

PH0006351-2419 HB 341090 4709620 DB# 73000311

STATE:
Massachusetts

COUNTY:
Essex

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY DATE
JUN 4 1973

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

1. NAME

COMMON:
Peabody Institute Library

AND/OR HISTORIC:
Peabody Institute Library

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Peabody

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT:
6th

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE: 025

COUNTY:
Essex

CODE: 009

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNER'S NAME:
Trustees of the Peabody Institute Library

STREET AND NUMBER:
Peabody Institute Library, Main Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Peabody

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE:
025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.:
Essex County Registry of Deeds

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:
Salem

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE:
025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Inventory of Historic Places

DATE OF SURVEY:

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Massachusetts Historical Commission

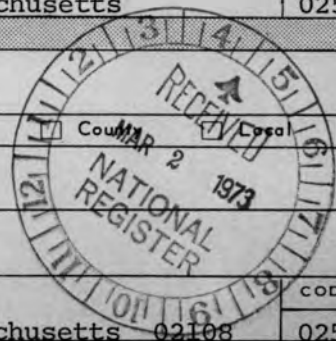
STREET AND NUMBER:
40 Beacon Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Boston

STATE:
Massachusetts

CODE:
02108

CODE:
025



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE: Massachusetts

COUNTY: Essex

ENTRY NUMBER: JUN 4 1973

DATE: _____

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

(Check One)

CONDITION

 Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Ruins Unexposed

(Check One)

(Check One)

 Altered Unaltered Moved Original Site

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The two-storey Peabody Institute Library, Peabody, Massachusetts, is located at Peabody Square, on Main Street. Built on a high granite foundation, the building has a ridge roof and is of red brick with sandstone trim, in a simplified Italianate style. The gable end which faces the street has a bracketed cornice with return and contains an oculus in the pediment. The building is three bays wide at the facade elevation, punctuated by round-top windows, each headed by a sandstone hoodmold. These windows originally were divided longitudinally, within the frame, into two round-topped sashes with a circular opening above, but they have recently been altered to simple triple hung sashes.

Six granite steps lead up to the centered sandstone entrance portico, on the facade, supported by Ionic pillars with a balustrade above. The structure has a double belt course of brick between the first and second floors, with brick quoins on the facade, running from the foundation to the upper belt course. The original building, which contained a library and committee room on the first floor and a lecture hall above, was fifty feet wide by eighty two feet deep, and extended five bays to the rear. It was enlarged in 1867 and in 1868 by a forty six foot ell addition built at right angles to the rear of the building. It was in this addition that room was provided on the second floor for the elaborately paneled Sutton Reference Room.

The original spear-topped cast iron fence separates the property from the street. The entrance opening is designated by two heavy granite pillars topped by cast iron light fixtures.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

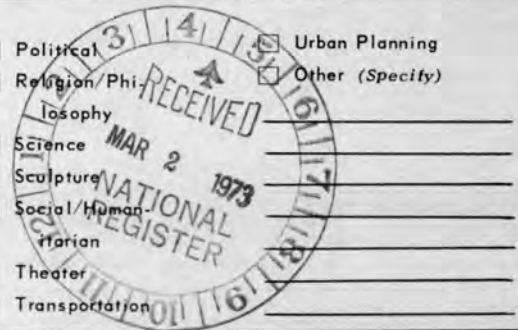
- Pre-Columbian 16th Century 18th Century 20th Century
 15th Century 17th Century 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1854

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | |



STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The construction of the Peabody Institute Library was made possible by consecutive monetary gifts, eventually totalling \$200,000, from George Peabody, international merchant, banker and philanthropist who grew up in the town of Peabody. The cornerstone was laid in 1853 with the Honorable Abbott Lawrence in charge of the ceremony. When the building was completed and dedicated in September, 1854, Rufus Choate delivered the dedication address; at this time the building was named for its benefactor George Peabody. Fourteen years later (1868), when the town of South Danvers separated from Danvers, it too was named for Mr. Peabody.

The first course of lectures given at the Institute began in November, 1854, and many prominent people, including Oliver Wendell Holmes and Ralph Waldo Emerson, were guest lecturers here over the years.

George Peabody's philanthropy knew no geographical limitations. He made large gifts to numerous towns in both the United States and in England, libraries, institutes and establishing educational funds. He contributed to churches, colleges, and, in 1862, he established a trust fund, for housing the poor of London, which eventually amounted to \$3,000,000. For this he was honored by Queen Victoria who offered him a baronetcy. Upon his refusal, she presented him with an enameled miniature portrait of herself framed in solid gold, studded with jewels. This miniature, as well as Peabody's many other golden awards, representing the honors bestowed upon him, are a permanent part of the Peabody Institute Library's collection. They are exhibited in an illuminated vault, built into a wall on the first floor. This vault opens for public view of the treasures.

