

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

## Photos

- 26:15 detail, summer beam  
right hand room
- 26:16 left-hand chamber ceiling
- 26:17 exterior (south and east facades)

Town Gloucester 009Address 179 Washington St.Historic Name Whittemore HouseUse: Present ResidenceOriginal Residence

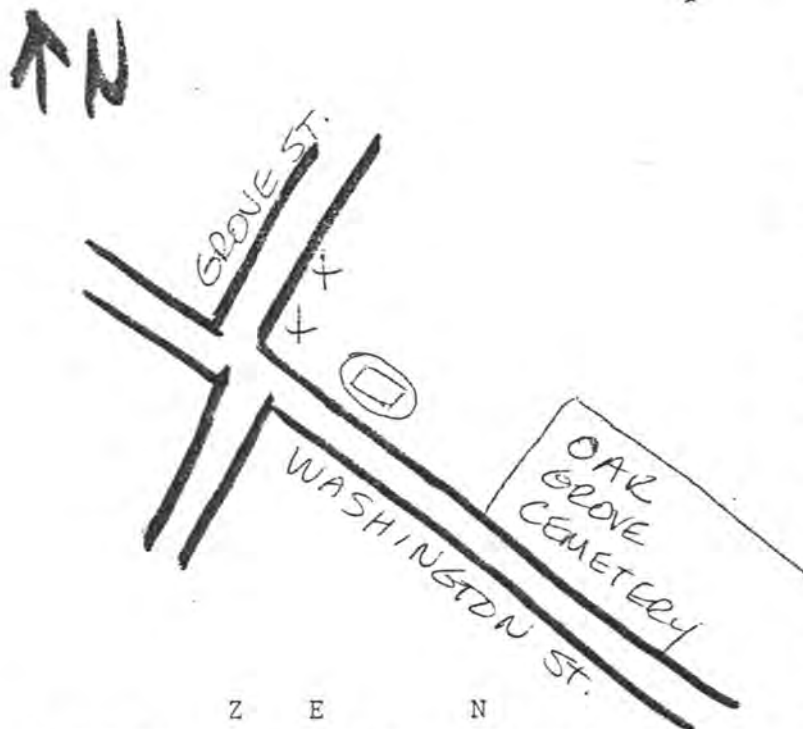
## DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1700Source stylistic analysisStyle First Period w/ Federal vernacular exteriorArchitect UnknownExterior Wall Fabric ClapboardsOutbuildings GarageMajor Alterations (with dates) Lean-to raised, date unknown; wing to right added, date unknownCondition GoodMoved No Date N/AAcreage less than one acre

Setting Adjacent to cemetery, on street of mixed residential and retail usage; wood frame structures of mixed pre-World War I date

Recorded by Anne GradyOrganization Boston UniversityDate June 1986

## Sketch Map:



Z E N

UTM REFERENCE 19 / 362-670 / 4719-610USGS QUADRANGLE GloucesterSCALE 1:25,000

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: GLOUCESTER	Form No: 24
Property Name: Whittemore House	

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The Whittemore House has integrity of location, design, materials and workmanship, and embodies distinctive characteristics of form and construction under Criterion C. The addition of a second cell within the First Period is representative of a larger number of First Period Houses, while the decorative embellishment of the two portions of the frame allows study of evolutionary patterns of framing decoration among Gloucester carpenters. Examination of the parts of the frame now concealed would be likely to yield important information about framing practices among Gloucester joiners. (Criterion D).

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Whittemore House is a five bay wide, 2 story house of asymmetrical plan with steep roof pitch and a two story lean-to. There is a wing of undetermined construction date to the right rear. The clapboarded exterior is finished with simple 19th century trim of plain window surrounds and a bracketed door hood. The central chimney has been removed. At the core of the house are an original single cell structure (left hand rooms and chimney bay) and the rooms added in the First Period to the right of the chimney.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

Evidence of First Period framing is seen in each of the four front rooms. In the right hand room, there is an approximately 1 foot wide longitudinal summer beam with 1 1/4" flat chamfers and lamb's tongue stops. Joists are c. 24" on centers. There are flat chamfers on all three outer wall girts, but no chamfer on the chimney girt. In the left hand room, there is a longitudinal summer beam with broad quarter-round chamfers. Stops of undetermined shape are present on the summer beam. In the right hand chamber, the rear chimney post, the only framing member exposed, has a flat chamfer and triangular stop. An early description of the house indicated that there are raised sills, now enclosed in the walls of the downstairs rooms. [1]

In the left hand chamber, there is an exposed summer tie beam with 1 1/4" flat chamfers and lamb's tongue stops. Joists, some of which are slightly chamfered, are 21" on centers. At the front and rear walls, the ceiling is plastered on an angle, a variation of finish seen in First Period houses where tie beams are not set flush with the plates.

