

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1694

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: Chase Library

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing:
NA

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 7 Main Street

City or town: Harwich State: MA County: Barnstable

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<u>Brona Simon</u>	<u>November 4, 2014</u>
Signature of certifying official/Title: Brona Simon, SHPO	
Date	
_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
_____ Title :	_____ State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

For Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

12-29-14
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: Library

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

EDUCATION: Library

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19th & 20th CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS: Bungalow/Craftsman

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: Brick foundation, wood-shingle cladding, asphalt-shingle roofing

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

Built in 1911, the Chase Library is a diminutive, early 20th-century village library (Photo 1). A modest example of the Craftsman style, the building also displays elements of the contemporaneous Shingle Style. Located in the Cape Cod town of Harwich, Massachusetts, it is a 1½-story, wood-frame, shingle-clad bungalow form that blends perfectly with the majority of historic houses and public buildings on the Cape. The Chase Library has had no major additions, but it has lost its Shingle Style front porch. The building retains its massing, symmetry, floor plan, scale, and most of its original interior and exterior architectural features. Major character-defining features of the exterior include the large-scale, projecting bay windows with multilight upper sash, center entry with sidelights, a hip roof, a central dormer window, and open eaves with exposed rafter ends. The library, which is adjacent to a major intersection, is surrounded by commercial buildings, but most of its neighbors have a domestic scale. A detached book shed at the rear of the building dates to the 1990s, and is therefore a noncontributing resource.

Narrative Description

Streetscape Setting

The Chase Library stands on Main Street in the village of West Harwich. The latter is one of seven villages that make up the town of Harwich, which is bounded on the west by Dennis, east by Chatham and Orleans, north by Brewster, and south by Nantucket Sound. The library is situated on the south side of Main Street, a major east-west thoroughfare that is also known as MA Route 28 (figure 1). Nestled between a small restaurant (ca. 1975) and a convenience store (ca. 1999), the diminutive Chase Library is one door east of the busy commercial intersection of Main and Division streets. The latter marks the Dennis (village of Dennis Port) town line. A gas station stands on the corner opposite the library, but the

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area to the east along Main Street is characterized by historic residential buildings, some of which now have commercial uses. Generally, both recent commercial buildings and historic former and current residential buildings are 1½- or 2½-stories tall, and most date to the 19th century.

Site

The Chase Library occupies the rear half of its 5,663-square-foot lot. Set back approximately 40 feet from the street, the building has a deep front yard landscaped with foundation plantings, mature trees, shrubs, grass, and flowering plants. A low, wooden "Welcome to Harwich" sign stands amidst the shrubbery at the northwest corner of the yard. A concrete path leads from the street to the center entrance of the library. There is no parking lot on the site, but the neighboring restaurant has given library users permission to park in its lot directly behind the library.

Building Exterior

The Craftsman-style Chase Library faces north and rises one story from a brick foundation to a tall hipped roof covered with asphalt shingles. The roof features deep, open eaves, and exposed rafter ends on all elevations. A hip-roofed dormer that also features exposed rafter ends is centered on the north slope (front) of the roof (Photo 1). Exposed rafter ends are a major character-defining feature of the Craftsman style. Clad with shingles and trimmed with narrow cornerboards, the building is three bays wide and one bay deep (35 x 24 feet) with a one-story, hip-roofed ell (16 x 22 feet) extending from the center of the rear (south) elevation, giving the building an overall T-shaped plan. A brick interior chimney rises through the ell roof near its junction with the main block. In 1953, a shed-roofed, shingle-clad bathroom (6 x 7 feet) was added at the east junction of the ell and main block, and a shed-roofed, shingle-clad storage room (8 x 8 feet) was added to the west junction (Photos 2, 3; figure 2). These small additions, which are not readily visible from the street and which are in keeping with the design of the principal building, do not compromise the historic character of the library. In the 1990s, a small, freestanding, gable-roofed, clapboard-covered shed was placed near the southwest corner of the ell. Due to its age, it is a noncontributing building.

The three-bay façade (north) has a center entry flanked by over scaled, projecting bay windows. Three concrete steps with a ca. 1950s iron railing lead to the main entry, which is flanked by ¾ sidelights composed of twelve panes each (two rows of six lights). The wood door contains a square glazed panel in the upper half and a solid panel below. Decorative moldings frame each panel, and a heavy, denticulated molding rests beneath the glazed panel (Photo 4). The door is protected by a modern storm door, and the entire entry is framed by a simple architrave. Above the entry and beneath the eaves is a sign reading CHASE LIBRARY. The large, eight-foot-wide, projecting bay windows are angled, defined by wide mullions at the corners, and fitted with multilight upper sash over single-pane lower sash. The side windows of the bays have 6/1 sash, and the large central windows have 24/1 sash. The dormer, which is centered on the roof above the entry, features paired windows with 9/1 sash (Photo 5). The dormer sash are divided by a wide mullion and surrounded by wide architraves. The cheeks of the dormer and bases of the bay windows are covered with shingles. The multilight upper sash over single-light lower sash that are seen throughout the building are characteristic of the Shingle Style, and they appear to be original.

The east elevation of the main block features a central, tripartite window, divided by mullions and topped by a simple cornice (Photo 6). Each of the three sections are fitted with 12/1 sash. The panes of the upper sash have a four-row/three-column arrangement. The lower sash are single panes of glass, but in photographs they appear to be infilled because they are covered by bookcases inside the library. The east elevation of the ell features a window with 12/1 sash. The small bathroom addition at the junction of the

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ell and main block is on a concrete foundation, and has a window with 6/1 sash above a bulkhead on its south elevation (Photo 2).

The west elevation of the main block is identical to the east, but the ell features a narrow shed-roofed extension and a multipaned entry door (Photo 3). A wooden porch deck leading to the door is flanked by a shed-roofed, shingle-clad, storage addition, and a gable-roofed, clapboarded, freestanding book shed that dates to the 1990s. The latter, which is used for book sales and storage, has its own board-and-batten door on the north elevation. (The wall seen in photo 3 is on the adjacent property.)

The rear (south) elevation features one off-center, 12/1 sash window (photo 2). All ell windows have projecting sills and simple frames that are flush with the cladding. A book safe that is no longer in use stands on a concrete podium next to the south elevation. Installed approximately fifteen years ago by the Massachusetts State Library Association, its purpose was to receive books delivered when the library was closed.

Interior

The main block of the building contains one large, impressive, high-ceilinged room with a Classical Revival-style fireplace centered on the south wall (Photo 7). The stained-cypress fireplace surround is composed of Ionic columns, one on each side, that rise to a full entablature and mantle. A large portrait of library benefactor Salome Chase hangs above the fireplace. The walls and ceilings are covered with decorative pressed metal (Photo 8). A coved cornice connects the walls with the coffered pattern of the ceiling. Multiple single-lamp pendant fixtures hang from the ceiling on the sides of the room, and a matching multi-lamp chandelier is in the center. It is likely that these fixtures date to the 1920s when the building received electricity.

Door-height, built-in bookcases line the walls, and free-standing bookcases are arranged in aisles. Removal of books from the built-in bookcases along the perimeter walls reveals the metal wall covering, painted green (Photo 9). This indicates that the built-in bookcases are not original to 1911. The projecting bay windows on the façade feature deep, wood-paneled soffits (Photo 10). A doorway with molded architraves and bull's-eye corner blocks leads into the ell from the west side of the fireplace. All wood in the main room matches that of the fireplace surround, which is believed to be cypress. Floors are maple in both the main block and the ell.

The ell section of the building is part of the original construction, but the interior finishes have been altered. It has a dropped ceiling, recent light fixtures, and a modern ceiling fan (Photo 11). Bookcases line the walls, which are painted white, and a frieze of stock wallpaper with a sailing motif rims the room. Access to the bathroom that was added in 1953 is on the east wall of the ell. The wood bathroom door is probably original to the building. It features horizontal panels characteristic of early 20th-century doors, and was likely moved from the doorway connecting the ell and main block. That doorway retains door hinges but no door.

