

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116 JAN 3 1985

AREA	FORM NO.
	145

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

See attached map.

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date May 1985

(Staple additional sheets here)

Town Sherborn

Address 5 Sparhawk Road

Historic Name H. G. Vaughn House

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1915

Source Architectural plans by Little and Browne

Style Dutch Colonial Revival

Architect Little and Browne of Boston

Exterior wall fabric Stucco over masonry

Outbuildings Carriage house (now under separate ownership)

Major alterations (with dates) None

Moved No Date N/A

Approx. acreage 6.56 acres

Setting The Vaughn House is located on a tree-studded rise in an area otherwise filled with recent subdivisions.

UTM reference: A-19 304460 4675300

B-19 304520 4675180

C-19 304370 4675190

D-19 304340 4675310

scale 1:25,000 Medfield Quadrangle

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

This ornate Dutch Colonial Revival-style estate is said to have been modeled after the residency of the Dutch governor of Indonesia. It is the work of the prominent Boston architectural firm of Little and Browne. The building is L-shaped in plan, with a marble courtyard on its northern side sheltered by the main block and ell. Its exterior walls are covered with stucco.

(Cont'd)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

SEE ATTACHED SHEET

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

"Who's Who in New England Volume 3, 1938, compiled and edited by
A. N. Marquis.. p. 1290
Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians May 1973, vol. 32, no. 2,
pp. 147-163 (Arthur Little and the Colonial Revival)
Maps of 1788, 1857, 1875 and 1889
Anne C. Shaughnessy, History of Sherborn, 1974.
Master Plan of Town of Sherborn, prepared by Shurcliff and Merrill, Planning
Consultants, Dec. 1, 1958.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Sherborn	Form No: 145
Property Name: H. G. Vaughn House	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Cont'd)

The building's most distinctive features are its four Dutch-inspired gables, one on each elevation, which rise above a red tile roof. The gables' angular edges and sweeping curves are outlined by a copper border. On the northern, main facade, one of these gables surmounts a projecting five-bay central pavilion. A keystone-capped round-arched arcade fronts a fanlit central entrance on the pavilion's ground story; four round-arched windows flank the entrance. The five bays of the pavilion's second story include copper-enframed 12/12 windows.

Projecting from both the south and west elevations, and asymmetrically placed beneath their respective gables, are flat-roofed porches supported by Tuscan columns. Glass encloses the south elevation's porch, while that of the east side remains open. A lattice-enclosed sleeping porch projects from the west elevation.

The Vaughn House interior contains 18th and 19th century panelling, mantels, and staircases formerly part of other structures in New England. Murals installed shortly after the building's construction in 1915 depict Roman ruins and Dutch streetscapes.

A carriage house with similar surface treatments is now a separate residence and is not part of the Multiple Resource nomination.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The H. G. Vaughn House is a fine representative of the high-style estates that were constructed in Sherborn in the early 20th century to house wealthy Bostonians. An intact example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style on a grand scale, and the only such structure in Sherborn, the Vaughn House retains integrity of setting, location, design, materials, feeling, and workmanship, as well as associations with a well-known Boston architectural firm. The estate thus fulfils Criteria C and A of the National Register of Historic Places.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Between 1900 and 1930 a number of country houses were built in southeast Sherborn for well-to-do Bostonians. Among the Boston architectural firms enlarging existing 18th century Sherborn houses and building stately new residences were Dwight, Chandler, Pray, Hubbard and White; William Aldrich; and Little and Browne. Arthur Little (1852-1925) and Herbert W. C. Browne (1860-1946) were among the New England Colonial Revival style's pioneers and innovators. They provided the designs for the Henry G. Vaughn House, which was completed in 1915 for Mr. Vaughn, a prominent Boston lawyer. The Vaughns resided here until 1946 when the house was sold to a surgeon at Children's Hospital, Boston.

Henry Goodwin Vaughn married Elizabeth Russell Tyson in 1915, the year his Sherborn house was completed. He was admitted to the Massachusetts Bar in 1893 and practiced in Boston as a member of the firm of Myers, Brooks and Vaughn. Vaughn also served as representative from South Berwick and Berwick, Maine. In addition he was a vestryman at St. Paul's Church, now Cathedral, in Boston. His many club memberships included the National Steeplechase and Hunt Association, Masters of Foxhounds Association, and Honorary Master of the Hounds for the Norfolk Hunt in Dover. In 1938 he listed his hobbies as "yachting, shooting and riding to the hounds." Vaughn spent only a few months a year in Sherborn, residing mostly in South Berwick, while maintaining a law office in Boston.

The Boston architectural firm of Little and Browne--Arthur Little and Herbert W. C. Browne--was formed in 1879. Best known for their work in domestic architecture, they designed North Shore country estates and Back Bay town houses. Their outstanding achievement was the palatial home of Larz Anderson at 2118 Massachusetts Ave., Washington, D.C.

