

Area	Form no. <u>30-140-</u> <u>14, 14A</u>
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's
location in relation to nearest
cross streets and other buildings
or geographical features.
Indicate north.

Town Brookline MRA

Address 17 Kent Street

Historic Name Ginery Twitchell House

Use: Original residential

Present residential

Ownership: Private individual
Private organization

Public _____

Original owner Probably Ginery
Twichell

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1844-1855

Source maps

Style Greek Revival/Italianate transition

Architect Information not available

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings garage

Major alterations (with dates) _____

Convert to two families- 1927

Moved no Date NA

Approx. acreage 6170 sq.ft.

Recorded by Leslie Larkin, Carla Benka

Organization Brookline Historical Com.

Date Fall 1980

Setting Set back approx. 20 feet from st

in center of lot; Italianate-type house

from later period next door (to the

east)

Boston South Quadrangle

UIM References:

19/325480/4788700

Map #: 35

Atlas page- 30/140-14, 14A

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The lower section of Kent Street, once called Harrison Place, displays a number of houses whose designs reveal the influence of the Italianate style. Number 7 Kent Street presents a bracketed cornice, round arched doorway, and bracketed eaves, while #40 Kent Street's details are even more typical of a classical interpretation: cupola, flat roof, quoins, porch supports, and carved brackets. Number 17 Kent Street is one more example of an Italianate influence, even though the basic configuration of the house is derived from the Greek Revival style. However, the double brackets, jigsaw detailing over the windows and bays, and design of the porch supports contribute to the transitional character of this style. Similar porch supports can be seen at #s 30-32 and 38-40 Webster Place.

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

According to an 1858 map of the town, Ginery Twichell owned this house as well as 40 Kent Street. Due to lack of documentation, it is not possible to determine who lived here after the completion of the house by 1855. We do know from different accounts that Mr. Twichell lived at #40, built in 1851. (Number 17 Kent Street does not appear on the 1844 map; it is shown on the 1855 map, but without owner identification. The 1858 map of Brookline indicates that Twichell owned this house.)

Ginery Twichell, an "unrivaled express rider who travelled the distance from Worcester to Hartford, some sixty miles, in three hours and twenty minutes through a deep snow in 1846" later became the owner of stage lines between Boston and Worcester, which used 150 horses to control routes aggregating 286 miles. Twichell became the president of the Boston and Worcester Railway, when steam railroads supplanted stage routes, as well as the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad. He was also a member of the United States House of Representatives.

17 Kent Street meets NR criteria B and C, having been built by Ginery Twichell, a pioneer in stagecoach transportation between Boston and Worcester, and now a fine remaining intact example of the Greek Revival/Italianate transitional style, as well as a surviving example of the size and scale of domestic architecture during the early developmental stage of Brookline Village. Examples of the Italianate style in Brookline include the common and self-contained front gable arrangement of which this house is ~~an~~ ^{one} example.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

John Curtis, History of Brookline, pp. 195-97.

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 *for*
National Register Keeper

Delores Byrum 10/17/85

Attest

82. Walnut Hills Cemetery

Entered in the *for*
National Register Keeper

Delores Byrum 10/17/85

Attest

83. White, Benjamin, House

Entered in the *for*
National Register Keeper

Delores Byrum 10/17/85

Attest

84. White Place Historic
District

Entered in the *for*
National Register Keeper

Delores Byrum 10/17/85

Attest

85. Dutch House (The)

~~Substantive Review~~ *for* Keeper

Patrick Andrews 1/24/86

Attest

Barry L. Savage 1-24-86

86. Spooner, William, House

~~Substantive Review~~ Keeper

Attest

Keeper

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12 5

85003240

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Twitchell, Ginery, House (Brookline MRA)
Norfolk County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. SEP 1 1985

Fed. Reg. Date: 9/9/85

Date Due: 10/13/85 - 10/19/85

Action: ACCEPT 10-17-85

RETURN

REJECT

Entered in the National Register 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
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- 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



