

PH 0505951

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY	DATA SHEET
RECEIVED	OCT 18 1977
DATE ENTERED	MAR 29 1978

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

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC

Nathaniel Page House

AND/OR COMMON

The Page Homestead

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 89 Page Road

CITY, TOWN Bedford

STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF
CODE 025

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

5th
COUNTY Middlesex
CODE 017

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☒ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Gerald C. and Barbara A. Leary

STREET & NUMBER 89 Page Road

CITY, TOWN Bedford

VICINITY OF

STATE Massachusetts
01730

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Middlesex County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER 208 Cambridge Street

CITY, TOWN Cambridge

STATE Massachusetts
02141

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE 1967

☐ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN Boston

STATE Massachusetts
02108

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION

☒ EXCELLENT
☐ GOOD
☐ FAIR
☐ DETERIORATED
☐ RUINS
☐ UNEXPOSED

CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED
☒ ALTERED

CHECK ONE

☐ ORIGINAL SITE
☒ MOVED DATE c. 1887

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Nathaniel Page House is located at 89 Page Road in Bedford. The house is situated near the intersection of Page and Brooksbie Roads and is surrounded by mid-20th century residences. The $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of property is landscaped by tall shade trees and pines and has low shrubbery encircling the building.

The original house was built in 1687 by Nathaniel Page. It had three ells, one on each elevation, and an attached barn. Between 1887 and 1891 the two large east and west elevation ells were removed, and the present structure was moved from the head of Brooksbie Road several hundred yards to the west. The original barn stands on land adjoining the eastern border of the property and is owned by the Wedgewood Club.

The Nathaniel Page House, although diminished in size from its original, remains one of the earliest homes in Bedford. The existing L-plan structure stands $2\frac{1}{2}$ stories tall on the stone foundation that was built to support the house at the time of the c.1887 moving. The five bay wide by one bay deep main section has a two story ell extending from the western end of the north (rear) elevation. The ridge roof of the main house carries a slightly off center chimney. The ridge roof of the ell gives rise to two chimneys. The entire building is sheathed in clapboards painted red with a plain entablature and corner boards painted white. Window and door architraves are also painted white. Fenestration is 6/6 of contrasting scale.

The facade faces south toward Page Road. Three steps lead to the six panel center entrance door which is framed by a plain architrave. The second story window cornices are linked by the entablature of the building. The facade windows are framed by shutters.

The east and west elevations each have a single window on the first and second stories and a gable window overhead. The west elevation of the ell projects out slightly from the main portion of the house, and thus creates a single bay south entrance section to the ell. Steps lead to a door with six lights headed by a window on the second story. The east elevation of the ell is asymmetrical. There are three windows on the first story with a nine light and a six light casement overhead directly beneath the eaves.

The interior has a central hall plan with the attached ell housing the kitchen. The rooms retain old wainscoting, original ceiling beams, gunstock corner posts and the two original staircases.

much altered from 17th appearance,

LEBOURNE

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
☐ PREHISTORIC	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	☐ COMMUNITY PLANNING	☐ LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	☐ RELIGION
☐ 1400-1499	☐ ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	☐ CONSERVATION	☐ LAW	☐ SCIENCE
☐ 1500-1599	☐ AGRICULTURE	☐ ECONOMICS	☐ LITERATURE	☐ SCULPTURE
☒ 1600-1699	☒ ARCHITECTURE	☐ EDUCATION	☒ MILITARY	☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
☐ 1700-1799	☐ ART	☐ ENGINEERING	☐ MUSIC	☐ THEATER
☐ 1800-1899	☐ COMMERCE	☐ EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	☐ PHILOSOPHY	☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ 1900-	☐ COMMUNICATIONS	☐ INDUSTRY	☒ POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	☐ OTHER (SPECIFY)
		☐ INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1687

BUILDER/ARCHITECT Nathaniel Page

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Nathaniel Page House is significant as one of the oldest structures remaining in Bedford, and for its association with the Page family and the Bedford Flag. Originating in 1687, the house was continuously owned by eight successive generations of Pages. The Bedford Flag is the oldest flag in the United States and is recognized as America's first battle standard. The only known flag in existence that was carried in the Concord Fight, it was long in the possession of the Page family. The Revolutionary War relic was designed by an unknown artist and was made in England in the 17th century for colonial troops in Massachusetts. The banner bears an armor clad arm with sword in hand and the Latin motto for "Conquer and Die."