Significant alterations

Although the library retains considerable original detail, it has lost two important stylistic features. The most significant is its front porch which measured approximately 8 by 12 feet and was removed after 1974. Historic photographs (figures 3 and 4) show a projecting porch surrounded by a knee wall, with at least four colonettes rising to an extended section of the roof. It is likely that the knee wall was shingled. The other lost feature is a dormer that was centered on the west roof slope. The latter is visible in historic photographs, and given that the building is a symmetrical composition, it is likely that there was a

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matching dormer on the east slope. Unlike the hip-roofed, central dormer on the façade, the west dormer had an elliptical shape that resembled an eyebrow. Eyebrow dormers and the shingle-covered porch knee walls are Shingle Style features, which were contemporaneous with the Craftsman style. Restoration of these features, particularly the front porch, would be a worthy project. Despite the loss of these features, the building retains sufficient integrity to be eligible for listing in the National Register.

Archaeological Description

While no ancient Native American sites are located on the library property, it is possible that sites are present. Seven ancient sites are known in the general area (within one mile). Most known sites in the library area are located to the north, in the vicinity of the Herring River and Reservoir locales. Environmental characteristics of the nominated property represent some locational criteria that are favorable for the presence of Native sites. The Chase Library is located on an excessively drained, level to moderately sloping outwash plain topography; both advantageous locational characteristics. Soils on the library property include coarse sands formed in loose glaciofluvial deposits found on glacial outwash plains. The library is also located over 1,000 feet from the nearest wetlands, an unfavorable locational characteristic. Given the above information, the small size of the library property (0.13 acres), levels of disturbance as a result of library construction and renovations, and our current knowledge of ancient Native American settlement and subsistence patterns in the outer and southern Cape Cod, a low potential exists for locating ancient Native American resources on the Chase Library property.

A low to moderate potential exists for locating historic archaeological resources on the Chase Library property. In 1953, a shed-roofed bathroom was added at the east junction of the ell and main block. The addition of a bathroom at such a late date may indicate the potential for a privy near the library. Additional historic research, combined with archaeological survey and testing, may identify other types of occupational-related features (trash pits, privies, wells, artifact scatters) that may also exist on the library property though none have been identified to date. The library stands on a small portion of property that was the Nickerson houselot. It was purchased by the Nickerson's from Anna K. Lothrop on August 28, 1905. It is likely that the property had a house on it when the Nickersons bought it. In any event, historical research has shown that the Nickerson House was never located on the library property. The Lathrop store may have been located near the site of the library, but library construction would have severely impacted the integrity of the site.

End section 7

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance
(Enter categories from instructions.)

Architecture
Social History

Period of Significance
1911 to 1964

Significant Dates

Significant Person
(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

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Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The 1911 Chase Library is a handsome, well-preserved, small village library located in Harwich, MA, on Cape Cod. Privately owned, it was the first purpose-built public library in Harwich. The one-room library with an ell is a rare example of its size, type, and age remaining in use as a library in the region. Named for its principal benefactors, Harwich native Caleb Chase and his wife Salome, the library reflects the patterns of library philanthropy and construction that accompanied the Free Library Movement in late 19th and early 20th-century America. In addition to its associations with the Chase family, the building embodies the efforts of the Nickerson family, particularly Ruth Nickerson, who led the effort to establish a library in the village of West Harwich, and who, along with her husband John Nickerson, donated the land on which the building stands. For these reasons, the Chase Library meets National Register Criterion A.

The Chase Library meets National Register Criterion C as a representative example of the Craftsman style in Harwich. Additions are minimal, blend with the original building, date within the period of significance, and are located at the rear of the building where they are not visible from the street. Alterations to the exterior include the removal of the front porch and side dormers, but otherwise the building looks much as it did when constructed. In addition, the handsome interior of the main block retains its original fireplace, woodwork and metal wall and ceiling finishes, contributing greatly to the architectural significance of the library.

The Chase Library retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and it meets National Register Criteria A and C with a local level of significance. The period of significance begins in 1911, when the library was constructed. It ends in 1964, which is 50 years from the present, a time period established by the National Park Service as adequate for evaluating a property in an objective historical context. The areas of significance are social history and architecture.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least **one** paragraph for each area of significance.)

Social History

The town of Harwich was incorporated in 1694, but at that time it encompassed a vast area that had been called Satucket. By the mid 18th century, Harwich had a north and a south parish. In 1803, the north parish was set off as the town of Brewster. Over the next 144 years, various boundary adjustments occurred between Harwich, Chatham, Orleans, and Dennis, but the area that is now Harwich generally dates to 1803.

Located about 90 miles south of Boston at the “elbow” of Cape Cod, Harwich is a resort and residential community. It has extensive coastline along Nantucket Sound, which forms its southern boundary. It also has the Herring River, which empties into Nantucket Sound. While the

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economy had been largely agricultural in the Colonial period, cod fishing, saltworks, and other diversified maritime trades became the principal economic drivers after the American Revolution. The building of fishing vessels, which occurred along Nantucket Sound and the Herring River, was a particularly important industry.

By 1830, Harwich was the fourth-largest town on the Cape, with a population of 2,453. The municipal core was at Harwich Center, where it remains today. Six other villages developed in the surrounding geographical areas of town. They are East Harwich, North Harwich, Pleasant Lake, South Harwich, Harwich Port, and West Harwich.

The village of West Harwich is located in the southwest corner of town. Harwich Port is to the east and Dennis Port (a village of Dennis) is to the west. The Herring River runs north to south through the approximate center of West Harwich. Among the 18th-century settlers of the area was Job Chase, Sr. (1736-1835), the grandfather of Caleb Chase, the first benefactor of the Chase Library. The Chase family traces its American roots to William Chase, who arrived in Yarmouth in 1640. William Chase's son or his grandson, both named William, settled in West Harwich and built a house (not extant) near the mouth of the Herring River. By the mid 18th century, Job Chase, Sr. owned all the land along present-day Main Street from the Herring River to the Dennis town line. He built a ca. 1780 house at 108 Main Street, and in 1804, he built a bridge, called Job's Bridge, over the Herring River. A few years later, he opened a public way on his land from the Dennis line to the bridge. This road, on which the Chase Library now stands, became Main Street/Route 28, and it stimulated the settlement of West Harwich.

During the first half of the 19th century, maritime industries were especially strong in West Harwich, and a number of fishing vessels were built for Job Chase, Sr., who had operated a saltworks in Harwich during the 20-year period surrounding the American Revolution. In 1828, Chase appears to have been instrumental in the relocation of the Baptist meetinghouse from North Harwich to West Harwich, where it stood on the site of the present church at 62 Main Street. Although the population was shifting from North Harwich to West Harwich, it has been suggested that Job Chase, Sr., a prominent member of the Baptist church, wished the meetinghouse to be located closer to his home.

Among Job Chase, Sr.'s sons was Job Chase, II (1776-1865), who built his ca. 1800 house at 126 Main Street, just west of the Herring River. Like his father he was in the fishing business, having a controlling interest in as many as fifteen vessels at a time. In 1831, he opened a general store that also contained West Harwich's first post office (not extant, but it stood immediately east of 121 Main Street]. A major employer, Chase was a prominent member of the West Harwich Baptist Church, and he served as a selectman and a state representative.

During the two decades from 1820 to 1840, the town of Harwich was in the midst of a population boom. Growing by 47.3 and 47.7 percent, respectively, it outstripped the surrounding towns, with the exception of Dennis. The population of Harwich peaked at 3,540 in 1865, which was the year that the Cape Cod Central Railroad arrived, with a depot near Harwich Center. It appears that the railroad had a negative effect on the coasting trade, as did the need for deeper harbors to accommodate the new deeper-draft vessels.

