

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

PH 0504 131

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED SEP 19 1977

DATE ENTERED

FEB 14 1978

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

Edward Devotion House

AND/OR COMMON

same

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

347 Harvard Street

CITY, TOWN

Brookline

VICINITY OF

Boston

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
4th

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE
025COUNTY
NorfolkCODE
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
☐ COMMERCIAL
☒ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☒ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Town of Brookline

STREET & NUMBER

Town Hall, 333 Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Brookline

VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts 02146

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTIONCOURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Norfolk County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

650 High Street

CITY, TOWN

Dedham

STATE

Massachusetts 02026

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1977

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

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 Edward Devotion House is located at 347 Harvard Street in Brookline. The house is surrounded by a low picket fence and tall maple trees. The lot is encircled by the driveway for the Edward Devotion School, which surrounds the house on three sides. The school land was purchased by the Town in 1891 for the purpose of erecting a school with funds left by Edward Devotion in his will. The house site lies just west of Coolidge Corner, a commercial center in Brookline. The area west of the house is residential.

In 1685 the Devotion property consisted of 102 acres on both sides of Harvard Street (which had been laid out in 1662 as the Road to the Collages, [sic] which was "To go... by the Goodman Devotions"). Edward Devotion built a house and barn on the property, but these were torn down by the time Edward Devotion, Jr. sold the lot to his adopted son, Solomon Hill, in 1740. The present house was erected by Solomon Hill some time after this date. It now stands approximately 100 feet back from ^Harvard Street.

The building is the finest example of mid-18th century Colonial architecture remaining in Brookline today. It is a small house with a gambrel roof extended at the first pitch to form a lean-to at the rear.

The 2½ story house has a central chimney, and is sheathed in clapboards painted yellow. The corner boards, door and window architraves, and eaves are painted white. Fenestration is varied and of contrasting scale. All windows have a plain sill and a molded, slightly projecting cornice.

The asymmetrical south facade is three bays wide, with the entrance placed at the western end. The wooden door is flanked by a molded pilaster on either side and headed by a molded cornice supporting a triangular pediment. The two first story windows are 12/12. The second story windows are 12/8 with their lintels directly beneath the eaves.

The east elevation has a 12/12 window on the first and the second story of the northern end, with a small six light casement above and slightly south. The southern end of the elevation has a 12/12 on the first story, a 12/8 directly above on the second story, and a smaller 12/8 overhead in the attic.

The west elevation has a 12/12 window on both the first and the second story, and an 8/8 above and slightly south in the attic. The northern end of the elevation has a 2½ story Beverly jog. The south facade of this jog has a door headed by four lights and a molded cornice. A 12/12 window stands directly overhead on the second story with a 12/8 window above that. The west elevation of the jog has a single 12/12 on the first and the second story at the northern end. Most of the original interior detail remains, including H and HL hinges, a brass lift latch, the board and batten front door, four and six panel interior doors, and a molded wooden handrail supported by turned balusters and a square topped newel post.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

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CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER

PAGE

Edward Devotion House

7

1

The original fireplace wall is panelled with crosseted corners above. The more recent fireplace wall in the "new" kitchen at the rear of the house is also panelled, and has a molded architrave and mantel framing the fireplace. Summer beams and girts are encased. Some of the fireplaces have been covered over, but most of the original woodwork is intact.

When the school was constructed in 1891, extensive repair work was executed on the house under the direction of William G. Preston, architect. Paint and plaster were applied and the house was plumbed and wired. The structure was raised four feet on its original foundation and a new sill constructed. Most of the clapboards were replaced but the original nails were reused. Wherever possible the original sash was repaired, and the old glass reset. The top of the chimney was relaid, and the roof resingled. In 1908 Kilham and Hopkins made minor alterations, such as latch and window repair and new floors in some of the rooms.

The original house was one room deep with a hall, parlor, and present kitchen on the first story, and a bath and bedroom on the second. In approximately 1775-1800 rooms were added at the rear of the house, and the gambrel roof extended. The Beverly jog was added at this time. It consisted of a kitchen with a room below, and two and ½ rooms above.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ 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		

SPECIFIC DATES	c. 1745	BUILDER/ARCHITECT	Solomon Hill
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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Edward Devotion House is significant as an excellent example of mid-18th century architecture, one of the few representative examples extant in Brookline. It is also significant for its long term association with the Devotions, a locally prominent Huguenot family, influential in the Town's educational, governmental, and religious affairs during the 17th and 18th centuries.

