

MAY 23 1989

672

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
A	40

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

Town Wakefield

Address 391 Vernon Street

Historic Name Cpt. Wm. Green House
NA

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date 1690

Source Bibliography

Style Colonial Vernacular

Architect NA

Exterior Wall Fabric Shingles-Cedar

Outbuildings None

Major Alterations (with dates) One story shed roof addition off north wall, east side. (c.1700's)

Condition Excellent

Moved YES Date c.1790

Acreage One and a half acres

Setting Setback approximately 50' on level lot in neighborhood of single family residences.

UTM REFERENCE 19/330350/4709730

USGS QUADRANGLE Reading, MA

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Bill Jones, Bruce Merry
Architectural Preservation Associates
Organization Wakefield Historical Commission
Date March 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

This house contains a fragment of a First Period structure and is a good example of a Georgian Vernacular farm house. although the structure has been moved, it still retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and meets criterion C of the NRHP on the local level. **It also meets criterion exception B, the moved building exception as it has been moved from its original site.**

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

This farmhouse has been moved and renovated but the high, narrow gambrel roof, rectangular massing of c. 1750, and the even earlier ell c. 1680, remain. The asymmetrical facade is typical of the Colonial vernacular, in which windows and doors were placed where they were most necessary, and not with regard for regularity. The small, high placed second floor windows are also a feature of domestic building the period. Door surround and sash is not original.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

The older part of this early farmhouse, now an ell at the rear, is believed to have been built prior to 1680 on a site across the Saugus River in Lynnfield. The newer part of the dwelling is believed to have been built by Capt. William Green in the middle of the 18th century. Capt. Green's son Caleb acquired the house about 1790 and moved it to its present site in Wakefield. Later the house and farm were owned by Caleb's son, Joshua Green. At one time the Green property included nearly 30 acres of land on the west side of Vernon Street as well as about 10 acres on the side on which the house is situated.

The land remained rural and primarily agricultural until the 20th century, when post World War II development needs, the automobile, and governmentally financed road systems combined to make commuting possible from the area.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

maps 1874, 1889

Eaton, Chester, and Eaton, Warren, Proceedings of the 250th Anniversary of the Ancient Town of Redding, Reading, 1896.

Eaton, Lilley, Genealogical History of Reading, Boston, 1874

Merrill, Morrison, "Wakefield's Old Houses", Wakefield Historical Society.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Wakefield MRA
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review _____ Date/Signature _____

11. Cowdry, Nathaniel, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

12. Emerson--Franklin Poole House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

13. Flanley's Block

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

542 14. Goodwin, Captain--James Custris House
Substantive ReviewKeeper Barry L. Savage 3/2/90

Attest _____

15. Gould, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

16. Green, Capt. William, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

17. Green, Deacon Daniel, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

18. Greenwood Union Church

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

19. House at 1 Morrison Avenue

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

20. House at 1 Woodcrest Drive

Keeper Delores Byrum 7/6/89

Attest _____

Entered in the
National Register

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Green, Capt. William, House
NAME:

MULTIPLE Wakefield MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/23/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/06/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/22/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/07/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000672

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 7/6/89 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTMs ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone _____