After 1875, given the collapse of the local fishing industry, the population of Harwich gradually declined, reaching 2,115 in 1910. At the same time, the area along Nantucket Sound became

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increasingly oriented toward summer resorts, the development of which was stimulated by the ability of tourists and summer residents from Boston and elsewhere to arrive by train. One of West Harwich's resorts was the Hotel Belmont (demolished 1977), which was built on 22 acres of land near the junction of the Herring River and Nantucket Sound in 1893. The property was developed by Caleb Chase (son of Job Chase, II), who owned the land, and who in 1907 became the benefactor of the Chase Library, along with his wife Salome. The hotel stood in the vicinity of the house built by William Chase, the early settler and ancestor of Caleb Chase mentioned above.

The Free Public Library Movement

The first libraries in the American colonies were private collections of books kept in the homes of collectors. Private collections were followed by subscription libraries supported by dues-paying members, who were usually members of the elite. The concept of a "free" library grew from the belief that it was in the interest of a democratic society to have an educated and well-informed population that was not limited to individuals with high social standing or significant financial means. The vision of the free library movement was to make books available, free of charge, to borrowers from all walks of life. In Massachusetts, the free library concept gained momentum in the first half of the 19th century, culminating in 1848, when the Massachusetts General Court authorized the City of Boston to expend public funds to establish a library that would be free to the inhabitants of the city. Six years later, the Boston Public Library opened in two rooms of a former school building. This was followed in 1858 by Boston's first purpose-built public library on Boylston Street.

Subsequent statewide enabling legislation made it possible for all cities and towns to expend public funds and to collect private donations for library purposes. By 1880, nearly half of the municipalities in Massachusetts had established a free library; among these was the town of Harwich. The Broadbrooks Free Library was established in 1880 at Harwich Center. It initially occupied space on the second floor of an 1879, wood-frame, commercial building known as the Brooks Block (739 Main Street; NRDIS 1975). At the time, placing a free public library in a multipurpose building was common. The library space in the building and some 2,500 volumes of fiction, poetry, history, and biography were the gift of Col. Henry C. Brooks, for whom the building was constructed. Henry Brooks, a native of Harwich, was a descendant of Beriah Broadbrooks, who arrived in Harwich in 1694. Henry's father shortened the name to Brooks. Initially operated by the Brooks family, the library has been owned and operated by the town of Harwich since 1910. Over the years, the library expanded into the entire building, and is now known as the Brooks Free Library.

In addition to libraries that occupied buildings that had been designed for multiple uses or buildings, such as dwellings, adapted for library needs, purpose-built libraries began to appear. Such libraries were a new building type that arose during what has been called the American library construction boom of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Among the features of the new building type were open stacks that could be perused by borrowers, as opposed to the subscription library, in which members typically requested material that was brought to them. The new libraries, which frequently included a separate children's room, were often financed by a philanthropist and designed by architects in the latest architectural style. The construction boom in libraries coincided with a period of economic decline on Cape Cod. In spite of this, many libraries were built on the Cape, underscoring the importance of this building type and the significance of the free public library concept.

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The first building constructed on the Cape as a library was the Brewster Ladies Library, a Stick Style building that dates to 1868 (1822 Main Street; NRDIS 1996). The 1877 Snow Library in Orleans was also purpose built (destroyed by fire in 1952). In 1890, Massachusetts established the Free Pubic Library Commission to offer assistance to communities establishing libraries, including an allotment of \$100 for books. This was followed in 1893 by a state law requiring all towns to establish and maintain public libraries, stimulating another wave of development.

Among those libraries built on the Cape between 1893 and 1900 were the Shingle Style Jacob Sears Memorial Library, constructed in Dennis in 1895 (23 Center Street; NRIND 2009). From the beginning, the Sears Library served dual functions, being both a lending library and a lecture hall. The Shingle Style West Falmouth Library also dates to 1895 (NRDIS 1998). The Colonial Revival-style Jonathan Bourne Public Library in Bourne (30 Keene Street; NRIND 2013) dates to 1896, as does the Romanesque Revival-style Eldredge Memorial Library in Chatham (654 Main Street; NRIND 1992). By 1899, most Massachusetts cities and towns (and all towns on Cape Cod) had at least one free public library. Most were owned and operated by the town, others were private with some town support (Brewster, Chatham, and Harwich), and a third category were privately funded (Barnstable and Yarmouth). Note that the Brooks Library in Harwich was not town-owned until 1910.

The Chase Library

Around 1901, Ruth M. Nickerson (1868-1948) became the driving force for a West Harwich village library. She was the wife of John P. Nickerson, M.D. (1876-1950), whom she had married in May of that year. Her initial efforts were directed at children, but they soon broadened to include adults. By 1905 she had founded the Sunshine Library Club, which raised money for library purposes, often hosting local events such as minstrel shows and entertainment of various kinds. Books were also donated by residents. For example, the local newspaper reported that eighteen volumes had been donated by Charles M. Robbins, a summer resident; Miss Minne Mordock of Boston, who was a member of the Sunshine Club, had given the library over 100 books during a stay with Dr. and Mrs. Nickerson. According to a 2004 article in the *Harwich Oracle*, the books were kept in the Nickersons' home.¹

The ultimate goal of the Sunshine Club was to provide the library with a dedicated space. In 1906, town benefactor Caleb Chase and his wife Salome offered to donate to the Sunshine Library Association a ca. 1890 house on Main Street [extant at 77 Main Street] to be used as a library. According to the *Harwich Independent* (July 5, 1911), Chase had built the house, which stood near the Baptist Church, as a parsonage.

On April 23, 1907, the Chase Library Association of Harwich was formed to receive the donation and to establish a "free public library in the town of Harwich." The association and the library were named to honor the major donor. The first officers of the Chase Library Association were:

¹ In 1905, the Nickersons purchased a house from Anna K. and Robert A. Lathrop. It stood at what is now 11 Main Street. The *Harwich Independent*, July 5, 1911, noted that the Sunshine Club met for two years in Dr. Nickerson's office in his home. The article went on to say that the club subsequently met in the "R.A. Lathrop Building then owned by Dr. Nickerson." The Lathrop Building may have been a store shown on the 1880 Walker map of West Harwich in the general vicinity of the present Chase Library. The newspaper article goes on to note that the Lathrop building was "moved to the shore."

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Jonathan P. Edwards, president; John P. Nickerson, vice president; Benjamin F. Hurst, secretary/treasurer; Mrs. J. P. Nickerson, librarian; and Mary D. Hentz, assistant librarian. The officers, among others, were on a list of people who donated \$1.00 each, apparently to pay the deed recording fee and the cost of a library sign (about \$10 total).

In providing a dedicated building for a library that would serve his village, Caleb Chase was following a strong tradition of library philanthropy. Like the Chase and the Brooks libraries in Harwich, many libraries built in Massachusetts during the late 19th and early 20th centuries were funded by private donations, typically from one person or family. The most outstanding example of library philanthropy was set by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie, whose corporation funded the construction of 1,679 American libraries between 1886 and 1917. Of those, more than 40 were in Massachusetts. But many more Massachusetts libraries were funded by private benefactors like Caleb Chase and Henry Brooks, or were given and named in memory of a beloved family member. A local example of the latter is the 1895 Jacob Sears Memorial Library in Dennis (NRIND 2009).

Caleb Chase was born in Harwich on December 11, 1831, to Job Chase II and Phoebe (Winslow) Chase. The youngest of sixteen children (Phoebe, the mother of the last seven children, died in 1839), Caleb was likely born and certainly raised in the ca. 1800 house his father built next to the Herring River (now 126 Main Street), a house that Caleb eventually inherited. A highly successful merchant, philanthropist, and prominent Boston businessman, Caleb Chase founded the Chase & Sanborn Coffee Company, which became phenomenally successful during the last quarter of the 19th century.