Fitch Poole was the first and a long-time librarian, serving from 1854 to 1873 (with the exception of 1855). He was a member of the state legislature, town school committee, Board of Selectmen, and was appointed postmaster of Peabody by President Lincoln. He first served as editor of the Danvers Courier and later of the Peabody Press. A distinguished writer, he was considered by Oliver Wendell Holmes to be "the most genuine humorist in New England".

According to historian Thomas Carroll, this library is the "oldest free public library in America which has continued in active service at the same location and practically under the same conditions as when its doors first opened".

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

George Peabody, the Great Benefactor, Ruth H. Hill, Peabody, 1970.
 Draft Manuscript, George Peabody, John Wells, 1972.
 Peabody, Massachusetts, Peabody Chamber of Commerce, 1971.
 Clipping, History of Peabody, Salem Evening News, October 19, 1972.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	° ' "	° ' "		42°	31'	29"
NE	° ' "	° ' "		70°	55'	28"
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Elizabeth R. Amadon, State Survey Director

ORGANIZATION: Massachusetts Historical Commission DATE: 10/17/72

STREET AND NUMBER: 40 Beacon Street 727-8470

CITY OR TOWN: Boston STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 025

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: John F.X. Davoren
 Title: Secretary Of the Commonwealth

Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission

Date: 2-22-73

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Robert K. Utley
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date: 6/4/73

ATTEST: [Signature]

Ac Finley Keeper of The National Register
 Date: 5/25/73

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

PROPERTY Peabody Institute Library STATE Mass.

Essex

WORKING NUMBER 3.2.73.2446

2/20/73

TECH REVIEW
Photos 1
Maps 1

CONTROL REVIEW No date after SHPO's title

Am
4-13-
73

HISTORIAN
Accept - AmL
4/16/73

OK

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN
Accept
KH
4/19/73

4-30-73
E. Shovel

ARCHEOLOGIST

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

OK
5/25/73

KEEPER

OK
5/25/73

National Register write-up _____

Send-back _____

Federal Register entry 8-7-73

Re-submit _____

Entered JUN 4 1973



Peabody Institute Library
Peabody, Mass.
from Mass. Historical Commission

NPS Number 6/4/73

Title: Peabody Institute Library

Loc.

FORM 10-301 A
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	
Peabody Institute Library	Peabody Institute Library	JUN 4 1973
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Essex	Peabody
STREET AND NUMBER		
Main Street		
3. PHOTO REFERENCE		
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	NEGATIVE FILED AT
Peabody Historical Commission	1972	Peabody City Hall
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

Facade and west elevation, facing southwest

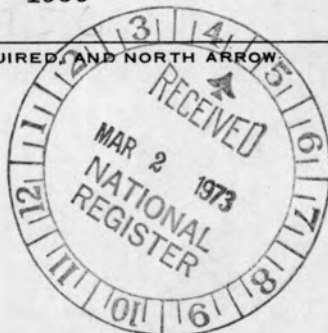


**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

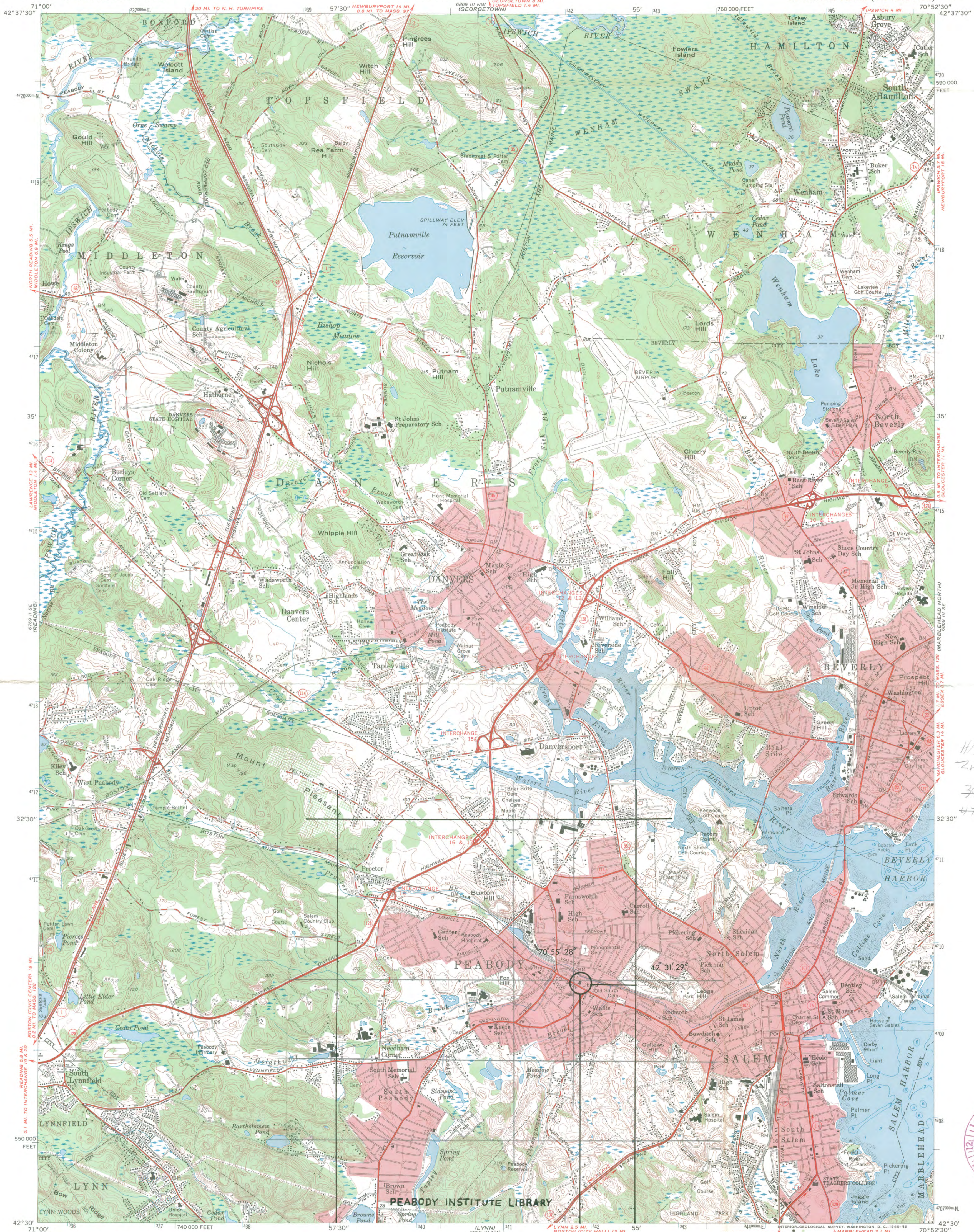
(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