Edward Devotion, Sr. was born in 1621. He bought the land at Muddy River (Brookline) and was living there by 1645. He was a French Huguenot immigrant from La Rochelle, France where the DeVaution family are believed to be his ancestors. Devotion was a member of the church and a freeman. He married in 1649 and raised a family of ten.

John Devotion, born in 1659, served as had his father and his own son, Edward Jr., in such capacities as constable, tithingman, and perambulator of the town boundaries. John and his son Edward signed the petition for Brookline's separation from Boston. Edward Devotion, Jr. bequested numerous gifts to the church and town, with his residual estate being designated for the building and maintenance of a school near the center of town. The intent of his will was disregarded for many years, only to be fulfilled in 1891 with the first buildings of the Edward Devotion School, which today stands on the original Devotion property.

Heirlooms presented by descendants of the Devotion family are on display at the house, which now serves as a museum open to the public two days a week. Famous portraits of the Devotions and of other families are exhibited.

The Edward Devotion School was attended by John F. Kennedy. The reenactment of William Dawes' ride of 1775 takes place annually on April 19th. Dawes rode from Roxbury stopping at the Devotion House to warn the inhabitants of the arrival of the British.

The curators of the museum currently live in the house.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Publication No. 14, Brookline Historical Publications Society.

Brookline Town Report, 1906.

Curtis, John Gould, History of the Town of Brookline, Houghton Mifflin, Boston, 1933.

Little, Nina Fletcher, Some Old Brookline Houses, Brookline Historical Society, 1949.

Proceedings of the Brookline Historical Society, January, 1902.

Woods, Harriet F., Historical Sketches of Brookline, Robert S. Davis Co., Boston, 1874.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approx. 1/3 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 32,49,8,0 4,6,8,9,9,7,0
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C
ZONE EASTING NORTHING

B
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
-------	------	--------	------

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Blaine Mallory and Joseph Orfant, National Register Editor
Helen C. McIntosh, Curator of the Devotion House

ORGANIZATION Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE August 8, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 294 Washington 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 Amadon

TITLE Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

DATE 9/6/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

Robert B. Rellig

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

John

DATE 2/14/78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ATTEST:

Charles

DATE 2.9.78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Property

Devotion, Edward, House

State

MA

Working Number

*9.19.77.1467**Norfolk*

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos

4

Maps

*1, sketch**OK 9.31.77*

HISTORIAN

*Ever given extensive early restoration - house very
significant for colonial arch. & associations**Shapiro
1-3-78
accept*

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

*ACCEPT**Brill 11/4/77*

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

*accept
Leborich
2/7/78*

BRANCH CHIEF

*Hurley
2.9.78*

KEEPER

*Rettig for Murtagh
2/14/78*

National Register Write-up

4.4.78

Send-back

Federal Register Entry

Re-submit

Entered

FEB 14 1978

INT:2106-74



Edward Devotion House
Brookline, Massachusetts, *Norfolk County*
March, 1977
Robert H. Phinney
20 Newton Street, Brookline 02146
#1 *of 4*
South facade and east elevation.
(facade of Edward Devotion School in rear)

doe
FEB 14 1978

SEP 19 1977

photo by

Robert F. Phinney
20 Newton St.
Brookline, Mass. 02146

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Edward Devotion House

Brookline, Massachusetts

March, 1977 *Norfolk County*

Robert H. Phinney

20 Newton Street, Brookline 02146

#2 *44*

West elevation and south facade.