Arthur Little played a key role in the rise of the Colonial Revival's popularity in New England during the 19th century. Born in Boston in 1852, Little spent his childhood home in a row house overlooking Boston's Public Garden. Educated at M.I.T. (1871-1875), he was also a student of Peabody and Stearns from 1877 to 1879. In 1878 he published Early New England Interiors, a book of drawings of 17th and 18th century homes that sparked an interest in American Colonial and Federal styles at a time when most Boston architects were still enthralled with the French Academic mode and when Little himself was less interested in the formal aspects of the Colonial Revival. Little's interest extended to interiors, also Colonial Revival in nature.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 11/20/85

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 313

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Sherborn Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Sanger, Richard, III, House

Entered in the
National Register
Keeper
Attest

Shelton Byers 1/3/86

22. Sawin-Bullen-Bullard House

Entered in the
National Register
Keeper
Attest

Shelton Byers 1/3/86

23. Twitchell, Joseph, House

Entered in the
National Register
Keeper
Attest

Shelton Byers 1/3/86

24. Vaughn, H. G., House

Entered in the
National Register
Keeper
Attest

Shelton Byers 1/3/86

25. Ware's Tavern

Entered in the
National Register
Keeper
Attest

Shelton Byers 1/3/86

26. Woodland Farm-Leland House

Entered in the
National Register
Keeper
Attest

Shelton Byers 1/3/86

27.

Keeper

Attest

28.

Keeper

Attest

29.

Keeper

Attest

30.

Keeper

Attest

86000511

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Vaughn, H. G., House (Sherborn MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. NOV 20 1985

Fed. Reg. Date: 12/19/85

Date Due: 1/4/86

Action: ACCEPT 1-3-86

RETURN

REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition

- ☐ excellent ☐ deteriorated
☐ good ☐ ruins
☐ fair ☐ unexposed

Check one

- ☐ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

- ☐ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

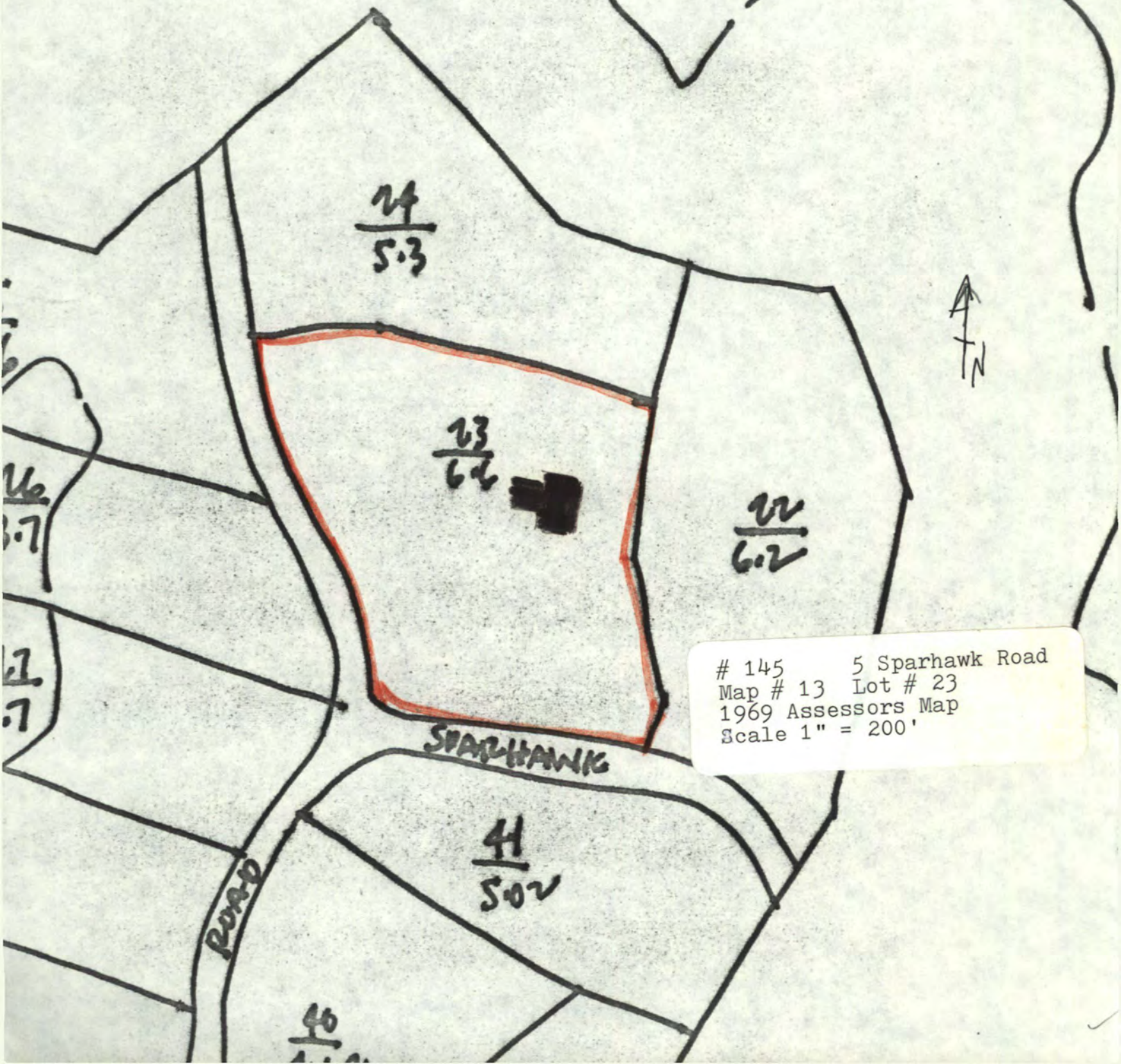
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Vaughn, H. G., Base

Sherburn MPA, Ma



145 5 Sparhawk Road
Map # 13 Lot # 23
1969 Assessors Map
Scale 1" = 200'

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000293