Roof framing is of principal rafters and common purlins, but no collar beams. The cellar is only under the left-hand room.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The house is important for its association with Fitz Hugh Lane (1804-1865), noted painter of marine subjects. Lane's first studio was in the left-hand (west) room of the Whittemore house when the house was owned by his brother. [2]

REFERENCES

1. Edward H. Lane, "Washinton Street As It Appeared 75 Years Ago," Gloucester Daily Times, January 20, 1917.
2. \_\_\_\_\_, Early Recollections of Artist Fitz Hugh Lane, Gloucester Daily Times, March 23, 1916.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

1/24/90

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR  
State \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
81. White--Preston House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
82. Whittemore House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
83. Woodberry--Quarrels House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
84. Woodbury, Peter, House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
85. Bacon, Stephen, House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
86. Bickford, John, House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
87. Brewer, Moses, House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
88. Brown--Stow House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
89. Browne, Abraham, House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
90. Buck, Ephraim, House <b>Entered in the National Register</b>	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 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: Whittemore House

MULTIPLE NAME: First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/24/90      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/07/90  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/23/90      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/10/90  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000218

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    3/9/90 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 \_\_\_\_\_



179 Washington Street,  
Gloucester, MA

Extension (south + east facades)  
1985

4th Period Buildings of F. May, JR

26:17



Gloucester, MA  
Whittemore House  
179 Washington Street  
left-hand chamber ceiling  
1985

Get Period Buildings of E. May, TR

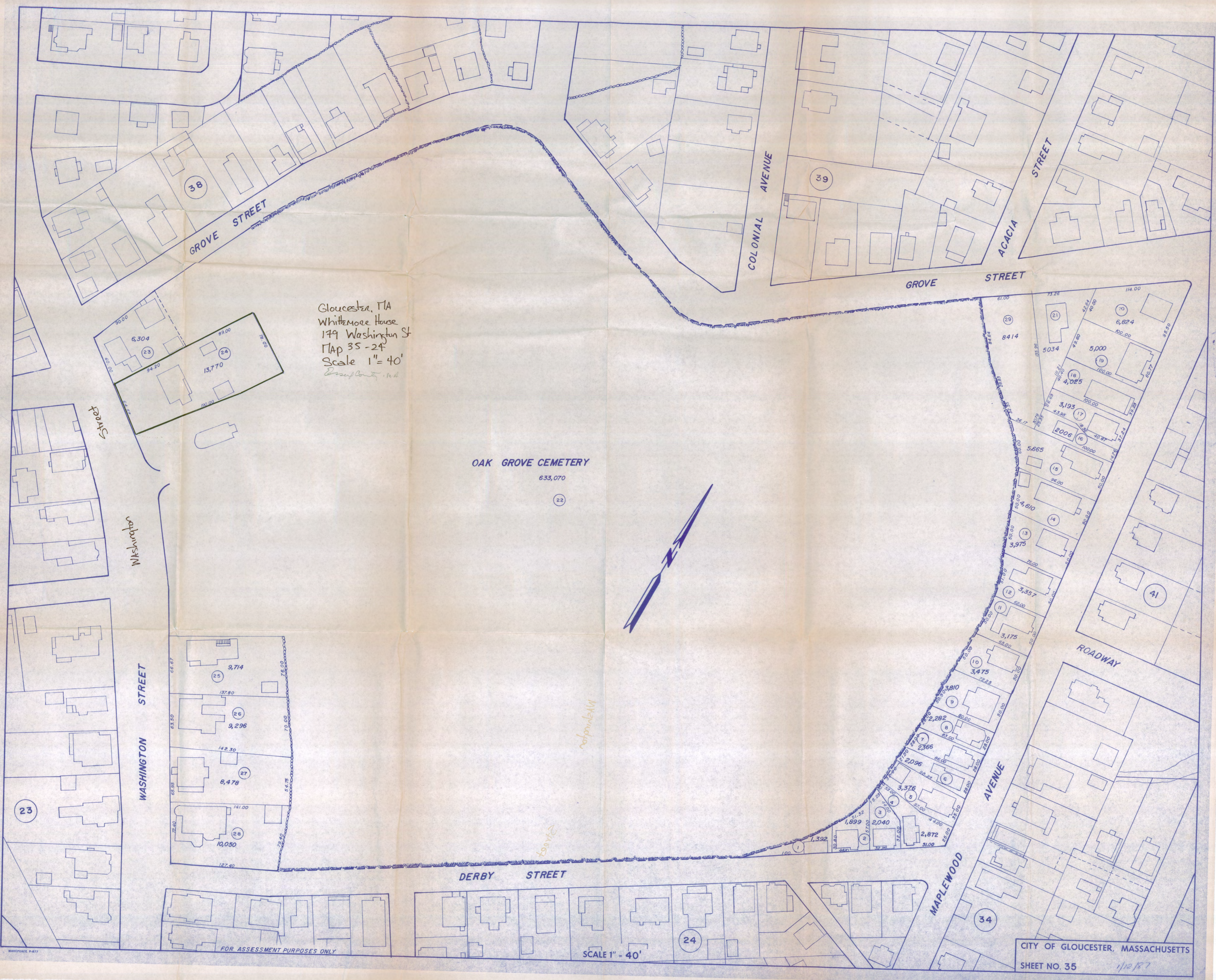
26:16



Gloucester, MA  
Whittemore House  
179 Washington Street  
detail. Summer beam  
1985