1. NAME		
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	NUMERIC CODE <i>(Assigned by NPS)</i>
Peabody Institute Library	Peabody Institute Library	
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Essex	Peabody
STREET AND NUMBER		
Main Street		
3. MAP REFERENCE		
SOURCE	DATE	SCALE
U. S. G. S. Map Salem, Mass.	1956	1:24,000

REQUIREMENTS: PROPERTY BOUNDARIES, WHERE REQUIRED, AND NORTH ARROW



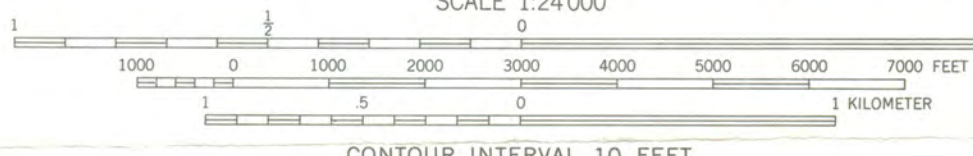
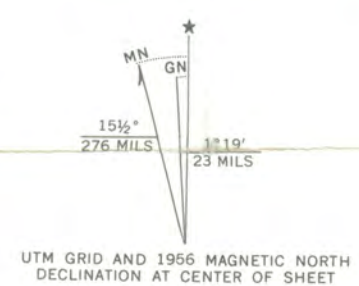
JUN 4 1973



473
2n19
34192 34193
47960
479630



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Culture and drainage in part compiled from aerial photographs
taken 1938. Topography by planimetric methods 1942
Culture revised by photogrammetric methods from aerial
photographs taken 1955. Field check 1956
Hydrography compiled from USC&GS chart 240 (1956)
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only
landmark buildings are shown
Boundaries in tidewater areas from information supplied
by Massachusetts Department of Public Works



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN FEET—DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 9 FEET



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

SALEM, MASS.
N4230—W7052.5/7.5

1956
AMS 6869 III SW—SERIES V814

127



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary

Massachusetts Historical Commission

John F. X. Davoren

Secretary of the Commonwealth

3--~~Jerry~~ Street
40 Beacon Street

Boston, Mass. 02108

February 23, 1973

National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
18th and C Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20240

CERTIFIED MAIL--Attention: Jerry Rogers

Dear Jerry:

Enclosed are National Register submissions for:

Essex County, Peabody, Peabody Institute Library;
Suffolk County, Boston, Boston Public Library;
Suffolk County, Boston, Second Harrison Gray Otis House.

These have been declared eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, the State Review Board, and has been signed by Secretary of the Commonwealth John F. X. Davoren, Chairman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission and designated the State Liaison Officer.

Cordially,

Bob,

Robert B. Rettig
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

RBR/akc
enclosures



4

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered JUN 4 1973

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Arlington Street Church	Boston Suffolk County
The Cushing Homestead	Hingham Plymouth County
Jackson Homestead	Newton Middlesex County
Peabody Institute Library	Peabody Essex County
Wapanucket Site	Middleboro Plymouth County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Hon. Gerry E. Studts
Hon. Robert Drinan
Hon. Michael J. Harrington
Hon. Margaret M. Heckler

State Historic Preservation Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
40 Beacon Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Director, Northeast Region

PHR NRowland: pcl 6/12/73