

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.

Form no.

127/437A

-1

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location
in relation to nearest cross streets and
other buildings. Indicate north.

1. Town Brookline MRA

Address 203 Heath Street

Name Benjamin White House

Present use Residential

Present owner R.M. & M.A.B. Whittemore

3. Description:

Date 1790

SOME OLD BROOKLINE HOUSES
Source by Nina Fletcher Little

Style Georgian-Federal

Architect Information not available

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) Garage

Other features 2½ stories; hip roof;
shed roof dormers; dentilled cor-
nice; pedimented front & side
doors; pilasters at entrance;
quoins.

Altered Yes* Date _____

Moved Yes* Date _____

5. Lot size: 43,201 sq. ft.

One acre or less X Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 240'

Approximate distance of building from street

90'

- * 1868 - Chimneys removed; house moved
back from Heath Street & turned
to front west; westerly hall of
lower floor attached to stable
and carriage house.

- 1946 - 1½-story, 40'X24' addition for
attached garage; rear ell torn down
& house moved to location of torn down barn.

6. Recorded by Larkin and Benka

Organization BHC

Date Jan. 1980

Newton Quadrangle

UTM References: 19/322870/4687590

Map #: 31

7. Original owner (if known) Benjamin White

Original use Residential - stable and carriage house on lower floor.

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>X</u>	Exploration/ settlement	<u>X</u>	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

The Benjamin White House, #203 Heath Street, is one of three buildings on Heath Street built before 1825. Benjamin White, the first cousin, once removed of John Heath, who built 30 Heath Street for his son c.1791, built this house in 1790. The land on which it was built was owned by the Corbin family at the end of the 17th century; by the middle of the 18th century, the White family, whose holdings extended from north of the Worcester Turnpike (now Route 9) onto Heath, Warren, and Clyde Streets, held this land. After the Civil War, the Cabot family purchased the property, moved the building back from Heath Street, turned it, and attached it to a large barn. In 1947, the barn was demolished and the main house was moved onto the site of the barn.

The house is a square 2 1/2 story clapboard structure with quoined corners, hip roof, a dentilled cornice, and pedimented side and front doors. When the house was moved and turned so that it fronted west, the chimneys were taken out, and the westerly half of the lower floor was converted into a stable and carriage house. The original front door was replaced by a window, and an entrance was made from the old side door.

In her book, Some Old Brookline Houses, Nina Fletcher Little states that the interior remodelling undertaken in 1947 was unfortunate since so little of the original woodwork remains today. The exterior, however, has, in general, been well preserved; the modillioned pedimented entrance echoes that one found at #30 Heath Street.

203 Heath Street meets NR criteria A,B, and C, being a Georgian/Federal style homestead belonging to the Whites, a prosperous family during the period dominated by farming.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Some Old Brookline Houses by Nina Fletcher Little, p. 106

Theodore Jones, Land Ownership in Brookline.

Permits-1946

Harriet Woods, Historical Sketches of Brookline- p.332

John Curtis- History of Brookline, pp.106-109.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 9-4-85
date entered _____

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Brookline MRA
State MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

81. Twitchell, Ginery, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byan 10/17/85

Attest

82. Walnut Hills Cemetery

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byan 10/17/85

Attest

83. White, Benjamin, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byan 10/17/85

Attest

84. White Place Historic
District

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byan 10/17/85

Attest

85. Dutch House (The)

Substantive Review

for Keeper

Patrick Andrews 1/24/86

Attest

Betty L. Savage 1-24-86

86. Spooner, William, House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Keeper

Attest

Keeper

Attest

Keeper

Attest

Keeper

Attest

25

85003242

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

White, Benjamin, House (Brookline MRA)
Norfolk County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. SEP 4 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 10/3/85 - 10/19/85
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10-17-85
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

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

Entered in the
National Register

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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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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: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



132 ^{White} ~~Whittemore~~ House

203 Heath St.
Brookline

MHE
I-31

7/67

10-I

1839 White, Benjamin, House
Brookline (MA) MRA



6

203 Heath St

1790

Benj White



Brookline (MA) URA

CHRISTIAN SCIENC
SANITORIUM

203 Heath St. (127/437A-1)
Benjamin White House
BROOKLINE (MA) MRA
born of Brookline Map Jan '81
Scale 1/2" = 200 ft.

HIGH SERVICE STANDPIPE
BRK. WATER WORKS

SINGLE TREE HILL
RESERVOIR

LEGE

HEATH

CABOT

SINGLE TREE

STREET

ROAD

LAPLAND ST.

CRAMOND

ROAD

CUTLER

LANE

ROAD

STREET

LOWELL LANE

WARREN

FERNWOOD

ROAD

STREET

STREET

WATER WORKS