet.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Samuel Harrington House is a well-crafted example of a mid-18th century Georgian farm house. This house was owned by Harrington descendants for nearly 250 years. Together with its lean-to ell and attached stable this house clearly illustrates the structural evolution of a farm house over time. Evidently this house served as an inn during the late 18th/early 19th c.--one of the few Waltham structures linked with the town's pre-railroad days as an important stage coach way station on the outskirts of Boston. The Samuel Harrington House 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.

Architecturally, the Samuel Harrington House is a relatively rare Waltham example of a mid 18th c. Georgian farmhouse. It is composed of a 5-bay center entrance main block with lean-to addition and side ell (also attached stable/garage). In the center of the main block roof ridge is a substantial brick chimney. This house is clad with feather edged, lap jointed clapboards. The main facade features symmetrically balanced double hung windows. The windows were finished with a narrow architrave--a 2nd period feature. A small panel 6/6 window remains in each attic gable. Simple ornamentation is confined to the 6" water table, corner boards and cornice returns on the end gables. The entry is framed by a very narrow architrave with corner blocks, a treatment which is probably not original.

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

Built ca. late 1730's, the Samuel Harrington House was probably built by Captain Samuel Harrington, gentleman farmer and selectman from 1712-1718. Robert Harrington of Watertown, Ma. was the forefather of the branch of Harrington's associated with 475 South St. Robert Harrington came to Watertown, Ma. in 1640. He served as selectman from 1679-1700. In 1684 Robert bought the original property on which the house now stands. The house may have been built c.1737 when Capt. Samuel's grandson Samuel married Lydia Ball. Capt. Harrington died in 1739. The Harrington estate remained intact during the ownership of the Captain's grandson Samuel and great grandson Samuel. One year before Captain Samuel's death, his name was at the top of the Waltham tax list.

The first solid evidence of this house's existence occurs in a deed of 1793 between Samuel (grandson of Capt. Samuel) and Samuel Harrington Jr. At that time Samuel Sr. transferred his 83 acres and his house to his son, Samuel. The deed geographically locates this house for the first time with some degree of accuracy. The lean-to probably dates to the 1790's or early 1800's--at that time Samuel Sr. and Samuel Jr.'s family were living in this house. It may have been built to accommodate guests when this house functioned as an inn (c.1803-1807). The house was ideally situated to serve travellers as it was on a road that lead directly to the Great Road (Main St.), the main highway from Boston, westward. Samuel Jr. inherited this house. By the 1830's this house's owner was Amasa Harrington. He sold off much of the Harrington estate between 1837-1863. On June 16, 1844, he sold land to the Fitchburg Railroad Co. In an 1845 Waltham tax book, Amasa is listed as owning one hundred acres of land. He died in 1867, but land was being sold off in his name until as late

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

"475 South St.--Samuel Harrington House" by Elizabeth A. Cohn.
Boston University (paper in collection of Waltham Public Library)
Waltham/Watertown Directory--1871
Waltham 1630-1894, E.L. Sanderson
Maps/Atlases--1836, 1854, 1874, 1886, 1900

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Waltham, Ma.

Form No:

118

Property Name: *475 South St*

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

as 1888--at the time of his death, the Waltham Sentinel called him "one of our most highly respected citizens and wealthiest farmers." The forest of trees on Amasa's land was called "Harrington's Grove" and was a favorite spot for summer picnics. Amasa left his estate to his wife, Clarrisa. George B. Harrington, Amasa's adopted son inherited the property in 1885. He is listed in the 1870-71 Waltham Directory as a farmer. The house later passed to George's wife Mary and their daughter, Mary B. Dickey. She died during the mid 1960s. In recent years this house has been owned by Mrs. Evelyn Dickey Barrett.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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

41. Hall, Henry C., House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

42. Hammond, Ephraim, House
Substantive ReviewKeeper Beth L. Savage 9/16/89

Attest _____

43. Hammond, Jonathan, House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

44. Hardy, Nahum, House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

45. Harrington Block
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

46. Harrington, Samuel, House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

47. Hill, Rev. Thomas, House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

48. Hobbs Brook Basin Gate House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

49. Holbrook, Richard, Houses
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 9/28/89

Attest _____

50. Johnson, Edwin C., House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose 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 Harrington, Samuel, 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: 89001508