Caleb Chase attended school in Harwich and worked in his family's general store. In his early twenties, he began to work for Anderson, Sargent & Co., a dry goods firm in Boston. In 1859, he was associated with Claflin, Saville & Co., a wholesale grocery business in Boston. In 1864, he formed the firm of Carr, Chase, and Raymond, which became Chase & Sanborn Coffee. The firm was initially located at 34 Broad Street in Boston.

Caleb Chase, a coffee roaster, met James Sanborn, a coffee seller, in the early 1870s, and they joined forces in 1874, moving their offices to 85-87 Broad Street by 1877. In 1878, according to Orra Stone, Chase & Sanborn "became the first coffee firm in the world to pack and ship roasted coffee in sealed cans." The ground coffee became enormously popular with consumers, who had previously bought coffee beans in bulk. Canned coffee, which ensured the freshness of a product that was susceptible to deterioration, revolutionized the coffee industry.

By 1880, Chase & Sanborn had opened a branch in Chicago, and in 1882, the company opened a branch in Montreal. Chase & Sanborn's "Seal Brand" was served in multitudes of restaurants and cafes, and it was selected as the exclusive coffee at the World's Columbian Exhibition in Chicago in 1893. Based in Boston, with headquarters at 200 High Street and 141-149 Broad Street, Chase & Sanborn was the largest coffee company in America.

Caleb Chase eventually settled in Brookline, but he summered at his family home in West Harwich (presumably 126 Main Street), which he reportedly called "Good Cheer." He married Salome Boyles (1833-1910), who was from Maine (as was his partner James Sanborn). The couple had no children, and Salome was known as Aunt Sally. Her portrait hangs in the Chase Library over the fireplace.

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Obituaries and other references indicate that Caleb Chase's philanthropy extended far beyond his donation of the Chase Library's first building. In 1893, he purchased the 1885 Exchange Building at Harwich Center and gave it to the town, which used it for town hall purposes. [The building, which stood at Main and Pleasant Lake Avenue, was demolished in 1964, and the site became a small public park now known as Exchange Park.] Chase was a major donor to the Baptist Church, of which he was a member, but he gave to other denominations as well. In his will, he left the town of Dennis \$10,000 for the support of the poor. That fund is still operating. In Brookline, his principal residence, he set up a fund to place copies of the world's best sculpture in town schools. He was also among many notable donors to the Peoples Palace in Boston, a Salvation Army residential hotel. Built in 1906, it had a library, gymnasium, a function hall named for Caleb Chase, and other facilities for those facing adversity. [Further research is needed to determine the location, but it was on a corner described as being between the Dudley Street Terminal and Boylston Street, apparently in Boston's South End.] A portrait of Caleb Chase hangs in the Brooks Academy Museum in Harwich Center.

Caleb Chase died in his Brookline home on November 28, 1908, a little over a year after donating the building for the Chase Library. He is buried in Pine Grove Cemetery, West Harwich, along with his father, mother, wife, and many other family members. Most of Caleb's siblings appear to have been males who stayed in West Harwich. This, along with nephews and uncles in the Chase line, accounts for the fact that Chase was by far the most common surname on the 1858 and 1880 historic maps of West Harwich.

Salome Chase, who outlived her husband by only two years (according to cemetery records), made a donation to paint the library in 1908. A few years later, when it became apparent that the house Chase donated could not meet the needs of the growing library, the Chase Library Association sold the building to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Howes for \$2,000. The proceeds were then used to build a new library on land donated by Dr. and Mrs. John Nickerson.

In a fundraising letter dated April 24, 1911, addressed to "Dear Friends," Mrs. Nickerson wrote: "The new Library is well underway and we hope to have a neat and beautiful building. Since the people are to be guests, let the place of their reception be worthy of the purpose. We wish to see a piano installed at the opening and are taking the following means of raising the necessary funds. If you would like to contribute, will you kindly place the amount opposite your name and forward the list to the next address. Checks may be sent payable to the Treas. of the Sunshine Club, Mary D. Hentz, West Harwich, Mass."

The land on which the new building was being constructed was conveyed to the Chase Library Association by a deed from John P. Nickerson, dated June 27, 1911. Dr. Nickerson donated the northwest corner of his house lot "to be used for the purpose of erecting and maintaining a library." The deed went on to say that if the Association failed to maintain or use the property as a library for a period of one year, the premises would revert to Nickerson heirs. The deed was signed by both John P. and Ruth M. Nickerson. According to the boundary described in the deed, the library parcel was 100 feet deep and 40 feet wide.

This was a small portion of property the Nickersons had purchased from Anna K. and Robert A. Lathrop on Aug. 28, 1905. According to the deed, the purchase included a dwelling house and other buildings. What became the Nickerson House (11 Main Street; not extant) was a fine

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example of the Queen Anne style with lingering features of the Stick Style. Since the style was no longer fashionable in 1905, it is likely that it was the dwelling house noted in the deed. Tax valuation records indicate that the Nickersons paid taxes on their "homestead" in 1907, and that they also owned a "dwelling at the shore," horses, a carriage, and a bicycle. The Nickerson House was removed between 1974 and 1993. A chain restaurant built in a domestic scale is currently located on the site.

John P. Nickerson (1876-1950) was born in West Harwich on February 15, 1876. He was the son of sea captain John Watson Nickerson, a Harwich native, and Mary A (Howes) Nickerson, a Dennis native. They married on Oct. 17, 1861. John P. Nickerson attended local schools before heading to the Massachusetts Agricultural College (now the University of Massachusetts Amherst, and the first publically funded college in the state), from which he graduated with a bachelor of science in 1898. In 1901, he received his medical degree from Tufts Medical School, and he married Ruth Myrick Covell (ca. 1868-1948) at the Warren Avenue Baptist Church in Boston. Ruth, about whom little is known prior to her marriage, was born in Barrington, Nova Scotia, to John and Elizabeth Myrick Covell. Her father was lost at sea, leaving his wife to raise their three young children. Ruth came to the United States in 1888.

John and Ruth Nickerson spent their married life in Harwich, and had one child, Esther, who may have been adopted. In addition to his medical practice, Dr. Nickerson was a member of the school board, served as school physician, and was a representative to the Massachusetts General Court (1915-1916). He was also an officer in the Mount Horeb Masonic Lodge. Ruth Nickerson was a involved in a variety of local organizations, including the Harwich Women's Club and Ladies Circle of the West Harwich Baptist Church, but the great cause of her life was the Chase Library, where she was active as a director for 30 years.

Ruth Nickerson died at age 80, in February 1948, at her home (11 Main Street). Dr. Nickerson married Jessie Phillips Kelley a little over a year later. The following year (1950), at age 74, Dr. Nickerson died of a cerebral hemorrhage at Faulkner Hospital in Jamaica Plain, leaving an estate valued at \$218,000 (equivalent to approximately \$2 million today).

Like Chase, the Nickerson name has long been prominent on Cape Cod, particularly in the mid Cape area. The 1790 federal census for Harwich recorded 28 Nickerson households and eighteen Chase households. The first minister of Harwich's Baptist Church, organized in 1757, was Elder Richard Chase, who was followed by Samuel Nickerson. Pliny Nickerson was a major donor to the Brooks Library, and he gave that library a collection of 40 John Rogers figurines (popular plaster statues depicting themes in contemporary American life) in 1881. The eldest brother of Caleb Chase was Job III (b.1799), who married Hannah Nickerson, and a sister of Caleb Chase married George Nickerson. Given these connections, it would not be surprising to learn that John and Ruth Nickerson were related to Caleb and Salome Chase.

