

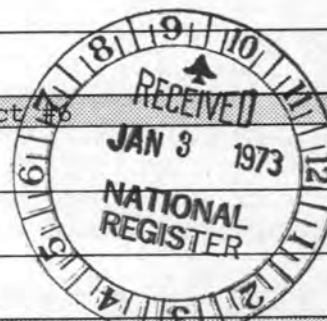
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:
Massachusetts
COUNTY:
Essex
FOR NPS USE ONLY
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
JUL 2 1973

1. NAME
COMMON:
Elbridge Gerry House
AND/OR HISTORIC:
Elbridge Gerry House

2. LOCATION
STREET AND NUMBER:
44 Washington Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Marblehead
STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025 COUNTY: Essex CODE: 009
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT #6



3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☒ Building ☐ Site ☐ Structure ☐ Object	☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	Public Acquisition: ☐ In Process ☐ Being Considered	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☒ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) ☐ Comments

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY
OWNER'S NAME:
Mr. and Mrs. Peter W. Morton
STREET AND NUMBER:
44 Washington St.
CITY OR TOWN:
Marblehead 01945
STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Essex Registry of Deeds
STREET AND NUMBER:
Federal Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Salem
STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS
TITLE OF SURVEY:
Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth
DATE OF SURVEY: 1968 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Massachusetts Historical Commission
STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Beacon Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Boston 02108
STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

STATE: Massachusetts
COUNTY: Essex
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
JUL 2 1973
FOR NPS USE ONLY

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PH0006211

H13 NO LTM
DB # 73000304

7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)

CONDITION

☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated ☐ Ruins ☐ Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

☒ Altered ☐ Unaltered

☐ Moved ☒ Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Built by Thomas Gerry about 1730, the Elbridge Gerry House remained in the possession of the Gerry family until 1820. Architectural evidence strongly suggests that the house, from 1730 to about 1820, was a two-story L-shaped Georgian frame structure. About 1820 the new owner appears to have raised the house to its present three story height by elevating the original two story residence and inserting under it the existing first story. The original interior finish of the first story is definitely and entirely 19th century, while the original panelling on the walls of the second story rooms is clearly of the 18th century.

The Elbridge Gerry House (in its final and present form) is a three-story L-shaped frame house with clapboarded walls and hip roof. The long (north) arm fronts on the street and is five bays wide and one bay deep; the short (west) arm, which extends to the south, is two bays wide and four bays deep. On the rear of the short arm there is a one-story service wing which contains the kitchen.

Two fluted columns support a porch over the center entrance. The doorway has a transom and sidelights and is reached by a short flight of granite steps. The house is set on a high granite foundation, about four feet back from the street.

The house has a center hall plan, with the hall extending through the middle of the long arm from front to rear. The stairs are located on the right (west) wall of the hall. The east parlor occupies the entire portion of the house to the left of the center hall. The original 19th century mantel and fireplace are set in the center of the south (rear) wall and are flanked by arched alcoves. The portion of the long arm to the right of the hall is occupied by the west parlor, which also has its 19th century mantel and fireplace centered in the south (rear) wall. Behind the west parlor is the dining room, which in turn opens into the kitchen.

The second floor, believed to have been the original first story of the house prior to 1820, has three bedrooms, each with the original 18th century panelling still in place on its fireplace walls.

The house and grounds are well maintained as is the contiguous property, all within a local historic district. The structure appears to have been little altered since the 1820 remodeling.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☒ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☐ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) 1744-1787

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Aboriginal☐ Education☒ Political☐ Urban Planning☐ Prehistoric☐ Engineering☐ Religion/Philosophy☐ Other (Specify)☐ Historic☐ Industry☐ Science☐ Agriculture☐ Invention☐ Sculpture☐ Architecture☐ Landscape☐ Social/Humanitarian☐ Art☐ Architecture☐ Theater☐ Commerce☐ Literature☐ Transportation☐ Communications☐ Military☐ Conservation☐ Music

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Elbridge Gerry House was the birthplace and home, 1744-1787, of Elbridge Gerry, a Signer of the Declaration of Independence for Massachusetts, merchant, politician, diplomat, Governor of Massachusetts and Vice President of the United States.

Elbridge Gerry was born at Marblehead on July 17, 1744, the son of a merchant and sea captain. In May, 1772 Gerry was elected representative to the Massachusetts General Court where he met Samuel Adams and fell completely under his influence. He resigned from the General Court in disgust over a mob action in early 1774. He quickly returned to public life and was a member of the provincial congresses from 1774 to 1776; he also served on the executive committee of safety.