DOE

FEB 14 1978

SEP 19 1977

photo by

Robert F. Phinney

20 Newton St.

Brookline, Mass. 02146

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



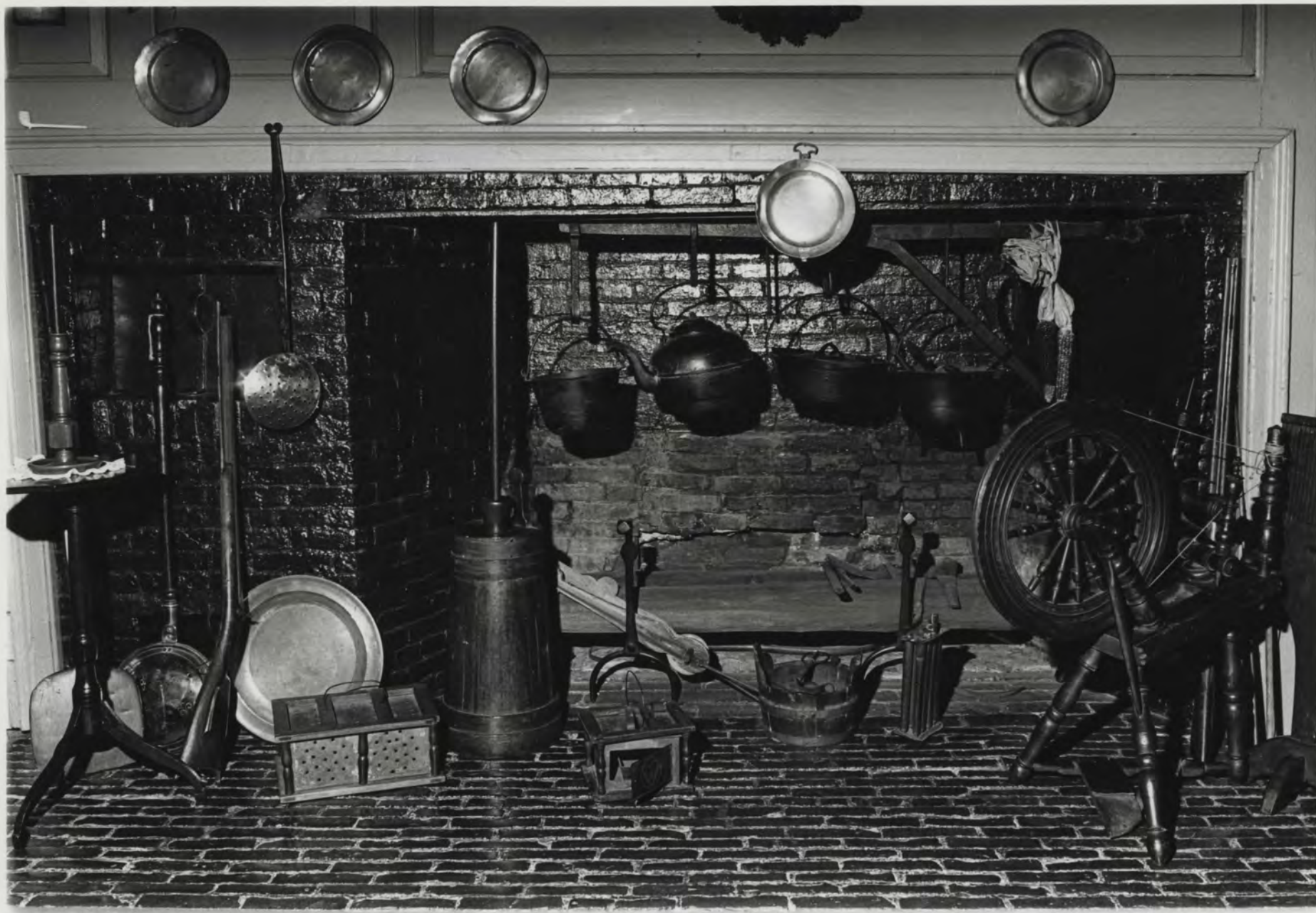
Edward Devotion House
Brookline, Massachusetts, *Norfolk County*
March, 1977
Robert H. Phinney
20 Newton Street, Brookline 02146
#3 *of 4*
East elevation and south facade.

doc.
FEB 14 1978

SEP 19 1977

photo by
Robert F. Phinney
20 Newton St.
Brookline, Mass. 02146

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER



Edward Devotion House
Brookline, Massachusetts, *North County*
March, 1977

Robert H. Phinney
20 Newton Street, Brookline 02146
#4 *74*

Interior view of "new" kitchen
(to rear of house) fireplace.