Signed _____

Date _____



A 40

391 Vernon. St.

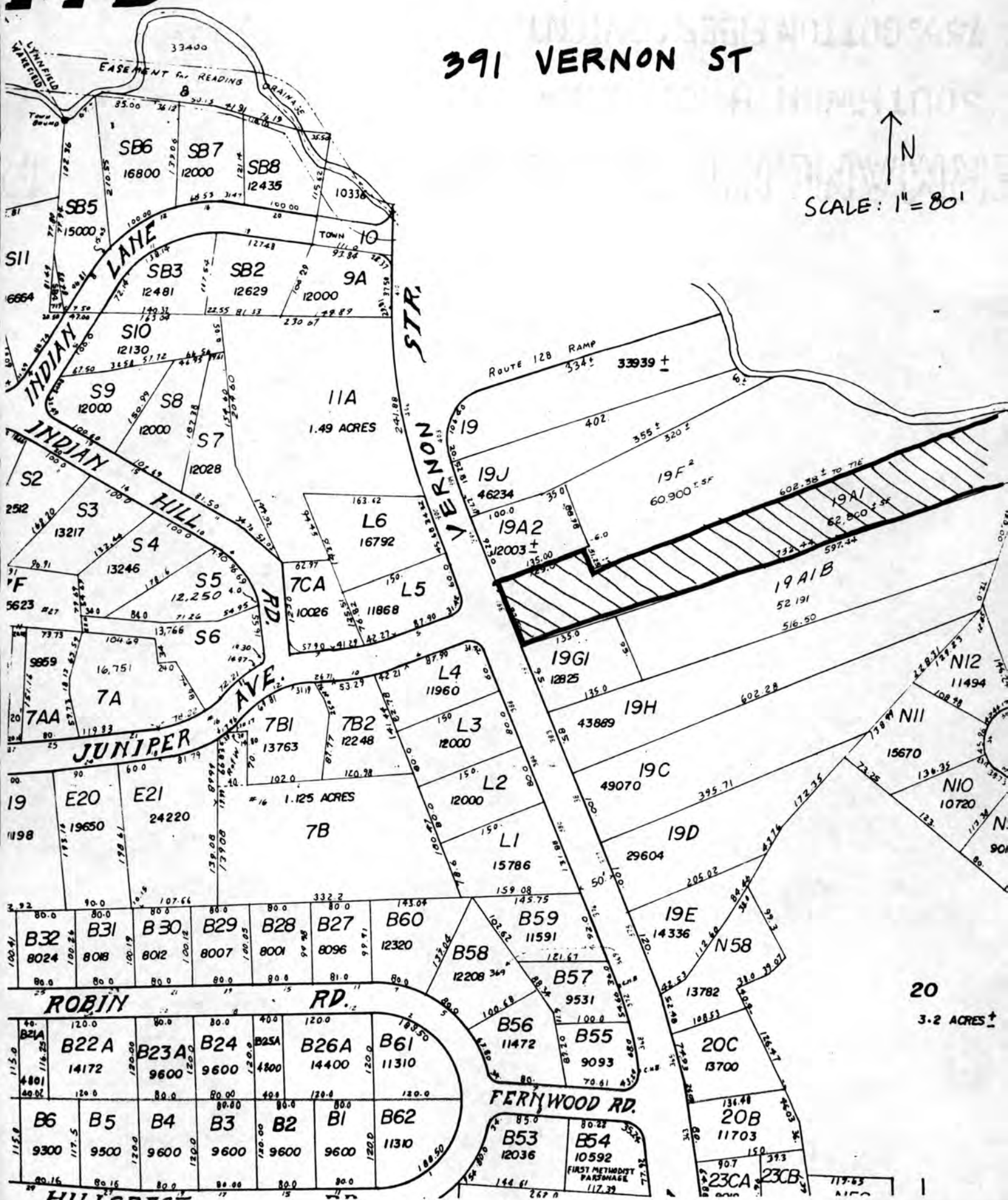
Green, Capt. William House

Walden Mass.

A 40

↑
N

SCALE: 1" = 80'



FIRST PERIOD SURVEY

185

JAN 24 1990

FORM NO.

90

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Photos

- 72:1 facade
72:6 1st floor, east room
72:10 2nd floor, rear room, summer beam
72:24 north plate, joint with west post and chimney girt

Sketch Map:

Town Wakefield. 017Address 391 Vernon StreetHistoric Name Green HouseUse: Present ResidenceOriginal Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date 1680, 1750Source Visual assessment, secondary sourcesStyle First PeriodArchitect NoneExterior Wall Fabric ClapboardOutbuildings None

Major Alterations (with dates) Main block,
c. 1750, incorporating moved ca. 1680 house;
house moved 1790.

Condition Excellent

Moved Yes Date House - 1790; ell -
1750

Acreage 1.4 acres

Setting Setback approx. 50 feet on level
lot in residential neighborhood of 20th c.
houses.

UTM REFERENCE 19 / 330-350 / 4709-720

USGS QUADRANGLE ReadingSCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Chris BoshearsOrganization Boston UniversityDate January 1986

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: WAKEFIELD	Form No: 90
Property Name: Green House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Green House retains integrity of design, materials, and workmanship in its late 17th century frame incorporated into a larger Second Period dwelling, making it eligible under Criterion C. The types of chamfer stops in the east end point to a late 17th/early 18th-century construction date.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Green House is a 2 1/2 story clapboarded structure with an asymmetrical 5 bay facade and a tall narrow gambrel roof. The second floor windows are placed high under the eaves; the door and surround are reproduction 20th century 'Colonial'. A small one story kitchen and screened porch addition wraps around the east rear corner. The c. 1680 east section of the house was reputedly moved to Wakefield in the 1750's, when the west end and gambrel roof were added, creating a central chimney plan house. The entire building was moved in the 1790's to its present location.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

Both floors of the east end of the house exhibit late 17th century chamfered frames with chamfer stops. The first floor east room has exposed summer beam, chimney girt, northwest post, and rear girts with wide bevel chamfers. Where the summer beam meets the chimney girt, the north side of the summer has a lamb's tongue stop with three notches; the south side has a simple triangular stop. The chimney girt has a triangle stop where the north end of the summer meets the girt. The south end of the girt is now covered, but also seems to have the remnants of a triangle stop where the girt meets the summer. The exposed northeast part has a bevel chamfer with taper stop. The chimney and rear girts have triangle stops at this corner.