From 1776 to 1780 Gerry was an active delegate to the Continental Congresses. He was an early advocate of independence and was present on July 4, 1776, but left Philadelphia before the engrossed copy of the Declaration had been signed. He actually signed the document himself after his return to Congress on September 3. He also signed the Articles of Confederation and was a member of the Treasury Board from 1776 to 1779. In 1780, after a serious quarrel with Congress, Gerry returned to Boston and absented himself from Congress for over three years. During this period he engaged successfully in trade and privateering. He returned to Congress in 1783 and served there until November, 1785. Early in 1786 he took his seat in the Massachusetts House of Representatives.

In May, 1787 he purchased a confiscated Loyalist estate in Cambridge, later the "Elmwood" of James Russell Lowell, which Gerry made his home. He refused to attend the Annapolis Convention of 1786 but accepted the appointment to the Federal Convention of 1787. Gerry was elected to the new Congress in February, 1789, where he became a supporter of the Constitution and strongly backed the financial measures of Hamilton. In 1793 he retired from Congress to cultivate his farm. He was nominated for governor in 1800; after a succession of defeats, he was elected governor in 1810 and again in 1811. The measure that made his second administration immortal was the famous Gerryman Bill of February 11, 1812. This was a redistricting bill passed for the benefit of the Republican Party. The expression "gerryman" was derived from one extraordinary election district which looked like a salamander.

Gerry failed to be re-elected in April, 1812, but was nominated and then elected to the Vice Presidency of the U.S. on the ticket with James Madison, taking his oath of office on March 4, 1813. He died on November 23, 1814.

The Gerry House is within the Old Town Historic District, and was considered for designation as a National Historic Landmark by the Park Service.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Dictionary of American Biography, Vol. VII, 222-27. Article by Samuel Eliot Morison
 Massachusetts, A Guide to Its Places and People (American Guide Series), Boston, 1937
 Information on National Register form, written by Charles W. Snell, sent to us by the National Park Service

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	0 0 0	0 0 0	42	30	24
NE	0 0 0	0 0 0	71	51	53
SE	0 0 0	0 0 0			
SW	0 0 0	0 0 0			

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1/2 acre

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Elizabeth R. Amadon, Regional Director 727-8470

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: 10/17/72

STREET AND NUMBER: 40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN: Boston 02108 STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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 National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name: John F. X. Davoren
 Title: Secretary of the Commonwealth,
 Chairman of the Mass. Historical Com.
 Date: 10/29/72

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert L. Utley
 Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 7/2/73

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

Date: 6 19 73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PROPERTY	<i>Herry, Elbridge, House</i>	STATE	<i>Mass</i>
WORKING NUMBER	<i>1.3.73.2063</i>	<i>Essex</i>	
TECH REVIEW	Photos <u>0</u> Maps <u>1</u>		
CONTROL REVIEW	<i>This property is within the Old Town Hall Historic District. The SLO says that we already have a picture of this house.</i>		<i>40 J</i> <i>2-27-73</i>
HISTORIAN	<i>I think if they want to nominate properties separately within a district the nomination should be able to stand alone, i.e. we need a photo!</i>		<i>Accept</i> <i>5-20-73</i> <i>C Shull</i>
ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN	<i>Again, bldg. imp. but need photo, and why are they wasting time on these superb bldgs within districts</i>		<i>RETURNED</i> <i>KH</i> <i>6/6/73</i>
ARCHEOLOGIST			
REVIEW UNIT CHIEF	<i>With separate photo of this house in the district nomination, I don't see why we need to return it to the state. Although this should not become common practice, in this case, I doubt</i>		<i>Accept</i> <i>cauf</i> <i>6-15-73</i>
BRANCH CHIEF	<i>We should accept photo if it would make much difference. Because of earlier promise to state. They have been told not to consider this a precedent for other cases.</i>		<i>OK</i> <i>6/18/73</i>
KEEPER			<i>6/19</i>

