

AUG 21 1989

1521

AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

WALTHAM, MA MRA

121

Town WalthamAddress 147-149 Weston StreetHistoric Name Nelson F. Libby HouseUse: Present dwellingOriginal same

## DESCRIPTION

Date 1891Source deedsStyle Queen AnneArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric wood shingleOutbuildings garage-NCMajor Alterations (with dates) wood shinglereplacing clapboards--c1920sCondition goodMoved no Date n/aAcreage 13,858 sq. ft. 03458-18-31Setting on a rise, surrounded by field-stone wall, above busy roadwayRecorded by Nancy SeasholesOrganization Waltham Historical Comm.Date August, 1986

revised by C. Jenkins

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

see attached map

UTM REFERENCE 19/314340/4693520USGS QUADRANGLE NATICKSCALE 1:25,000

### **NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

The Nelson F. Libby House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as the well-designed Queen Anne style home of a local industrialist who owned the woodworking and planing mill that apparently made the woodwork for many Waltham residences and commercial blocks of the period. Despite replacement of clapboard with wood shingle sheathing, the house retains its fine details and massing. It meets criterion 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 rise above a roadway with constant traffic, this imposing Queen Anne style house is in a residential area of predominantly 20th century houses. Like other similar examples of the style, its basically boxy gable-roofed form is successfully camouflaged by projecting bays, turrets and porches. These include a corner tower with distinctive bell-shaped roof and round-headed windows at the top level, a recessed porch at the attic level with a balustrade and spindle screen, a strong cross gable with triple arched windows in the gable and canted sides, and a verandah with balustrade, bulbous turned posts and a gable marking the location of the entrance. The entry itself displays a segmental fan. The only alteration to this fine late 19th century house is the replacement of clapboards with wood shingles.

### **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 1891 by Nelson F. Libby, an owner of the Libby and Larcom planing mill at Prospect and Felton Streets. This mill, which undoubtedly made the woodwork for this house, was also apparently the source of woodwork for many other Waltham houses and commercial blocks of the period. In 1908, the Libbys sold the house to Alfred L. Chase, a salesman, who still owned it in 1923.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds. 2005:550; 3354:507  
Maps/Atlases--1900, 1911, 1915, 1923  
Directories. 1899, 1909.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic GroupName Waltham MRAState Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Johnson, Newell D., House

National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

52. Lawton Place Historic District

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

53. Libby, Nelson F., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

54. Linden Street Bridge

Substantive Review

Keeper

Beth L. Savage 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

55. Lord's Castle

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

56. Lyman Street Historic District

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

57. Martin, Aaron, Houses

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

58. Martin, Aaron, House  
(786 Moody St.)Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

59. Moody Street Fire Station

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Shelores Byan 9/28/89

Attest \_\_\_\_\_

60. Moody Street Historic District

Substantive Review

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 Libby, Nelson F., House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Waltham MRA  
NAME:

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: 89001521

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  
☐ UTM's ☐ 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

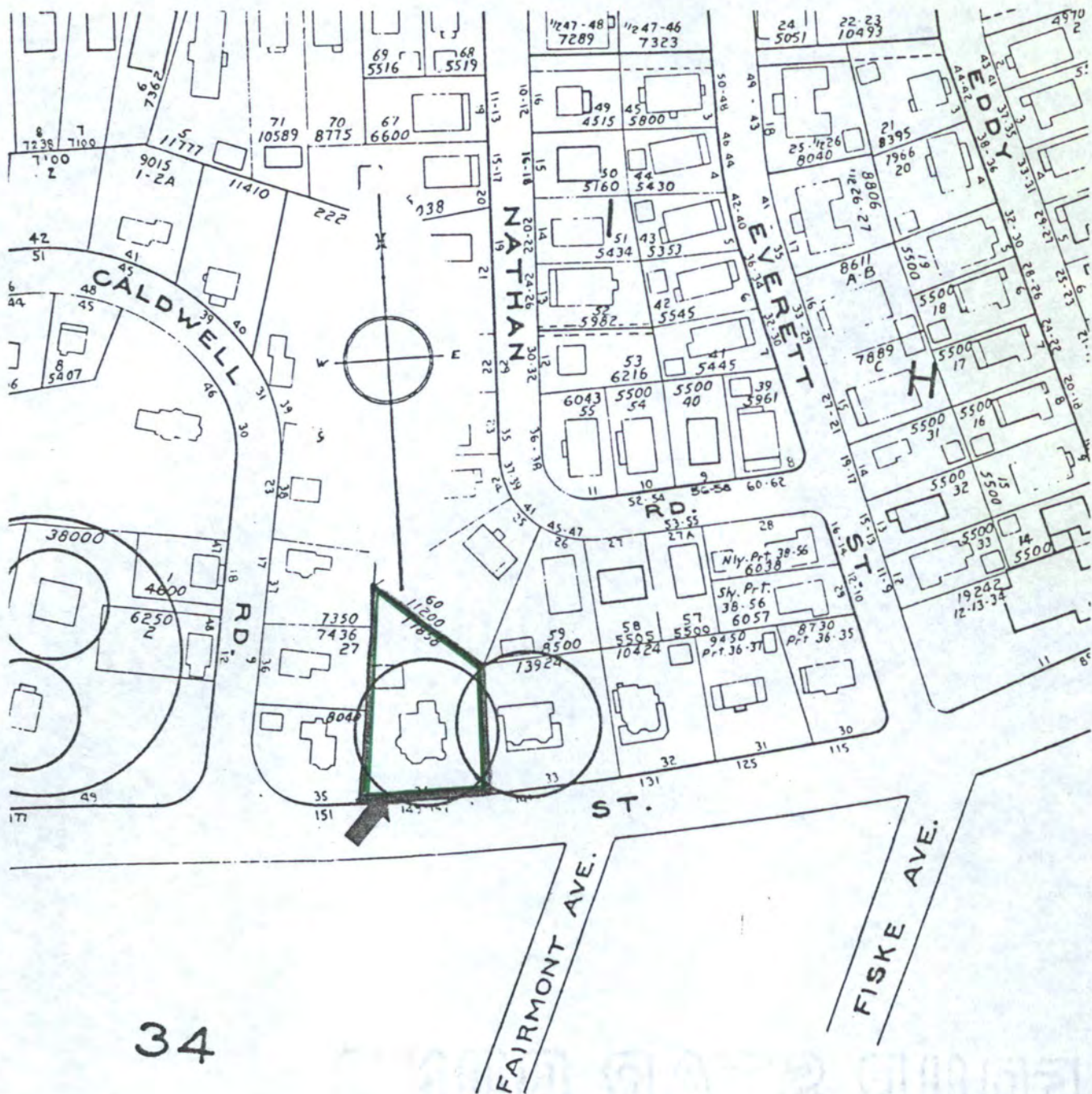
\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_

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



147 Weston St.  
Nelson F. Libbey H&L #121  
Waltham MA 01907





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

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA  
 147-149 Weston Street  
 Nelson F. Libby House  
 35-I-34

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301