The original Page farm was part of a grant from the Colonial Court to Edward Oakes. The property changed hands numerous times before being purchased by Nathaniel Page (I) in 1687. He had arrived from England three years before and received an appointment from Governor Joseph Dudley as sheriff or marshal of Suffolk County. Nathaniel Page (I) died in 1692 and was succeeded on his farm, in turn, by Nathaniel (II), Christopher, John, Nathaniel (III), Nathaniel (IV), and Cyrus. All of these were well respected in the community as affluent farmers. The Page family were also leaders in the move to incorporate the Town of Bedford in 1729. Many Page occupants of the house held important town offices.

One of the Pages was a colonel in the French and Indian War. Four Pages fought at Concord. Christopher, son of Nathaniel (II), was sergeant of the Minute Men. Seven of the family were in the company of militia when they marched to the defense of Boston in 1812. The first Nathaniel Page, settler of the home on Page Road in 1687, was a cornet, as were his sons Nathaniel, born 1702, and John, born 1704. John's son, Nathaniel, born 1742, carried the flag to Lexington.

On the night of April 18, 1775, Nathaniel 3rd was wakened by two couriers sent out on the first alarm at Lexington. Nathaniel took the old flag which had been in keeping of the Page family for generations and which his company had designated as their standard, and met his fellow Minute Men at Fitch Tavern (National Register nomination) in Bedford Center. The flag was carried by Cornet Nathaniel Page at Concord's Old North Bridge and on through Lexington to Cambridge. The flag was returned to its home in the Page family house where it remained for over 100 years. In 1885 the flag was presented to the Town of Bedford by Captain Cyrus Page, born 1801, grandson of Cornet Nathaniel Page of the Minute Men Company.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

The Bedford Sampler, Bicentennial Edition, Friends of Bedford Free Public Library, Bedford, 1974.
Brown, Abraham English, The History of the Town of Bedford, 1890.
Brown, Louise K., A Revolutionary Town, 1975.
MacLauchlan, James E. and Roder, Daniel B., The Bedford Flag-The First Flag of the U.S., April, 1975.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 1/2 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 314010 4706860
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
C

B
ZONE EASTING NORTHING
D

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Blaine Mallory and Joseph Orfant, National Register Editor
(Gerald C. Leary, owner)

ORGANIZATION Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE September 19, 1977

STREET & NUMBER 294 Washington Street

TELEPHONE 617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN Boston

STATE Mass. 02108

12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL X

As the designated State Historic Preservation 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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amadon

TITLE Executive Director, Mass. Historical Commission

DATE 10/6/77

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST: Kathleen Cole

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3-29-78

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DATE 3-16-78

Property Page, Nathaniel, House

State MA.

Working Number 10.18.77.1655

Middlesex

TECHNICAL

Photos 2

Maps 1

CONTROL

OK 10.18.77

HISTORIAN

I am sure the house is known locally - but the historic flag relationship isn't that convincing.

I presume the house does retain enough 1687 fabric to accept 1-30-78 Shup 1-30-78 accept

House moved and altered (with removal of wings) in 1887, historical associations significant locally.

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

accept
Brabham
12.6.77

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory

Review

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

house's appearance is appropriate for period of historical significance.

Accept
Lebovich
2/16/78

(description would benefit from ~~at~~ a discussion of evolution).

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

3/24/78

National Register Write-up

Send-back

Entered MAR 29 1978

Federal Register Entry 5.2.78

Re-submit

INT:2106-74



Nathaniel Page House
Bedford, Massachusetts
April, 1977
Gerald Leary
89 Page Road, Bedford
#182
South facade

MAR 29 1978

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Middlesex County OCT 18 1977



Nathaniel Page House
Bedford, Massachusetts

April, 1977

Gerald Leary

89 Page Road

#2 *82*

East elevation of main house and ell.