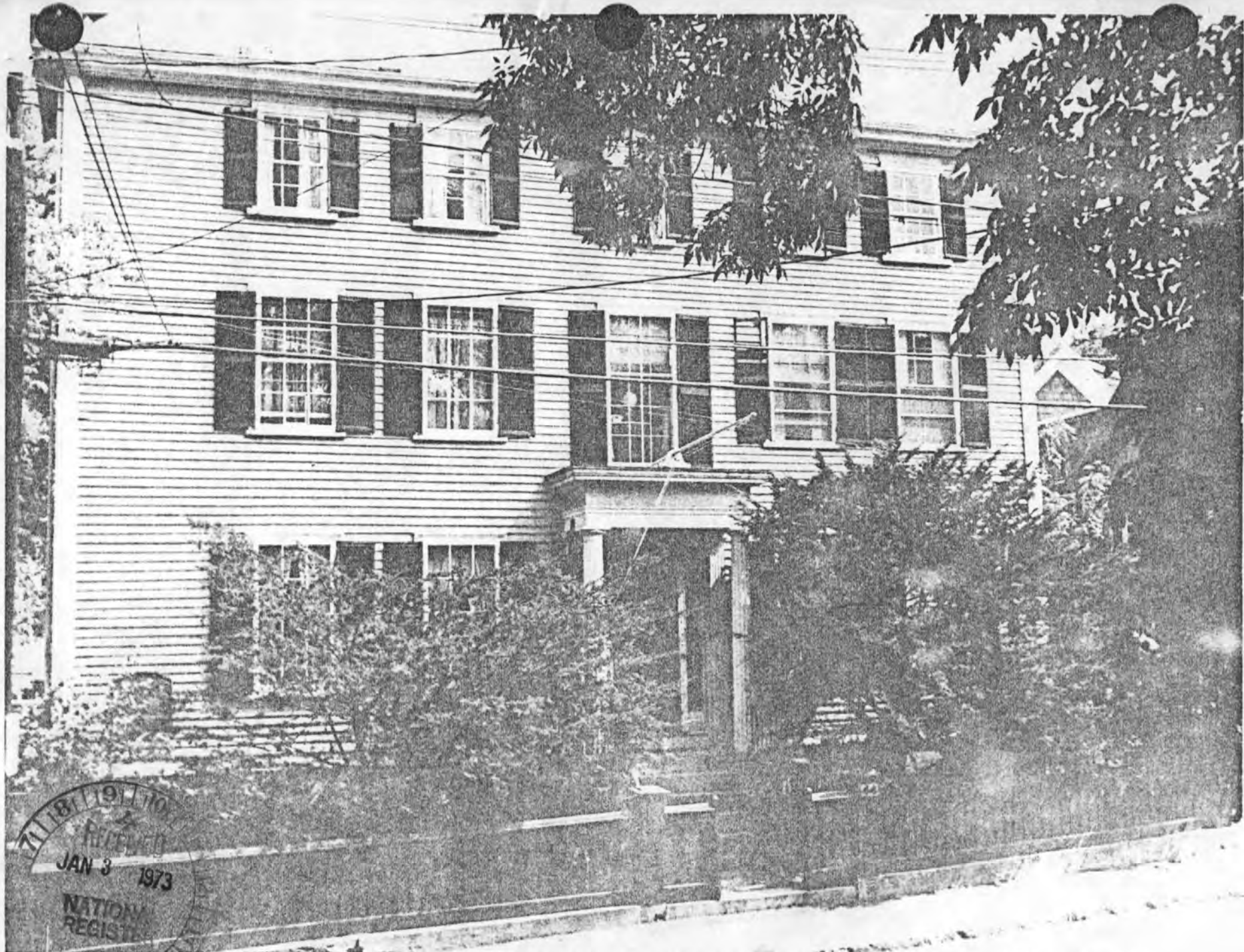
National Register write-up _____

Send-back _____

Federal Register entry *8-7-73*

Re-submit _____

Entered *JUL 2 1973*



Elbridge Gerry Birthplace, Marblehead, Massachusetts

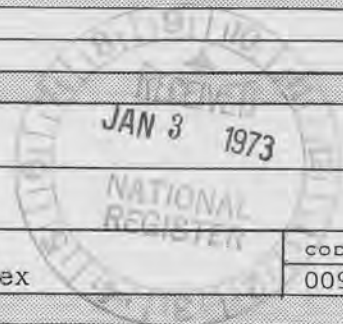
NPS Photo 1968

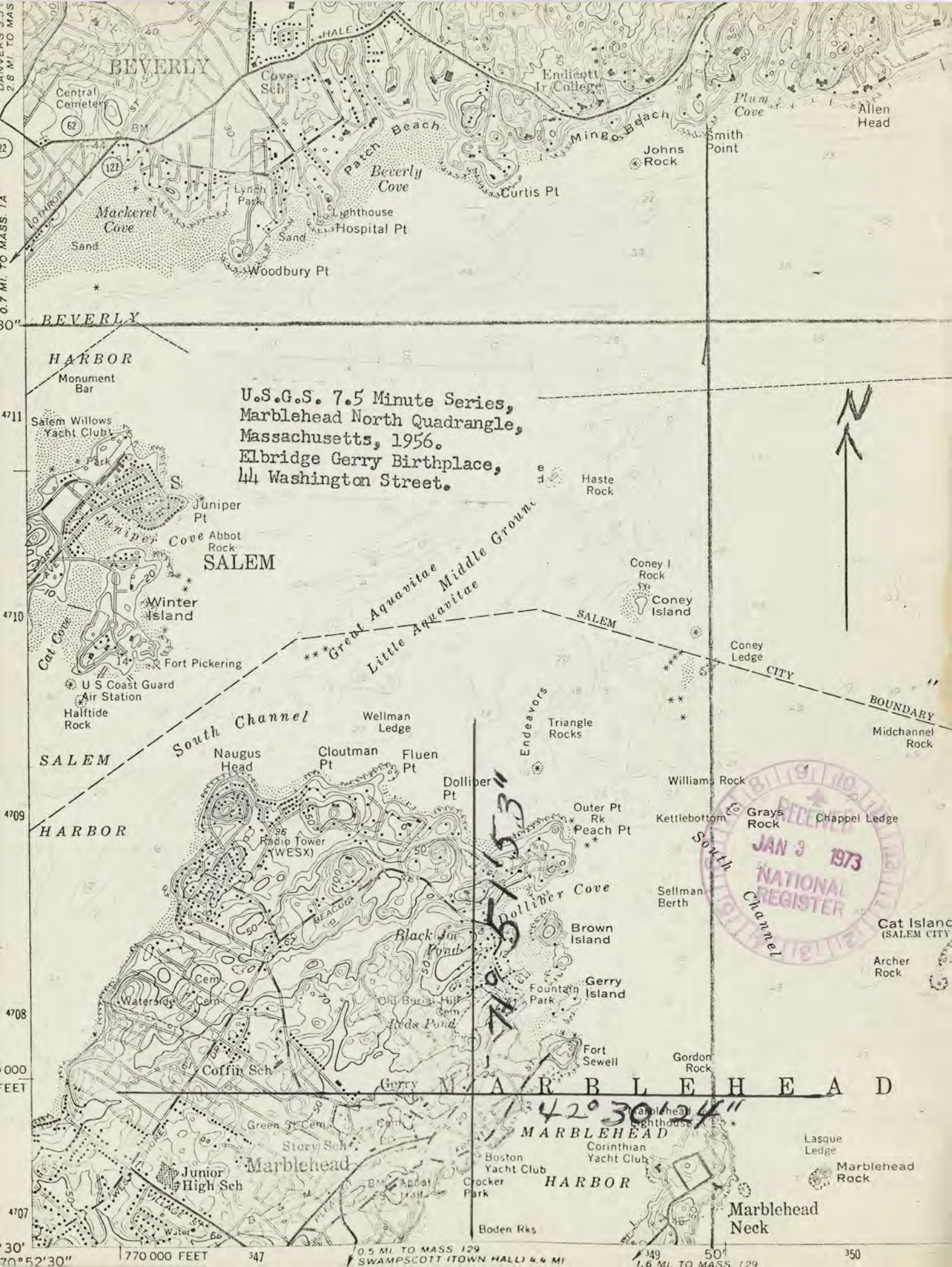
Form 10-301
(July 1969)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICENATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Massachusetts	
COUNTY Essex	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER JUL 2 1973	DATE

1. NAME			
COMMON: Elbridge Gerry Birthplace			
AND/OR HISTORIC: Elbridge Gerry House			
2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 44 Washington Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Marblehead			
STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	COUNTY: Essex	CODE 009
3. MAP REFERENCE			
SOURCE: U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Series, Marblehead North Quadrangle			
SCALE: 1:24 000			
DATE: 1956			
4. REQUIREMENTS			
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS			
1. Property boundaries where required.			
2. North arrow.			
3. Latitude and longitude reference.			