DOE
FEB 14 1978

SEP 19 1977

photo by

Robert F. Phinney

20 Newton St.

Brookline, Mass. 02146

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

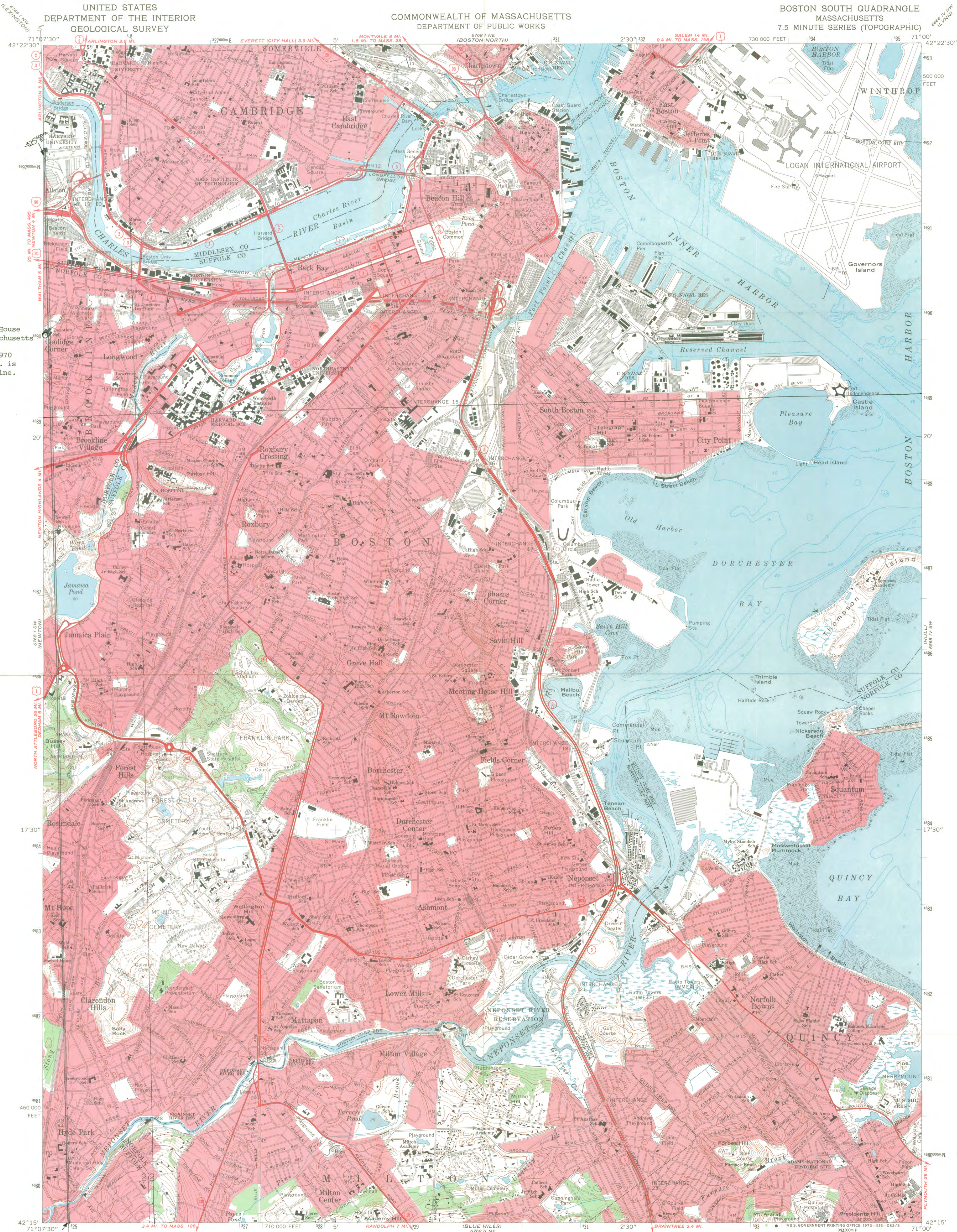




DOE
FEB 14 1978

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Edward Devotion House
Brookline, Massachusetts
UTM Coordinates:
19/324 980/4689 970
note: 325 000m.E. is
western most line.

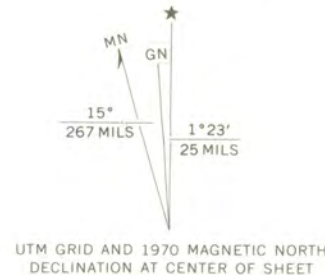


Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1943. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 246
and 248 (1971). This information is not intended for navigational
purposes

Polycyclic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1,000-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



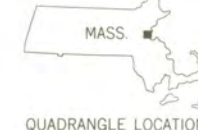
SCALE 1:24,000
1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET
1 0 1 KILOMETER

CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET

DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORDLING SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 9.5 FEET

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

ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Primary highway,
hard surface
Secondary highway,
hard surface
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route
Light-duty road, hard or
improved surface
Unimproved road
Interstate Route
U. S. Route
State Route



