

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 5 1975

DATE ENTERED OCT 29 1975

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Deacon Willard Lewis House

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 33 West Street

CITY, TOWN

Walpole

VICINITY OF

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

9th

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY

Norfolk

CODE

021

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☒ UNOCCUPIED
☒ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☒ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☒ OTHER: offices

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Town of Walpole

STREET & NUMBER

Town Hall, Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Walpole

VICINITY OF

STATE
Massachusetts 02081**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Norfolk County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

649 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Dedham

STATE
Massachusetts**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1974

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston,

STATE
Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

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

The Deacon Willard Lewis House is located on the southern half of a small block bounded by West Street, Station Street and Elm Street. To the rear of the house behind a row of trees is the Kendall Company parking lot, and to the west and east across Station and Elm Streets are commercial buildings. To the south of the house is the town common, which is now the center of Walpole's downtown area and therefore greatly altered from its nineteenth century condition. The Lewis House is the oldest house on the common, and the last remnant of Walpole common's early nineteenth century development.

The house is a 2 story ridge roof clapboard building, five bays wide and three deep, with a five bay ell to the west. Built c. 1826, the house was altered in the late nineteenth century, and again very recently. The facade has five 6/6 windows on the second floor and two floor length bay windows with heavy dentiled cornices flanking a modern central doorway. There is another bay window on the west facade of the house, similar in detailing to the front bays, but without full length windows.

The ell to the west has five irregularly spaced 2/2 windows and an off-center entrance, and five small 3/3 windows on the second floor. The music room, built c. 1870-80, extends across the rear elevation of the main house. This addition has a full brick basement and a low pitched roof.

The front boundary of the house is marked by a low cut granite wall which was the foundation of a fence built the same time the music room was added. Plans for the restoration of the house, based on recommendations of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, include painting the building white, shortening the front bay windows to match the side window, and restoring the front door. The property, now owned by the town, will serve as the headquarters for the historical society after the restoration is completed.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD

☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☐ 1600-1699	☐ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☒ 1800-1899	☒ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☒ INDUSTRY	☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

SPECIFIC DATES

c. 1826; 1863

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Deacon Willard Lewis House is significant as one of the last remaining buildings associated with the colonial and federal development of the town of Walpole. It gains further significance through its association with Deacon Willard Lewis, one of Walpole's outstanding nineteenth century industrialists.

The Lewis House, which fronts directly on the town common, was built on a parcel of land known as the Rev. Phillips Payson schoolhouse pasture. The house was built next to the sixth water-power privilege on the Neponset River, which was Walpole's original source of power, thus making the site important to the early development of the town.

Deacon Willard Lewis, who bought the house and the sixth water-power privilege in 1863, was born in West Roxbury in 1808, and moved with his family to Walpole when he was very young. Lewis, who was a prominent member of Walpole's business community, conceived the idea of making lint by machine for bandages, and manufactured these bandages for the Civil War effort. Lewis was also a deacon at the Walpole Orthodox Church and represented Walpole's interests in the Massachusetts General Court in 1872-83.

After purchasing the water-power privilege in 1863, Willard continued to manufacture lint bandages for the U.S. Government and began to make carpet lining, cotton batting and cotton percolator. His business thrived and by 1875 his mill employed 70 people and turned out two tons of batting a day.

The house remains today as a reminder of the development around the town common and of the contribution Deacon Willard Lewis made to the growth of the community.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

DeLue, Willard, The Story of Walpole, 1925
Hurd, D. Hamilton, History of Norfolk County, 1884
Lewis, Isaac Newton, A History of Walpole, Mass., 1905

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 31.3640 46.8120
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christine Boulding, Assistant Survey Director, David Wakefield

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

August, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

40 Beacon 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 X

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 National Park Service.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amazon

TITLE Mass. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE *Aug. 12, 1975*

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DATE *10/29/75*

ATTEST:

DATE *OCT 23 1975*

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property

Lewis, Deacon Willard, House

State

Mass.

Working Number

9.5.75.1639

Not Self

TECHNICAL

Photos

1

Maps

1

CONTROL

OK ^{pl} 9.8.75

HISTORIAN

Accept
w. R. Luce
10/10/75

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

Accept
Schovich
9-11-75

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

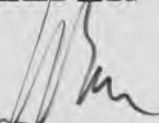
altered but...