According to a July 5, 1911, newspaper article reporting on the dedication of the Chase Library, the contractor and builder was Flavis Nickerson of Harwich Port (no relationship to Dr. Nickerson has been established) and the painter and decorator was William Eldridge of South Harwich. The newspaper article indicated that the "building committee was composed of "J. P. Edwards, Benjamin F. Hurst, I. W. Peterson, George F. Ellis, and J. P. Nickerson, trustees, and the building is an ornament to their taste and foresight." A timeline drawn from the Chase Library Association Treasurer's reports that was prepared by Gertrude Kruszyna in 1977 indicates the

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cost of the building was \$1,771. Kruszyna's notes have a separate line for a "storm porch," dating to 1911 and costing \$31.85. The interior of the new library included curtains, a stove, and a pump. There was no plumbing or electricity.

The newspaper article on the dedication ceremony described the building as a 24-by-34 foot bungalow with an 8-by-12 foot porch and a concrete walk leading to it. The interior was finished "in cypress with walls and ceilings of embossed steel, tinted in green, and floors of polished hard wood. The fire place and mantel give a comfortable look, and the whole presents a rich and home-like effect." The article went on to report that bookshelves could accommodate 2,500 volumes, and that a "handsome chandelier" had been given by Captain J. P. Edwards. There were also "large and expensive" portraits of Caleb and Salome Chase given by the Chase estate. In addition, a Miller piano had been presented by the "summer people," indicating that Mrs. Nickerson's fundraising was successful.

For the dedication, the main room was set up with a platform and 150 chairs, and attendees were greeted by Dr. and Mrs. John P. Nickerson. The program began with speakers and ended with a concert. Speakers included Captain Jonathan Edwards of Dennis Port, president of the Chase Library Association; Charles F. D. Belding, chairman of the Massachusetts Free Library Commission; and Martha N. Soule of the Hyannis Normal School. Soule noted that the Chase Library was the second on the Cape to be dedicated in the month of July. (The other was in Sandwich.)

From the beginning, the Chase Library served the villages of West Harwich and Dennis Port, and each town appropriated \$50 toward library operations. The new library opened with approximately 2,000 books. In 1912, books totaling \$95.90 were purchased. Ruth Nickerson served as the first librarian, followed by Miss Mary Hentz, who held the position for 64 years. Other librarians included Mrs. Harold Tripp, Mrs. Ralph Cummings, Miss Zella Willson, and Mrs. Frank Mahady. In 1977, the staff included Mrs. Gerald O'Neil, Mrs. Frank Hudson, and Mrs. Stanley (Gertrude) Kruszyna.

In 1927, Mr. James H. Stetson, who served for many years as president of the Chase Library Association, bequeathed \$5,000 to the library endowment, the interest of which was to help support the library. In 1929, according to librarian Hentz, the library had more than 6,000 books. Summer residents Mrs. Carleton Francis and Mrs. Edmund Burke organized an annual summer rummage sale to support the library during the 1924-1929 period.

Over the years, bookcases have been added, and the library has been updated, beginning with the installation of electricity in 1923-1924, at a cost of \$92. Central heat and air conditioning were added at unknown dates. A bathroom was added in 1953, and the ell was remodeled into the present children's room (see description in section 7 for details), perhaps in response to a gradual increase in the population that began after World War II. A 2011 interview with an elderly woman who grew up in Dennis Port and used the Chase Library, indicates that the library had two rooms when she was a child (presumably the 1930s)—the main block appears to have been used as the "adult" library, and a smaller room, probably the ell, held children's books. Both spaces have the same use today. Because alterations to the building are minimal and not readily visible from the street, the Chase Library appears much as it did when constructed in 1911.

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At present, the Chase Library is one of three public libraries in Harwich. The largest of the three is the town-owned Brooks Free Library, which is in a former commercial building located in Harwich Center (discussed earlier in this narrative). The other is the Harwich Port Library, built in 1923 at 49 Lower Bank Street. Community support for that village library began in 1920, when H. E. VanBuren donated 500 books to start the library, which initially charged a membership fee of 50 cents. In 1922, Gideon H. Freeman donated \$1,000 for a building and Mrs. Paul Gray donated the land. Chartered as a public library in 1923, it is operated by the Harwich Port Library Association with a town subsidy that began in 1926.

The Chase Library also receives some support from the town of Harwich, but it is still owned and operated by The Chase Library Association, which raises money to meet the mission. In 2003 the library had 758 "certified" borrowers. In 2004, it had 17,000 books, and the library director was Maryanne Desmarais. Ruth Hudson held the position of children's librarian. At present, the library director is Claire Gredone, and the library has approximately 18,000 circulating books. Volunteers supplement the paid staff.

Architecture

Built in 1911, the Chase Library is a modest, vernacular example of the Craftsman style of architecture, with lingering features from the Shingle Style. The Craftsman style was popular nationally, primarily for small houses known as Craftsman bungalows, from about 1905 to 1930. The style was one of the few that began in the western states and moved eastward. The most notable designers were Charles and Henry Greene, who practiced in Pasadena, California, and popularized the style. Fully developed Craftsman bungalows are relatively rare in Massachusetts because the style was contemporaneous with the Colonial Revival style, which was preferred here. In addition, many eastern cities and towns had been built out by the early 20th century, as opposed to towns in such states as California and Washington, which were undergoing rapid development at that time. The style spread across the country via patternbooks and magazines, one of the most influential of which was called *The Craftsman*. In some cases, property owners purchased the plans and even pre-cut lumber that could be shipped to the site and assembled.

In Harwich and many other Massachusetts communities, Craftsman features are often limited to deep eaves with exposed rafter ends, which are a major character-defining feature of the Chase Library. These features, which helped to shade the interior of a building, were quickly embraced by builders in resort communities such as Harwich, where summer houses and cabins were being built.

There is no evidence that the library was designed by an architect. Rather, it appears that the builder, Flavis Nickerson, worked with the building committee to design the library, perhaps adapting plans in patternbooks to suit library purposes. The hipped roof, as seen on the Chase, is an uncommon roof type on Craftsman buildings. While gable roofs are typical, the hipped roof may have been chosen to allow maximum headroom for the library.

The Shingle Style flourished in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, especially in summer resort areas. A hallmark of the style is wood shingle cladding, which is also the most common cladding on buildings all over Cape Cod, no matter their style or age. A major character-defining feature of the Chase Library that fits into the Shingle-Style architectural vocabulary is the configuration of the windows with multilight sash over large, single-paned lower sash. The building's façade bay

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windows are also significant for their large, over-scaled size, and the fact that they project, both of which would have provided maximum interior light, an important amenity prior to the installation of electricity in the 1920s.

The front door with its sidelights has its roots in the classically derived architecture of the 18th century. In the late 19th century and early 20th centuries, classical features again became fashionable, as Colonial Revival designs were preferred over the Victorian. Colonial Revival features were often incorporated into Shingle Style buildings. In addition to its front door, the Chase Library also has a Colonial Revival interior, the most notable feature being the mantelpiece.

As noted in section 7, two Shingle Style features were removed from the Chase Library—one (probably two) eyebrow dormers from the side elevations and the front porch. The latter was extant in a 1975 photograph. The absence of these elements, particularly the porch, is likely responsible for the fact that previous researchers have categorized the library as a Colonial Revival design.

The Chase Library has had no major additions, and it remains a representative example of a small Cape Cod village library. Another small library on the Cape that dates to the same period as the 1911 Chase Library is the Cobb Memorial Library (13 Truro Center Road), which was listed in the National Register in 2013. Dating to 1912, it is also a one-room building in the Craftsman style, and it is similar in scale to the Chase. Like the Chase, it was purpose built as a library, with funds contributed by a Truro native who became a successful Boston merchant and summered in his 18th-century family home in Truro. As is the case with many small library buildings, however, the Cobb is no longer used as a lending library; rather, it is in use as an archive operated by the Truro Historical Society. The fact that the Chase is still used for its original purpose adds greatly to its historical and architectural significance.

Archaeological Significance

Detailed analysis of the contents of occupational-related features, especially potential privies, may contribute important social, cultural, and economic information related to the Harwich residents that used the library facilities and attended its functions. Information from builder's trenches and structural remains from building renovations may also exist with the potential to shed light on construction techniques used in building the library as well as previously unknown land use of the library property prior to library construction.