BOSTON SOUTH, MASS.
N4215—W7100/7.5

1970

AMS 6768 1 SE—SERIES V814



ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered FEB 14 1978

Name

Location

Waters, Asa, Mansion

Millbury
Worcester County

Devotion, Edward, House

Brookline
Norfolk County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Joseph D. Early
Hon. Robert F. Drinan

Regional Director, North Atlantic
Region

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

880 Mott/js 2/24/78

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

1 NAME as it appears on federal register: Devotion, Edward, House		2 OTHER NAMES:		3 date of entry: FEB 14 1978		4 county code: 21																																					
5 LOCATION street & number 347 Harvard St.		city / town Brookline		vicinity of		state MA																																					
county Norfolk		6 NPS REGION: NA		ADMINISTRATOR:																																							
7 OWNER ☐ PRIVATE ☐ STATE ☒ MUNICIPAL ☐ COUNTY ☐ MULTIPLE ☐ FEDERAL (agency name)																																											
8 EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ NABS ☐ HAER ☐ NHL 9 FUNDED? ☐ YES ☐ NO 10 CONGRESS DISTRICT 4th 11 SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒ STATE ☐ FEDERAL																																											
12 WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ YES, NAME ☐ NO 13 WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? ☐ YES, NAME ☐ NO 14 ACREAGE																																											
15 ACCESS ☐ YES - Restricted ☐ YES - Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown 16 ADAPTIVE USE ☐ YES ☐ NO 17 SAVED? ☐ YES ☐ NO 18 IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ yes ☐ no																																											
19 AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE : <table style="width:100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td>☐ ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric - 2</td> <td>☐ COMMERCE - 6</td> <td>☐ ENTERTAINMENT - 26</td> <td>☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH. - 15</td> <td>☐ POLITICS / GOVT. - 21</td> <td>☐ RECREATION - 28</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ ARCHEOLOGY - historic - 1</td> <td>☐ COMMUNICATIONS - 7</td> <td>☐ EXPLORATION - 12</td> <td>☐ LAW - 16</td> <td>☐ RELIGION - 22</td> <td>☐ SETTLEMENT - 29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ AGRICULTURE - 3</td> <td>☐ CONSERVATION - 8</td> <td>☐ HEALTH - 27</td> <td>☐ MILITARY - 18</td> <td>☐ SCIENCE - 23</td> <td>☐ URBAN PLANNING - 31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ ARCHITECTURE - 4</td> <td>☐ ECONOMICS - 9</td> <td>☐ INDUSTRY - 13</td> <td>☐ MUSIC - 19</td> <td>☐ SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN - 24</td> <td>☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>☐ ART - 5</td> <td>☐ EDUCATION - 10</td> <td>☐ INVENTION - 14</td> <td>☐ PHILOSOPHY - 20</td> <td>☐ SOCIAL / CULTURAL - 30</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>☐ TRANSPORTATION - 25</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>								☐ ARCHEOLOGY - prehistoric - 2	☐ COMMERCE - 6	☐ ENTERTAINMENT - 26	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH. - 15	☐ POLITICS / GOVT. - 21	☐ RECREATION - 28	☐ ARCHEOLOGY - historic - 1	☐ COMMUNICATIONS - 7	☐ EXPLORATION - 12	☐ LAW - 16	☐ RELIGION - 22	☐ SETTLEMENT - 29	☐ AGRICULTURE - 3	☐ CONSERVATION - 8	☐ HEALTH - 27	☐ MILITARY - 18	☐ SCIENCE - 23	☐ URBAN PLANNING - 31	☐ ARCHITECTURE - 4	☐ ECONOMICS - 9	☐ INDUSTRY - 13	☐ MUSIC - 19	☐ SOCIAL / HUMANITARIAN - 24	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)	☐ ART - 5	☐ EDUCATION - 10	☐ INVENTION - 14	☐ PHILOSOPHY - 20	☐ SOCIAL / CULTURAL - 30						☐ TRANSPORTATION - 25	
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				☐ TRANSPORTATION - 25																																							
20 CLAIMS: explain 'first' ☐ 'oldest' ☐ 'only' ☐																																											
21 functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:				22 dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:		23 ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION																																					
24 architectural style(s):				25 architect:		26 master builder:																																					
27 engineer:				28 landscape architect / garden designer:		29 interior decorator:																																					
30 artist:				31 artisan:		32 builder/contractor:																																					
33 NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:																																											
34 NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP																																											