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 _____



Harrington, Samuel, House

WALTHAM, MA MRA-

475 South St NYC # 118

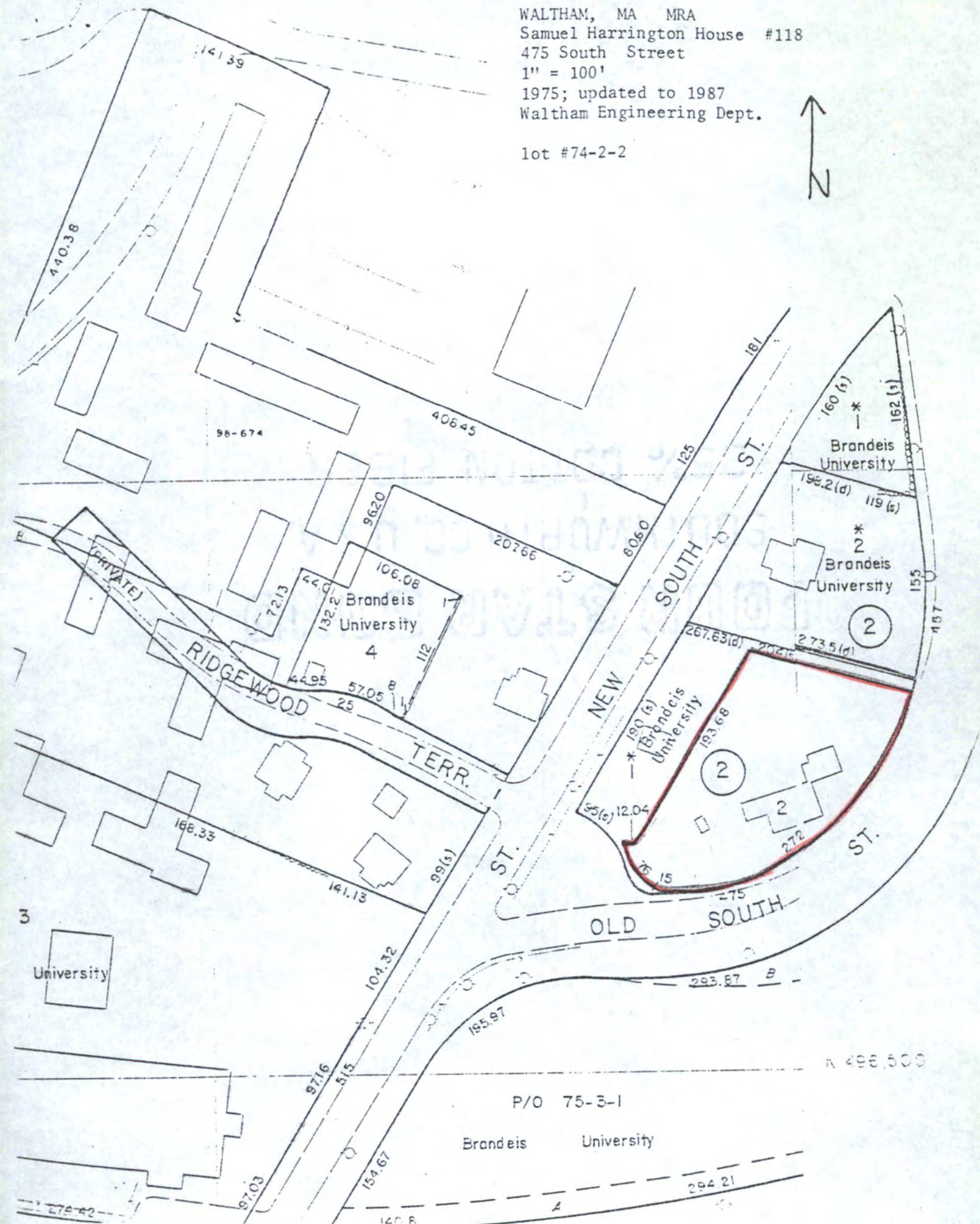


475 South St.

Hartington, Sausal, House
WAL-TAM, MA MRA—
MAY # 48

WALTHAM, MA MRA
Samuel Harrington House #118
475 South Street
1" = 100'
1975; updated to 1987
Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #74-2-2



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301