Twitokell, Givory, House

17 Kent St.

Brookline (Ma) MA

Prestige Prints

by Borkey

NOV 1980

Prestige Prints

by Borkey



17

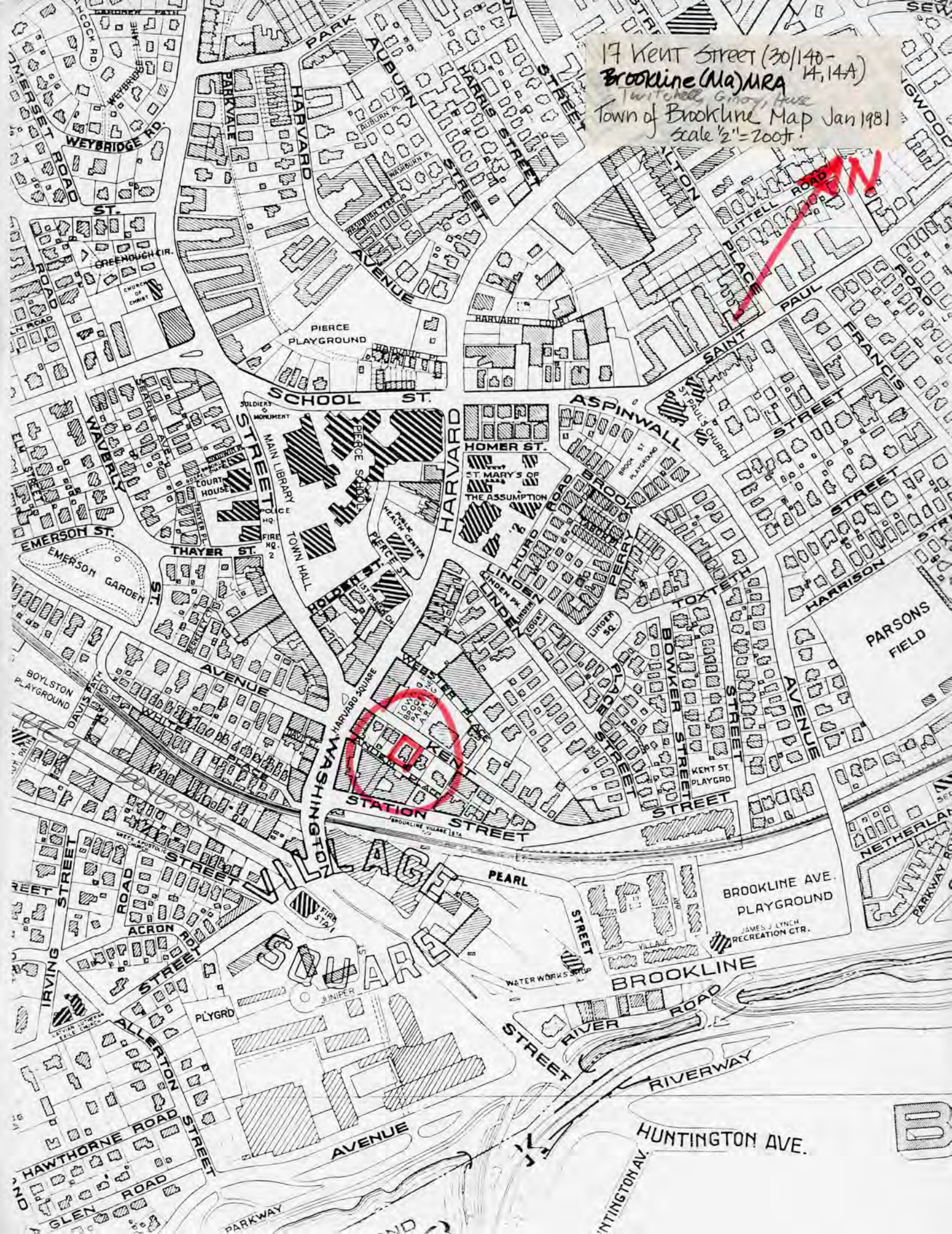
Twistell, Ginery, Huse

17 Kent St

6185

Brookline (MA) MPA

17 Kent Street (30/140-
Brookline (Ma) MRA 14,14A)
Twitchell Gray, Assoc
Town of Brookline Map Jan 1981
Scale 1/2" = 200'



SCHOOL ST.

PIERCE SCHOOL

TOWN HALL

WASHINGTON ST.

KENT ST.

STATION ST.

BROOKLINE VILLAGE 1874

AVENUE

PEARL ST.

BROOKLINE

RIVER ROAD

RIVERWAY

HUNTINGTON AVE.

AVENUE

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ASPINWALL

HOMER ST.

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