End section 8

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9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

Ninth Report of the Free Public Library Commission of Massachusetts. Boston: Wright & Potter Printing Co., 1899.

Stone, Orra L. History of Massachusetts Industries: Their Inception, Growth and Success. Vols. I and II. Boston-Chicago: S. J. Clarke Publishing Co., 1930 (Chase & Sanborn, pp. 1373-1375; Job Chase, p. 26).

Van Slyck, Abigail A. Free to All: Carnegie Libraries & American Culture, 1890–1920. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1995.

Historic Maps and atlases

1858 Walling map of South Dennis and West Harwich (copy in MHC map drawers)

1880 Atlas of Barnstable County Massachusetts, West Harwich. George H. Walker Co. (copy in MHC map drawers)

1910 Atlas of Barnstable County Massachusetts, West Harwich. George H. Walker Co., plate 36, West Harwich (Digital copy from the Massachusetts State Library Collection)

1928 and 1945 update: Sanborn Map, Harwich, plate 6 (copies in MHC map drawers)

The following were submitted to MHC by Dolores S. Bright, Trustee of the Chase Library. 2013.

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Dalton, Scott. “The little library that could.” *Harwich Oracle*. June 30, 2004.

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Foster, Stephanie. “Harwich a Century Ago.” *Harwich Oracle*. The column was compiled ca. 2007 from articles in the *Harwich Independent*. Clippings referenced here were reprints from March 27, 1907, and November 12, 1902.

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Kruszyna, Gertrude. Notes on Story of the Chase Library of West Harwich. Timeline compiled ca. 1977 from the Chase Library Association Treasurers' Reports.

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MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report. Harwich. 1984.

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Chase & Sanborn Coffee...who is the Chase? Posted by Judy Chase Needham, October 22, 2001. <http://genforum.genealogy.com/chase/messages/3017.html>.

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<http://www.findagrave.com>. Dr. John P. Nickerson (1876-1950). Accessed 4/23/2014.

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[Plymouth Colony.net/Barnstable/Vital Records/ Harwich/John P. Nickerson](http://PlymouthColony.net/Barnstable/VitalRecords/Harwich/JohnP.Nickerson).

Salvation Army, Peoples' Palace, Boston, Mass. https://www.flickr.com/photos/boston-public_library/4898967795/?rb=1. Accessed 5/22/2014.

Valuation List for the town of Harwich, May 1, 1907 (lists from 1860 to 1940 are online at http://harwichma.virtualltownhall.net/Public_Documents/HarwichMA_Assessing/Historic%20Valuations).

Current assessor's records (2014) for the Chase Library

National Register Nominations

Dray, Eric. "Cobb Memorial Library." Truro. 2013.

Jenkins, Candace. "Jacob Sears Memorial Library." Dennis, MA.2009.

Jones, Carey L. and Laura Kline, PAL. "Bourne Public Library." Bourne, MA. 2012

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MHC inventory forms:

- Belmont Hotel (HRW.325), Belmont Rd at Chase Ave., 1969.
- Brooks Block-Broad Brooks Free Library (HRW.39), 737 Main Street, 1969, updated 1992.
- Chase, Caleb House, (HRW.239), 126 Main Street, 1974, updated 1993.
- Chase, Erastus House (HRW.242), 121 Main Street, 1974, updated 1993.
- Chase Library (HRW.213), 7 Main Street, 1974, updated 1993 and 2011.
- Chase Library (HRW.228), 77 Main Street, 1974, updated 1993.
- Chase-Stenson-Snow House (HRW.236), 108 Main Street, 1974, updated 1993.
- Dr. J. Nickerson House (HRW.299), 11 Main Street, 1974.
- West Harwich (HRW.F). 1993.

Barnstable County Registry of Deeds

- Book 275, page 91, Anna K. Lathrop and Robert A. Lathrop to John P. Nickerson, August 28, 1905.
- Book 307, page 417, John P. Nickerson to the Chase Library Association. June 27, 1911.(Recorded 8/18/1911).
- Book 848, page 374. Jessie P. Nickerson, et. al. to the Chase Library Association. July 20, 1953 (deed confirming the reversion clause in the 1911 deed.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

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Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: Harwich Historical Society/Brooks Academy Museum

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): HRW.213

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of Property less than one acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____

(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

1. Latitude: 41.668672 Longitude: -70.121386

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

1. Zone: 19 Easting: 406649 Northing: 4613598

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The boundary for the Chase Library follows the lot line of the property, which is outlined on the attached Harwich Assessors map and known as parcel 10-N2-0-E.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

The nominated area includes the land historically and currently associated with the Chase Library.

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11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Karen L. Davis with Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director
organization: Massachusetts Historical Commission
street & number: 220 Morrissey Blvd.
city or town: Boston state: MA zip code: 02125
e-mail _____
telephone: 617-727-8470
date: October 2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Figures

Figure 1 Oblique aerial view (Massachusetts Oblique Image Viewer)

Figure 2 Floor plan

Figure 3 Historic photo, 395, Harwich Historical Society, ca. 1930

Figure 4, 1974 photo (MHC inventory form, HRW.213)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

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Photo Log

Name of Property: Chase Library

City or Vicinity: Harwich

County: Barnstable

State: MA

Photographer: Lewis Bushnell

Date Photographed: August 29, 2014

Description of Photograph(s) and number, include description of view indicating direction of camera:

- 1 of 11. Façade (north elevation); camera looking south
- 2 of 11 East and south (rear) elevations. Camera looking northwest
- 3 of 11 West elevation; camera looking east
- 4 of 11 Main entrance door, camera looking west
- 5 of 11 Dormer window on façade; camera looking south
- 6 of 11 Detail of tripartite window on east elevation; camera looking northwest
- 7 of 11 Detail of fireplace wall, camera looking south
- 8 of 11 Detail of ceiling and lighting, camera looking southwest
- 9 of 11 Detail of metal wall covering on dado behind bookcase
- 10 of 11 Detail of projecting bay window; camera looking northeast
- 11 of 11 Interior of the ell; camera looking southeast

