

## FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

AUG 21 1989

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

AREA

FORM NO.

	95
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WALTHAM, MA MRA

Town Waltham, MAAddress 27 Liberty StreetHistoric Name John M. Peck HouseUse: Present ResidentialOriginal Residential

## DESCRIPTION

Date 1843Source DeedsStyle Greek RevivalArchitect John Perkins/Daniel Stone-carpentExterior Wall Fabric ClapboardOutbuildings Stable/garage CMajor Alterations (with dates) North  
ell (1849), other ells and bays (n.d.)Condition GoodMoved no Date n/aAcreage 0.2 Acres 7,806 sq. ft. 60-6-1Setting On residential street with mid  
19th c. houses very near major com-  
mercial centerRecorded by Nancy S. SeasholesOrganization Waltham Historical Comm.Date August 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

UTM REFERENCE 19/316130/4693920USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTONSCALE 1:25,000

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The John M. Peck House is a well detailed and preserved example of a vernacular sidehall plan Greek Revival style house in the city. Its 2½ story form is detailed with a pedimented gable and a handsome entry surround consisting of pilasters carrying an entablature and lintel shelf. With its well documented succession of owners, this house is a particularly good illustration of the development of the north central Main Street area in the mid-19th century as a home for workers and small businessmen. It 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.

Set on a residential street of predominantly nineteenth century houses very near a major commercial district, this house is, aside from its present paint color, a good example of the more modest Greek Revival houses built in the mid-nineteenth century. The house has a pedimented attic and a simple entablature and cornerboards but a more elaborate entrance with pilasters and a corniced entablature. The double front door and the one-story bays on the south are probably late nineteenth century additions. It is a 2½ story clapboard clad structure with rear ell that rests on a granite foundation. Windows contain late 19th century 2/2 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 was built in 1843 by John L. Perkins and Daniel Stone, carpenters. They had acquired the land in late August of that year and had presumably finished the house by early October when they sold it to John M. Peck, a hatter with a shop on Main Street and the Representative to the General Court in 1843 and 1844. Peck owned the house for two years before selling it in 1845 to Phineas Upham. Upham was a well-known dealer in dry goods with a shop on Main Street. His firm was organized under a number of different names: Upham and Clark, a partnership with Lowell Clark (see 68 Lyman Street form); Upham and Baker; Upham; and Phineas Upham & Co. In 1849 Upham put an addition on the north side of the house and sold it to Charles W. Fogg, a large landowner in mid-nineteenth century Waltham who may have rented out the house. In any case, by the mid 1880s the house was owned by Henry P. Sherman, a real estate agent, who used it as an office as well as a residence. Sherman continued to live in the house after he moved his office to Main Street about 1900. After his death in 1916, the house was owned by his heirs and rented; in 1923 it was occupied by Raymond Yetten of Yetten and McIver automobile repairers with a shop on Main Street.

CONT

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex Deeds - 425:461, 431:525; 432:349; 470:365; 691:533.  
Maps and atlases - 1854, 1875, 1886, 1900, 1911, 1915, 1923  
Directories - 1871, 1886, 1901, 1916, 1923

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Form No:

Waltham, MA

95

Property Name:

John M. Peck House

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

## HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (cont'd)

When this house was built in the early 1840s, the area east of Church Street was just being developed and the streets laid out. In 1843 Lewis Smith, the owner of most of the land in the Liberty/School streets area, agreed to construct, at his own expense, Liberty Street, called "the road [that] extends to meet Main Street," and School Street, "the road [that] extends to meet Church Street". By 1846, after Phineas Upham had bought the house at the corner of Liberty and School streets, Liberty Street was called the "street leading from Main Street to P. Upham's house," and School Street was the "street leading from Church Street to said [Upham's] house;" by 1849 both Liberty and School streets were called by their present names.

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 Group

Name Waltham MRA  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

61. Mount Feaks Cemetery *Entered in the National Register* *for* Keeper Melrose Byrum 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*5012* 62. Mt. Prospect School for Boys *Substantive Review* *for* Keeper Beth L. Savage 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

63. Murray, Robert, House *Entered in the National Register* *for* Keeper Melrose Byrum 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*5012* 64. Newton Street Bridge *Substantive Review* *for* Keeper Beth L. Savage 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

65. North Lexington Street Historic District *Entered in the National Register* *for* Keeper Melrose Byrum 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

66. O'Hara Waltham Dial Company *Entered in the National Register* *for* Keeper Melrose Byrum 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

67. Olcott, John E., House *Entered in the National Register* *for* Keeper Melrose Byrum 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

68. Oxford, The *Entered in the National Register* *for* Keeper Melrose Byrum 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

69. Peck, John M., House *Entered in the National Register* *for* Keeper Melrose Byrum 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*5012* 70. Piety Corner Historic District *Substantive Review* *for* Keeper Beth L. Savage 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Peck, John M., 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: 89001559