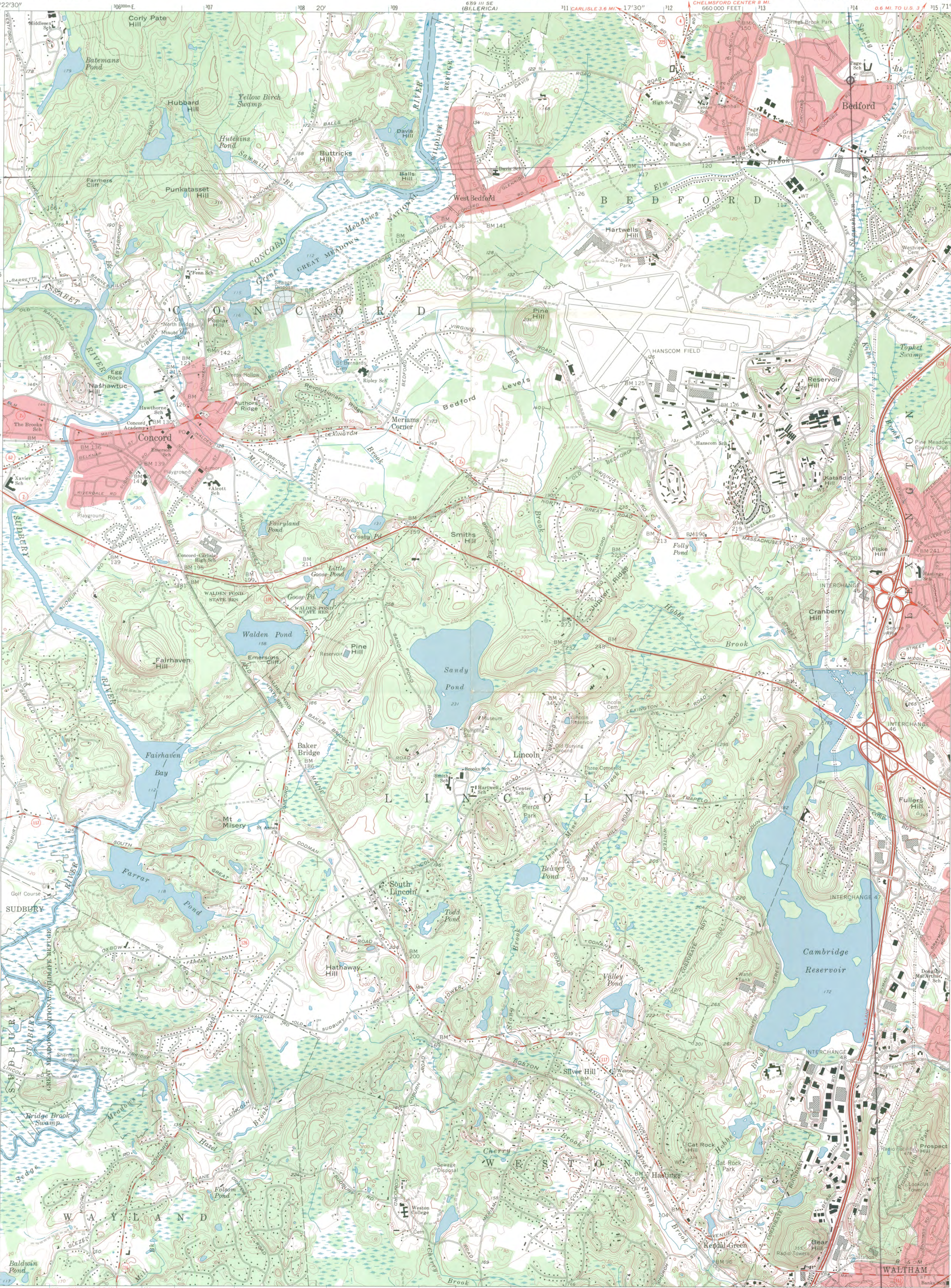
Middlesex County

MAR 29 1978

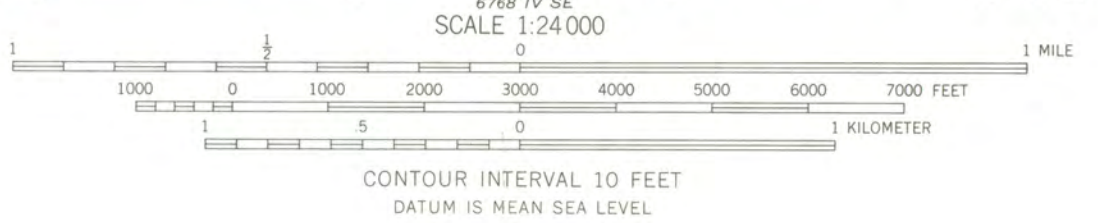
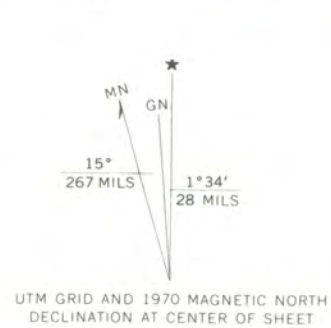
OCT 18 1977

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Nathaniel Page House
Bedford, Massachusetts
UTM Coordinates:
19/314 010/4706 860



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1940. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
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



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, hard surface	Light-duty road, hard or improved surface
Secondary highway, hard surface	Unimproved road
Interstate Route	U. S. Route
	State Route