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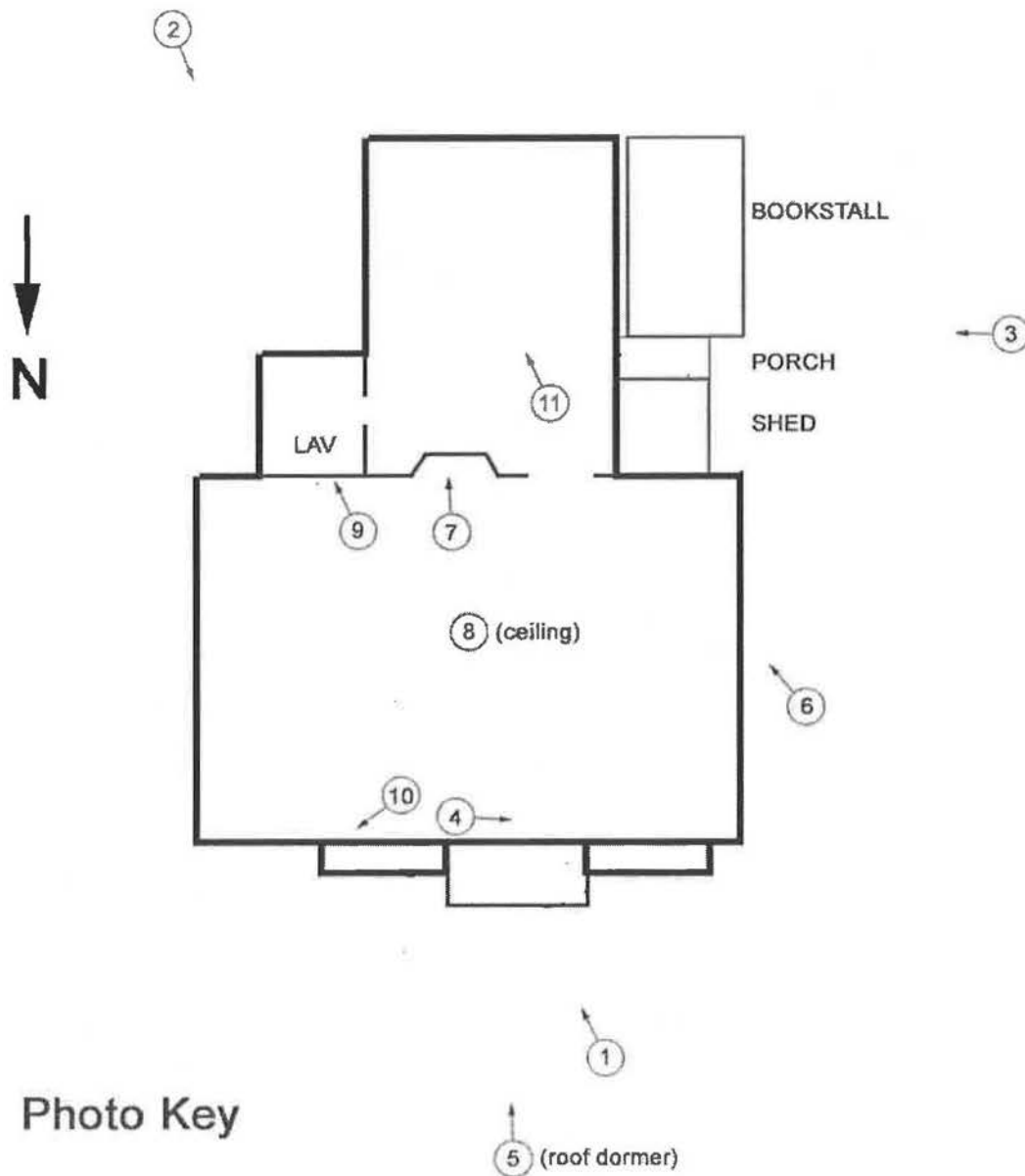


Photo Key

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.

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Figures



Figure 1. Aerial oblique view of Chase Library, looking south. Massachusetts Oblique Image Viewer. Intersection of Main Street (foreground) and Division Street (right).

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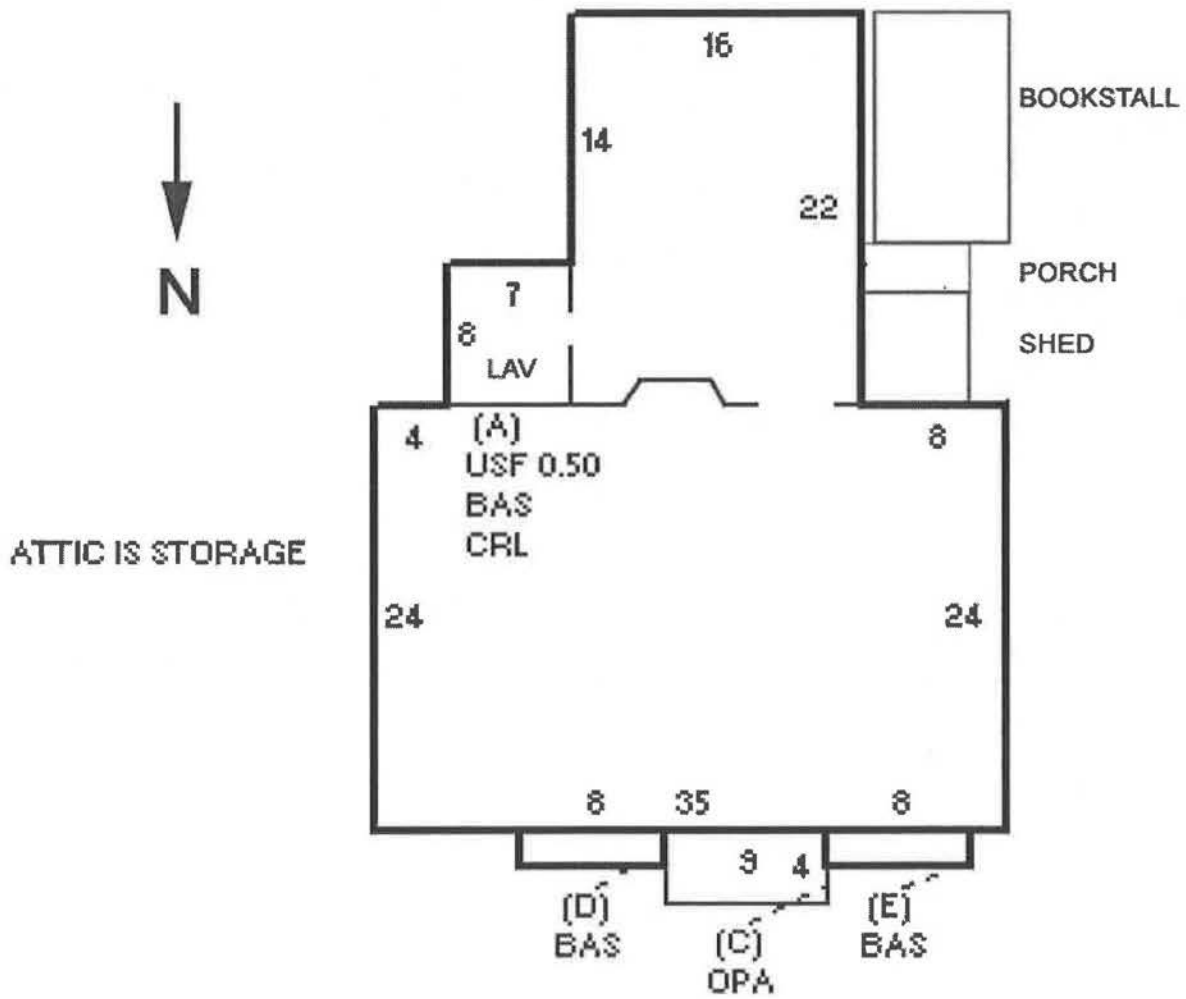


Figure 2. First floor plan, adapted from Harwich Town Assessor's information.

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Figure 3. Historic photo, 395, Harwich Historical Society, ca. 1930