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage               verbal boundary description  
 UTMs                   boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Peak House  
27 Liberty St

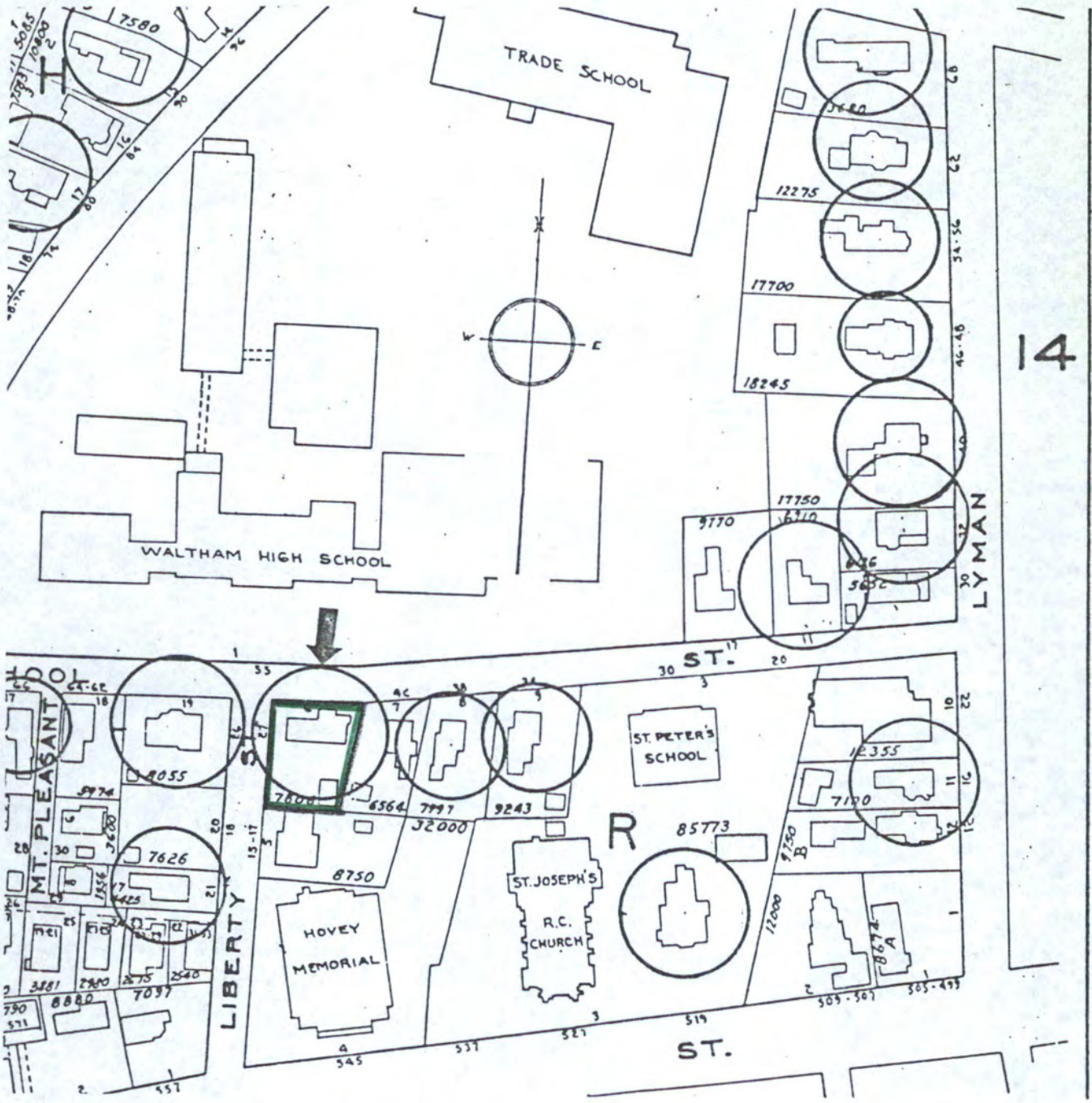
WALTHAM, MA MICH

95



Pech House  
27 LIBERTY ST  
WALTHAM, MA MKH

95



1970 Atlas, City of Waltham  
 Compiled by the Waltham  
 Engineering Division  
 Scale: 1 inch = 140 feet

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA  
 27 Liberty Street  
 John M. Peck House  
 16-R-6

WALTHAM, MA MRA

John M. Peck House #95  
27 Liberty Street  
1" = 100'  
1975; updated to 1987  
Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #60-6-1



E 672,000

City of Waltham  
CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

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83.75

1/4

118.5

118.5

81.83

+7

725(s)

65

225(s)

42

38

34

81(s)  
Roman  
Catholic  
Archbishop  
of  
Boston

120(s)

75(s)

83(s)

Roman Catholic Archbishop  
of Boston

N 502,

27 ST.

LIBERTY

HASTINGS

APPLETON

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301