

FORM B - BUILDING

AUG 21 1989

1532

AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

WALTHAM, MA MRA

135

Town Waltham

Address 51 Sanders Lane

Historic Name Hagar-Smith-Livermore-
Sanderson House

Use: Present dwelling

Original same

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 c1716/1793/1856

Source local histories

Style Italianate with Georgian features

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings none

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

Major Alterations (with dates) see reverse-
front portion added c1793; altered in
Italianate style c1856

Condition excellent

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage 0.591 Acres
25,750 sq. ft. 41-9-4

Setting secluded road; ample lot, land-
scaped with mature trees; retains
much of pre-20th century charm

UTM REFERENCE 19|315170|4695150

USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Ed Gordon

Organization Waltham Historical Comm.

Date June, 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Hagar-Smith-Livermore-Sanderson House is a very interesting example of architectural evolution, incorporating important aspects of Georgian and Italianate design. Possibly dating as early as 1716, it reflects the growth of the Piety Corner area from its earliest settlement period, and possesses associations with a succession of area residents. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and associations, and 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.

The Hagar-Smith-Livermore-Sanderson House is architecturally significant as a house which clearly reflects a long structural evolution from at least the mid-18th century to the mid-19th century. It consists of a 2½ story main block enclosed by a slate gambrel roof with modillion cornice, and a 1½ story gable roof rear ell. The rear ell incorporates the oldest part of the house, dating to at least the mid-18th century, and possibly as early as 1716. The front portion dates to the 1780s, and originated as a 1½ story cottage. The present asymmetrical six bay facade indicates that the original structure may have been a half-house (3 bay) or 3/4-house (four bay). The position of the paired chimneys mid-way between the roof ridge and rear wall indicate that the house was not as deep as at present. The most important exterior 18th century feature of this house is its heavy molded window caps. Otherwise, the overhanging roof, modillion cornice, eared entry surround, and piazza with modillion cornice and bracketed posts, present a mid-19th century Italianate appearance. The rear ell lacks the Italianate features, but also lacks the heavy window caps except on the first two bays. Its windows contain 6/9 sash, while the main block has 6/6 sash.

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 is traditionally known as the oldest in Waltham, with Joseph R. Worcester's early 20th century research dating it at 1716. As is typical of such early houses, deed research is inconclusive, and physical evidence (Ann Grady; MHC First Period House survey) supports a somewhat later mid-18th century date.

Over time the house has been occupied by prominent Waltham families such as the Hagers, Smiths, Livermores, Sandersons and Worcesters. Although at least 16 houses were built in the Piety Corner area prior to 1716, none have survived. Sanders Lane is a short way connecting Worcester Lane with Greenwood Lane. Worcester Lane was laid out as early as 1732 as a town way leading to William Hagar's land. In 1716, William Hagar, weaver, received a parcel of upland, including the site of this house and one acre of meadow, from his father, William Hagar, Sr. Evidence in town records suggests that William Hagar, Jr. borrowed 25 pounds from the commissioners to build the house. William Hagar and his wife Mary Flagg Hagar lived on the property until 1741 although the property had been sold to Nathaniel Smith in 1733-34. In 1742, Smith sold to Nathaniel Livermore, who lived there until 1773 when he sold to Deacon John Sanderson. He was the husband of Lydia Hagar and a cordwainer by trade, working in Cordova leather; he built a shop for himself on the hill north of the house where it stood until at least the late 19th century. It was during Sanderson's ownership that the house was considerably enlarged, adding the front portion which included two large rooms at the first story. According to Joseph R. Worcester, "the north room, on the ground floor, was made particularly fine, with extra thick outside walls, for no apparent object, except to

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Maps/Atlases: 1854, 1874, 1886, 1900, 1911, 1915
News Tribune: An Interesting Paper by J.R. Worcester on Waltham's Oldest House".
undated (1919?). author unknown. WPL archives.
Childs, Marjorie. Deacon John Sanderson House. 1962.

(CONT)

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Community: Waltham | Form No: 135 |
| Property Name: Hagar-Smith-Livermore-Sanderson House | |

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

Historical Significance (cont)

secure extra deep window seats." In addition, this room contains a handsome fireplace and overmantle painting.

At Deacon Sanderson's death in 1818, the property passed to his son Thomas and his daughters Grace and Polly. Thomas Worcester purchased the property as a summer home in 1856. In 1865 he sold it to his son Benjamin as a dormitory for the New Jerusalem church. Benjamin was the founder and pastor of the church and school at Piety Corner in the 1860s. In 1875, Benjamin sold the property to Sophia Smith with the understanding that it would eventually be returned to Worcester family ownership which it did.