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Cole
10.17.75

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER


OCT 23 1975

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered

OCT 29 1975

Federal Register Entry

2-3-76

Re-submit

INT:2106-74



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

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RECEIVED SEP 5 1975

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Deacon Willard Lewis House

AND/OR COMMON same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Walpole VICINITY OF COUNTY Norfolk STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT G.A. Milliken

DATE OF PHOTO 1974

NEGATIVE FILED AT Walpole Historical Commission

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

looking north at southeast facade of house

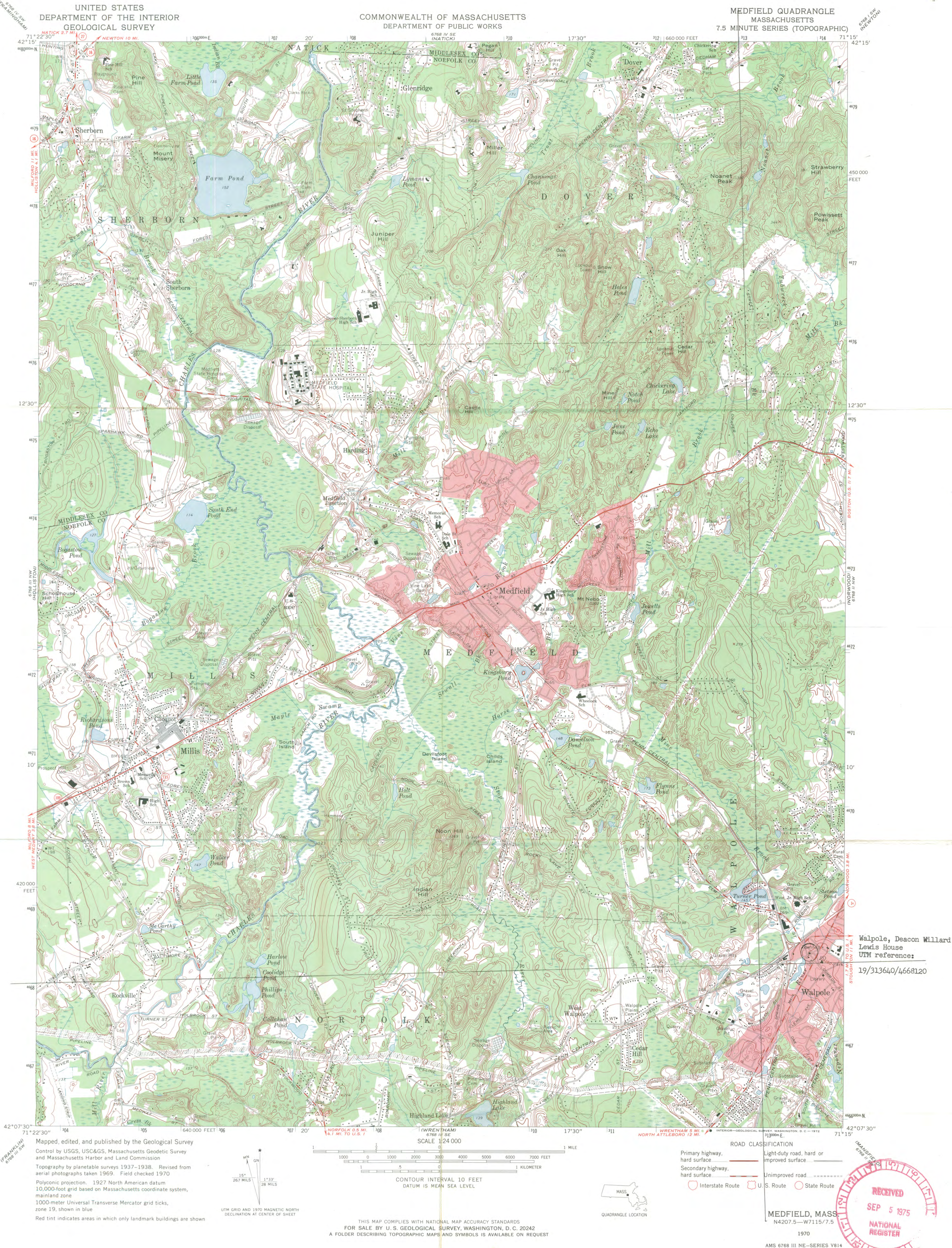
PHOTO NO 1 of 1

House

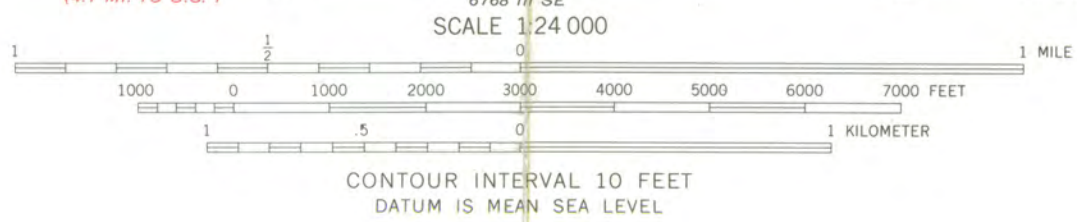
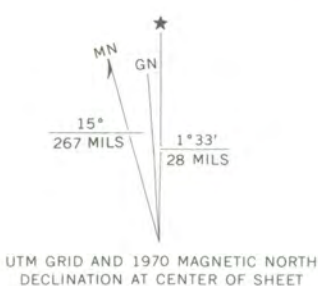
G. A. MILLIKEN
50 SUMMER ST.
SOUTH WALPOLE, MASS. 02071

1974

1081



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 ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway, hard surface
Secondary highway, hard surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U.S. Route
State Route

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

Walpole, Deacon Willard
Lewis House
UTM reference:
19/313640/4668120



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

1 NAME

HISTORIC Deacon Willard Lewis House

AND/OR COMMON same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Walpole VICINITY OF COUNTY Norfolk STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE U.S.G.S., Medfield Mass. quadrant

SCALE 1:24,000 DATE 1970

4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **MASSACHUSETTS**

Date Entered **OCT 29 1975**

Name

Location

Lewis, Deacon Willard, House

**Walpole
Norfolk County**

Also Notified

**Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. John J. Moakley**

**Regional Director, North Atlantic
Region**

**State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108**

PR MMott/je 11/4/75

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 3/21/77
 Reviewer INITIALS: *geoff.*
 NR DOE Oct. 29, 1975

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: ¹⁰ Lewis, Deacon Willard, House

OTHER NAMES:

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER 33 West Street

CITY/TOWN Walpole

STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 9th

COUNTY ^{Norfolk} Plymouth code 023