U.S.G.S. 7.5 Minute Series,
Marblehead North Quadrangle,
Massachusetts, 1956.
Elbridge Gerry Birthplace,
44 Washington Street.

RECEIVED
JAN 3 1973
NATIONAL
REGISTER

MARBLEHEAD

HARBOR

Marblehead
Neck

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
Elbridge Gerry House	Elbridge Gerry House	JUL 1 1973
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Essex	Marblehead
STREET AND NUMBER		
44 Washington Street		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
National Park Service	1968	National Park Service
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Facade of house, which faces northwest

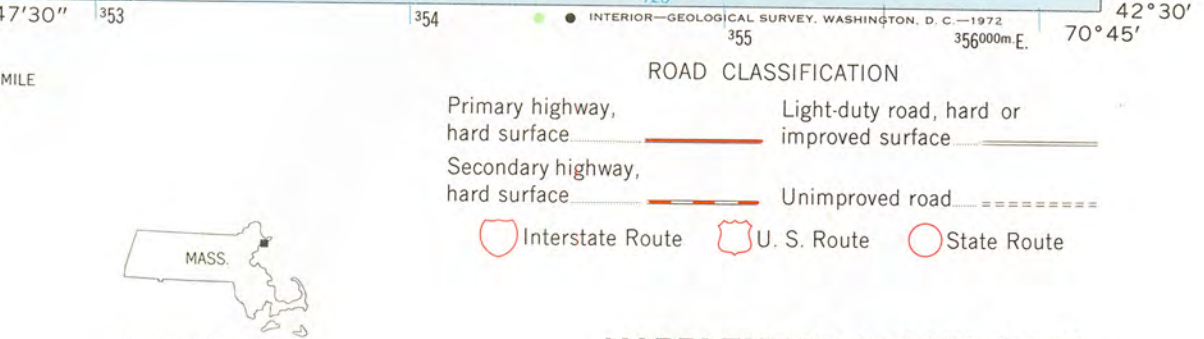
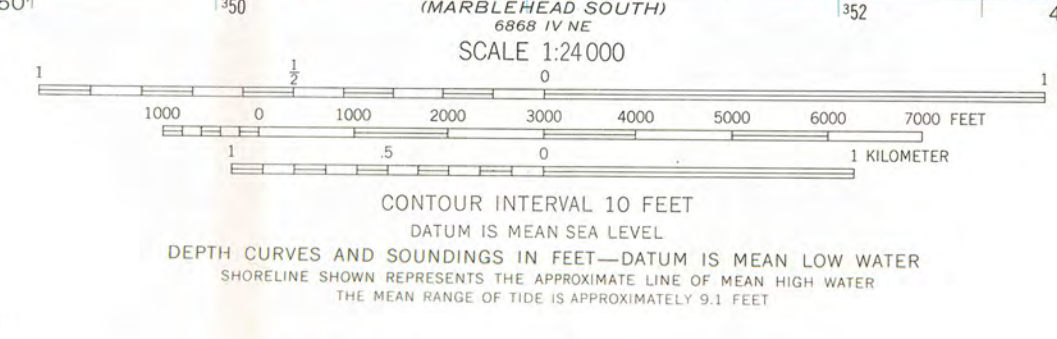
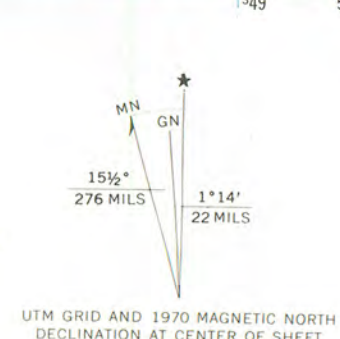
(As this is a N.P.S. photo and the negatives and prints are in your files, the pix enclosed is only a copy. Sally Marusin of the N.P.S. staff said that it would be permissible to send this copy.

E.R. Amadon)





Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1938. Topography by planetable surveys 1942. Revised
from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 240 and
241 (1970). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Boundaries in tidalwater areas from information supplied
by Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

MARBLEHEAD NORTH, MASS.
N4230—W7045/7.5

1970

AMS 6869 III SE—SERIES V814

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **MASSACHUSETTS**

Date Entered **JUL 2 1973**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Gerry (Elbridge) House	Marblehead Essex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Michael J. Harrington

Director, Northeast Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108