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 |
|--|---|
| 31. Fitch, Ezra, School Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 9/28/89 Attest _____ |
| 32. Flagg, Frederick, House Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 9/28/89 Attest _____ |
| 33. French, Daniel, School Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 9/28/89 Attest _____ |
| 34. Fuller--Bemis House Substantive Review | Keeper <u>Bob L. Savage</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____ |
| 35. Gale--Banks House Substantive Review | Keeper <u>Bob L. Savage</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____ |
| 36. Gibbs, William, House Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 9/28/89 Attest _____ |
| 37. Gilbrae Inn Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 9/28/89 Attest _____ |
| 38. Grove Hill Cemetery Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 9/28/89 Attest _____ |
| 39. Hagar--Smith--Livermore--Sanderson House Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 9/28/89 Attest _____ |
| 40. Hager--Mead House Entered in the National Register | Keeper <u>Delores Byers</u> 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 NAME: Hagar--Smith--Livermore--Sanderson House

MULTIPLE NAME: Waltham MRA

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: 89001532

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

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



51 Sanders Lane

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Waltham, MA MRA
Hagar-Smith-Livermore-Sanderson L^{ts}
51 Sanders Lane
#135



51 Sanders Lane

Hagar-Smith - Givmore - Sandersen House

MHC #135

Waltham MA MRA

51 Sanders Lane



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Waltham MRA

Waltham, MA.

MHC # 135

51 Sanders Lane

51 Sanders Lane

WALTHAM, MA MRA

Hagar-Smith-Livermore-Sanderson House #135

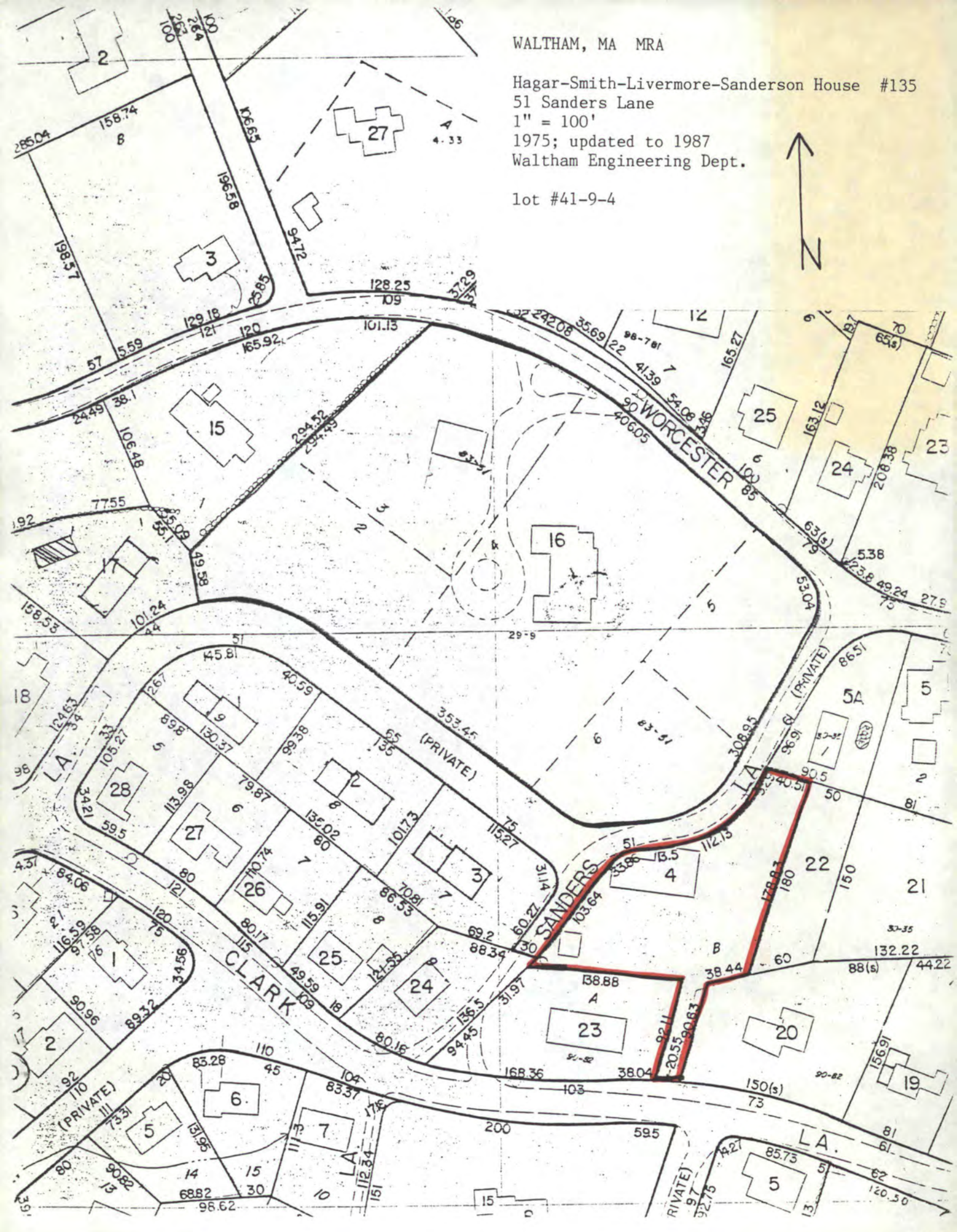
51 Sanders Lane

1" = 100'

1975; updated to 1987

Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #41-9-4



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301