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle) PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST
 SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR	EXTERIOR	ENVIRONS
☐ Substantially intact-1	☐ Substantially intact-2	☐ Substantially intact-3
☒ unknown - 4	☐ unknown - 5	☐ unknown - 6
☐ not applicable - 7	☐ not applicable - 8	☐ Not applicable-9

☒ Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION -	☐ EXCELLENT	☐ DETERIORATED	☐ UNALTERED	☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☒ GOOD	☐ RUINS	☒ ALTERED	☐ MOVED	
☐ FAIR	☐ UNEXPOSED	☐ Reconstructed	☐ Unknown	
	☐ Unexcavated	☐ Excavated		

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO
 IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- *private residence*

now- *offices*

SIGNIFICANCE:

☒ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION	☐ entertainment
☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LAW/Gov't/politics	☐ SCIENCE	☐ health
☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	☐ recreation
☒ ARCHITECTURE - 4	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MILITARY	☐ TRANSPORTATION	☐ settlement
☐ ART	☒ EXPLORATION	☐ MUSIC	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)	☐ socio/cultural
☐ COMMERCE	☐ INVENTION	☐ PHILOSOPHY		☒ urban & commun planning
☐ COMMUNICATIONS		☐ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT		

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

~~Colonial~~ Greek Revival and Victorian elements

architect/m.builder:

engineer:

landscape/garden designer:

artist/artisan:

interior decorator:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role
&
appropriate date)

personal

events

Deacon Willard Lewis - ~~late~~ locally prominent businessman; manufactured ~~and~~ first bathing for bandages for U.S. govt war efforts.

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): C. 1826

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: C. 1870-80, 20th C.

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

less than 1

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

Frame, clapboarding; 2 1/2 stories, L-shaped, gabled roof, ^{with end pediments,} interior chimneys, front center entrance, flanked by polygonal 1-story window bays, side entrance and polygonal bay; rear addition, c. 1870-80 ^{addition.} ~~New England town.~~ ~~Oldest house on town common; last remnant of town's early 19th C. common development.~~

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

Greek Revival and Victorian elements. One of ~~few~~ remaining buildings associated with the early development of Walpole.