1st Floor Buildings of E. May TR

26:15

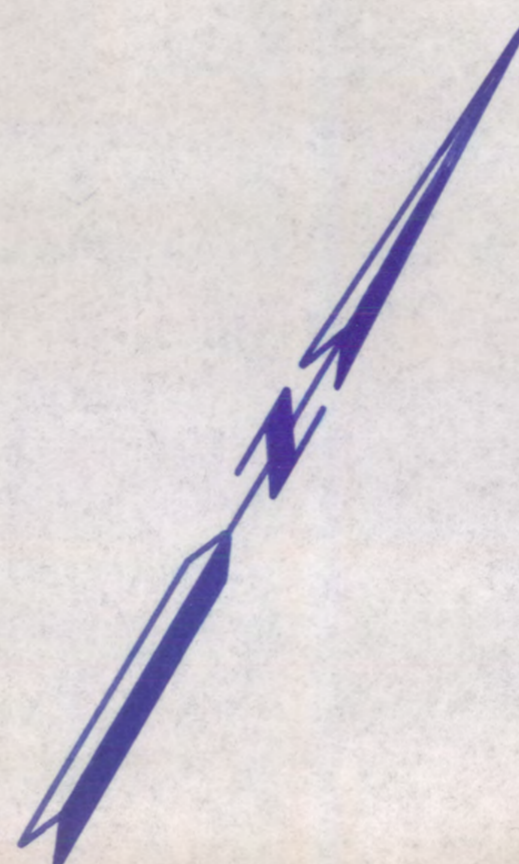


Gloucester, MA  
 Whittemore House  
 179 Washington St  
 Map 35-24  
 Scale 1" = 40'  
*Essex County, MA*

OAK GROVE CEMETERY

633,070

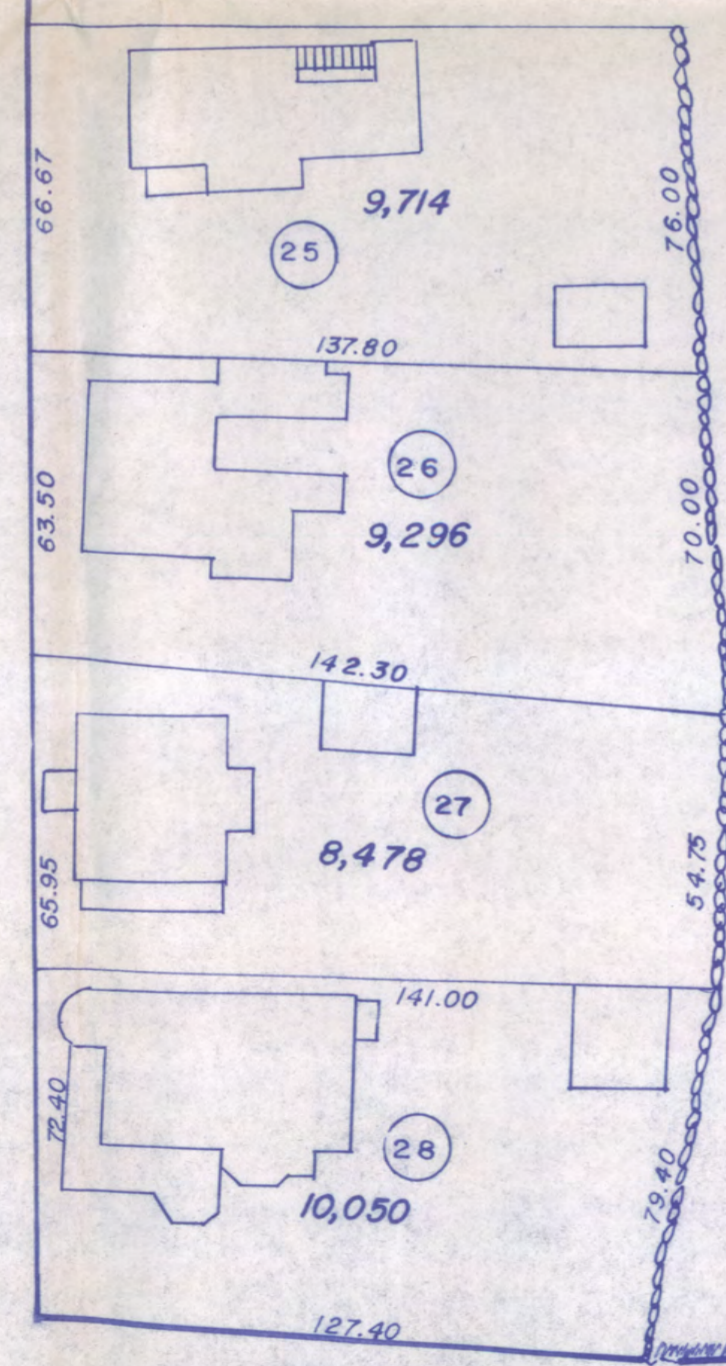
(22)



FOR AS  
 Washington

(23)

WASHINGTON STREET



DERBY STREET

*Maplewood*

*60914*

SCALE 1" = 40'

(24)

MAPLEWOOD AVENUE

(34)

FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281