CONCORD, MASS
N4222.5-W7115.7

1970
AMS 6768 IV NE—SERIES V814



MAR 29 1978

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered MAR 29 1978

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Cottage Farm Historic District	Brookline Norfolk County
Worcester City Hall and Common	Worcester Worcester County
Cutter, Ephraim, House	Arlington Middlesex County
Bixby Block/Home Bank Building	Brockton Plymouth County
Dalton House	Newburyport Essex County
Page, Nathaniel, House	Bedford Middlesex County
King Caesar House	Duxbury Plymouth County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Robert F. Drinan
Hon. Joseph D. Early
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Hon. James A. Burke
Hon. Michael J. Harrington
Hon. Paul Tsongas
Hon. Jerry E. Studds

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NATIONAL REGISTER DATA SHEET

① NAME as it appears on federal register: Page, Nathaniel, House			② OTHER NAMES: Page Homestead			③ date of entry: MAR 29 1978		④ county code: 17	
⑤ LOCATION street & number 89 Page Rd.		city / town Bedford		vicinity of		state MA		county Middlesex	
⑦ OWNER ☒ PRIVATE ☐ STATE ☐ MUNICIPAL ☐ COUNTY ☐ MULTIPLE ☐ FEDERAL (agency name)						⑧ ADMINISTRATOR:			
⑨ EXISTING SURVEYS ☐ HABS ☐ HAER ☐ NHL		⑩ FUNDED? ☐ YES ☐ NO		⑪ CONGRESS. DISTRICT 5th		⑫ SOURCE of NOMINATION ☒ STATE ☐ FEDERAL		⑬ NPS REGION: NA	
⑭ WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ YES, NAME ☐ NO		⑮ WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? ☐ YES, NAME ☐ NO		⑯ ACREAGE		⑰ LOCAL ☐ PRIVATE ORGANIZATION			
⑰ CONDITION ☐ excellent ☐ good ☐ fair		☐ deteriorated ☐ ruins ☐ unexposed ☐ unexcavated		☐ altered ☐ unaltered ☐ reconstructed ☐ excavated		⑱ features: INTERIOR ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-1 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ UNKNOWN-4 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-7		EXTERIOR ☐ SUBSTANTIALLY INTACT-2 ☐ NOT INTACT-0 ☐ UNKNOWN-5 ☐ NOT APPLICABLE-8	
⑲ ACCESS ☐ YES-Restricted ☐ YES-Unrestricted ☐ No Access ☐ Unknown		⑳ ADAPTIVE USE ☐ YES ☐ NO		㉑ SAVED? ☐ YES		㉒ IS PROPERTY A HISTORIC DISTRICT? ☐ yes ☐ no			
㉓ AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE:		☐ ENGINEERING-11 ☐ LANDSCAPE ARCH.-15 ☐ POLITICS / GOVT.-21 ☐ RECREATION-28		☐ COMMERCE-6 ☐ ENTERTAINMENT-26 ☐ LAW-16 ☐ RELIGION-22 ☐ SETTLEMENT-29		☐ ARCHEOLOGY-prehistoric-2 ☐ ARCHEOLOGY-historic-1 ☐ AGRICULTURE-3 ☐ ARCHITECTURE-4 ☐ ART-5		☐ COMMUNICATIONS-7 ☐ CONSERVATION-8 ☐ ECONOMICS-9 ☐ EDUCATION-10	
☐ EXPLORATION-12 ☐ HEALTH-27 ☐ INDUSTRY-13 ☐ INVENTION-14		☐ LITERATURE-17 ☐ MILITARY-18 ☐ MUSIC-19 ☐ PHILOSOPHY-20		☐ SCIENCE-23 ☐ SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN-24 ☐ SOCIAL / CULTURAL-30 ☐ TRANSPORTATION-25		☐ URBAN PLANNING-31 ☐ OTHER (SPECIFY) _____		㉔ CLAIMS: explain 'first' ☐ 'oldest' ☐ 'only' ☐	
㉕ functions WHEN HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT: CURRENTLY:		㉖ dates of initial construction: major alterations: historic events:		㉗ ETHNIC GROUP ASSOCIATION					
㉘ architectural style(s):		㉙ architect:		㉚ master builder:		㉛ engineer:			
㉜ landscape architect / garden designer:		㉝ interior decorator:		㉞ artist:		㉟ artisan:		㊱ builder/contractor:	
㊲ NAMES give role & date PERSONAL: EVENTS: INSTITUTIONAL:									
㊳ NATIONAL REGISTER WRITE-UP									