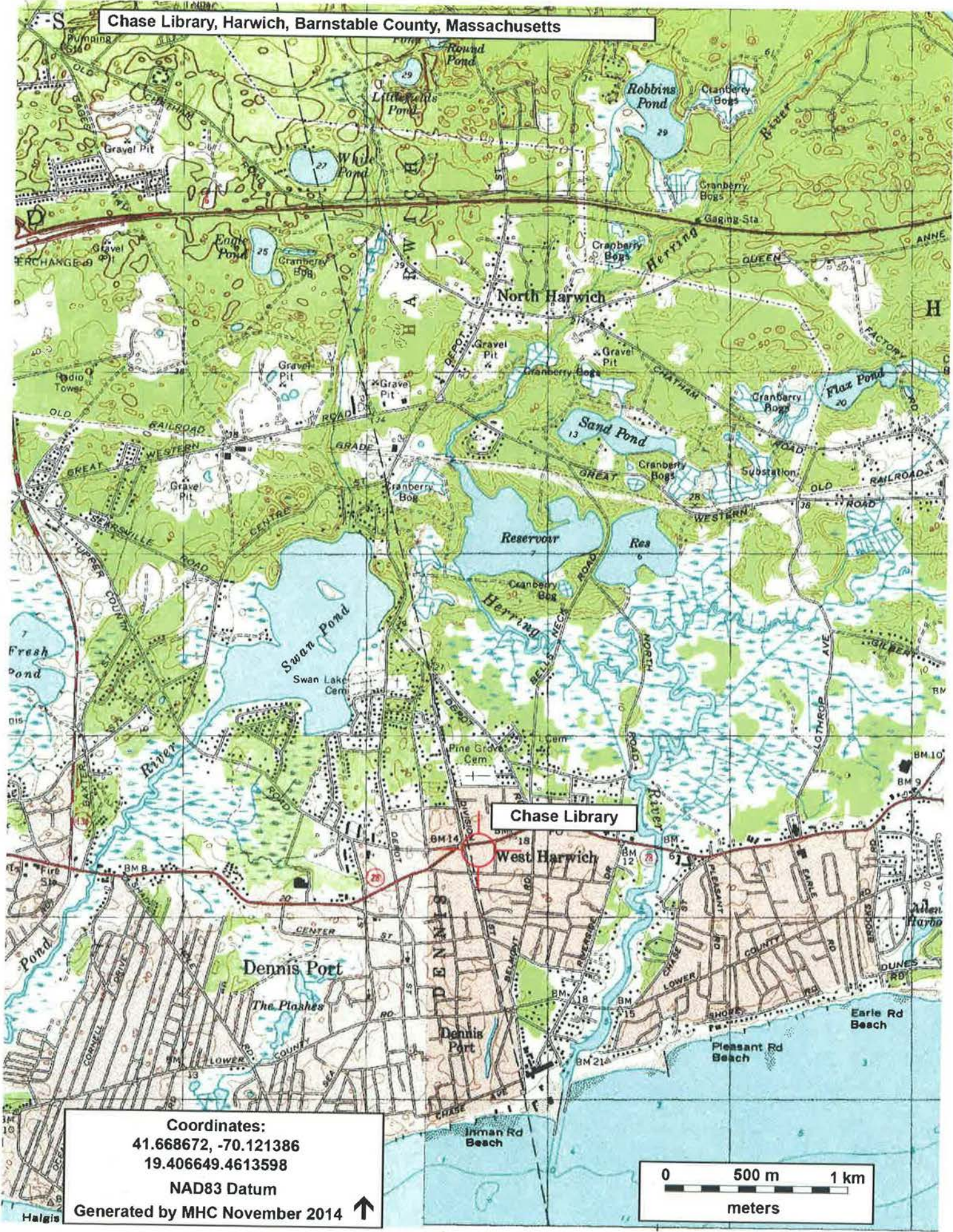
Chase Library
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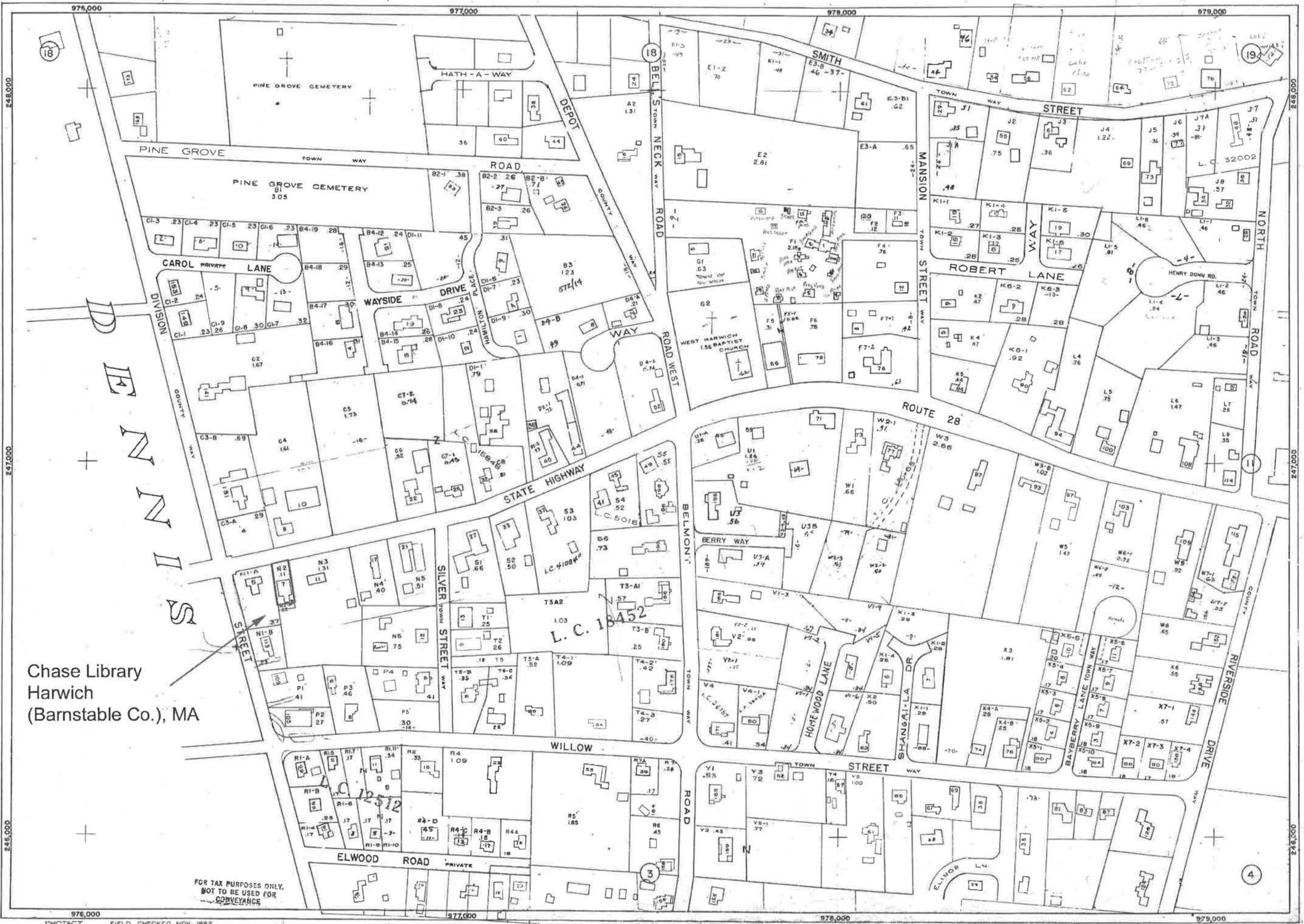
Figure 4. 1974 photo (MHC inventory form, HRW.213)

Chase Library, Harwich, Barnstable County, Massachusetts



Coordinates:
41.668672, -70.121386
19.406649, 4613598
NAD83 Datum
Generated by MHC November 2014 ↑





Chase Library
Harwich
(Barnstable Co.), MA

FOR TAX PURPOSES ONLY.
NOT TO BE USED FOR
CONVEYANCE



CHASE LIBRARY



CHASE LIBRARY



CHASE LIBRARY

NO PARKING



I ❤️
CHASE LIBRARY

Book Drop



CHASE LIBRARY.





MISS WILSON
1871-1890





PRUF POLO
DOGS
FORGOTTEN GARDENS
KATE MORTON
Borders
ELLINBURG
HOWARD FRANK
Hi Kate Moss
KATE MOSSE
LATE MORN
The STONES
SUMMER
BRONNITIS
RANDOM HOUSE
OLD M...
L...
C...
Viking
MUR



DEWEY Decimal Classification
ANGLO-AMERICAN
CATALOGUING RULES
Second Edition, 1988 Revision
ADDITIONAL
Sean L.
of
Subject
Headings
ELEVENTH
EDITION
HOLDS





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Chase Library
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Barnstable

DATE RECEIVED: 11/14/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 12/11/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 12/26/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 12/31/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14001094

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 12-29-14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission



November 4, 2014

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW, 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Chase Library, 7 Main Street, Harwich (Barnstable), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Greg Winston, Harwich Historical Commission
Larry Ballantine, Harwich Board of Selectmen
Claire Gardone, Chase Library Association
Dolores Bright, Chase Library Association
James Atkinson, Harwich Planning Board
Sara Korjeff, Cape Cod Commission
Virginia Hewitt, Brooks Free Library