The two east rooms on the second floor exhibit simpler stops. The south hall and southeast corner posts have bevel chamfers with taper stops. The south plate is exposed and has a very rough bevel chamfer with a taper stop at the southeast corner. The exposed east end girt has a bevel chamfer and a very flat lamb's tongue or triangle stop in the southeast corner. The second floor northeastern chamber has an exposed transverse summer beam with bevel chamfer and lamb's tongue stops at the north end. The north plate has a very crude bevel chamfer.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: WAKEFIELD	Form No: 90
Property Name: Green House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

LATER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

The rooms in the western half of the house exhibit good Second Period boxing and paneling. The rafter feet of the gambrel roof are visible on the second floor, meeting the sides of the south plate, an unusual detail probably resulting from the construction of a gambrel roof on top of a First Period frame.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Local historians state that this one cell 2 1/2 story First Period house was originally built across the Saugus River in Lynfield, ca 1680. The house was moved to Wakefield and incorporated into a Second Period 2-cell gambrel-roof house by Capt. William Green around 1750. Captain Green's son, Caleb, acquired the house around 1790 and moved it to its present site. The moves and alterations experienced by the Green House may be typical of the fate of many frame buildings in the 18th century, when it was possibly more economical to move and add to a dwelling than to build a new one.



391 Vernon St
Wakefield, MA

72:1

Green House

1st Period Buildings of E. Ma, TR

1985-



72:24

391 Vernon St.
Wakefield, MA

Green House

1st Period Buildings of E. M., TR

1985



72:10

391 Vernon St.
Wakefield, MA

Greer House

1st Period Buildings of E. Ma, TR

1985



Green House

72:6

391 Vernon St.

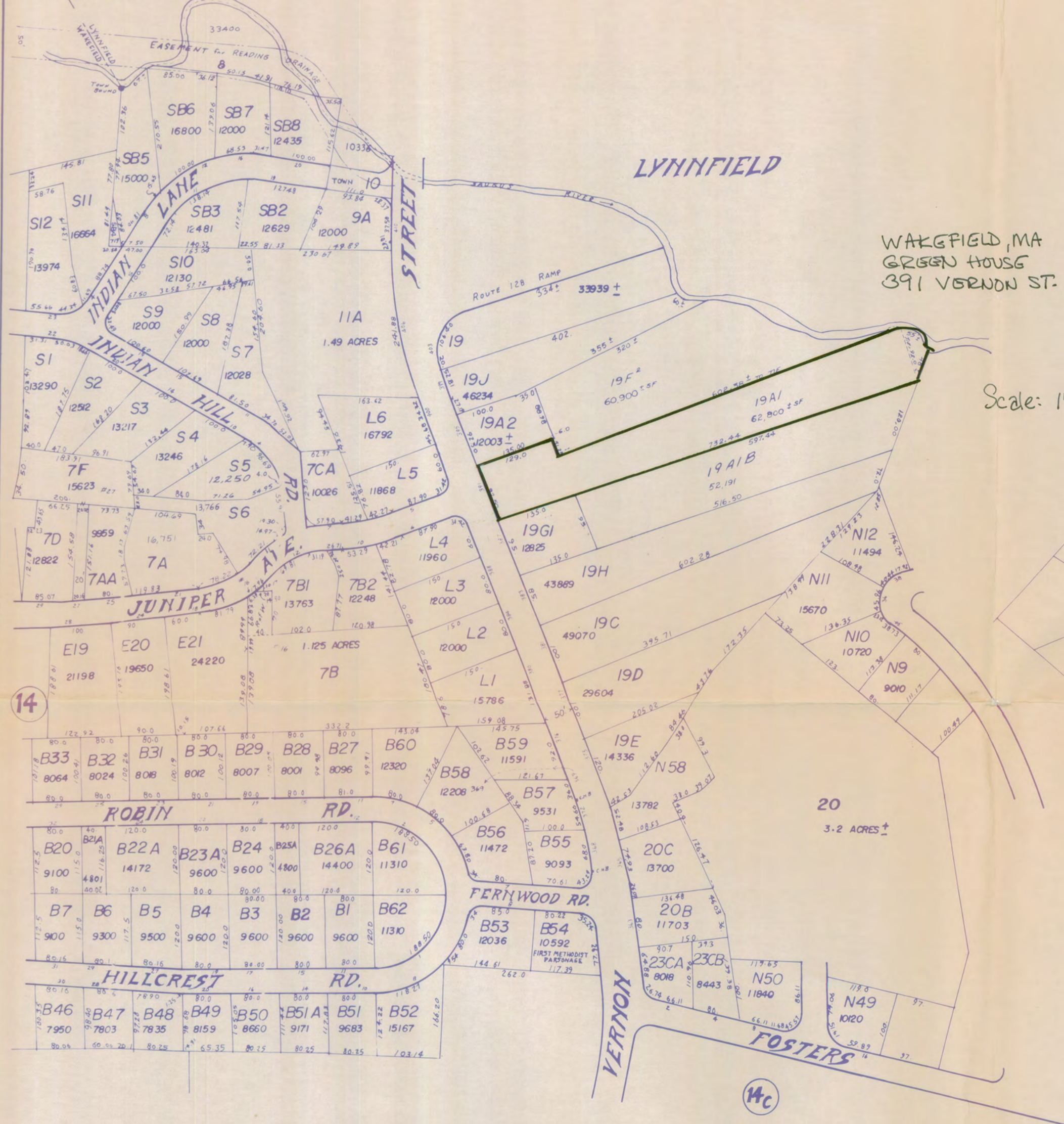
Wakefield, MA

1st Period Buildings of E. Ma, TR

1st fl. S

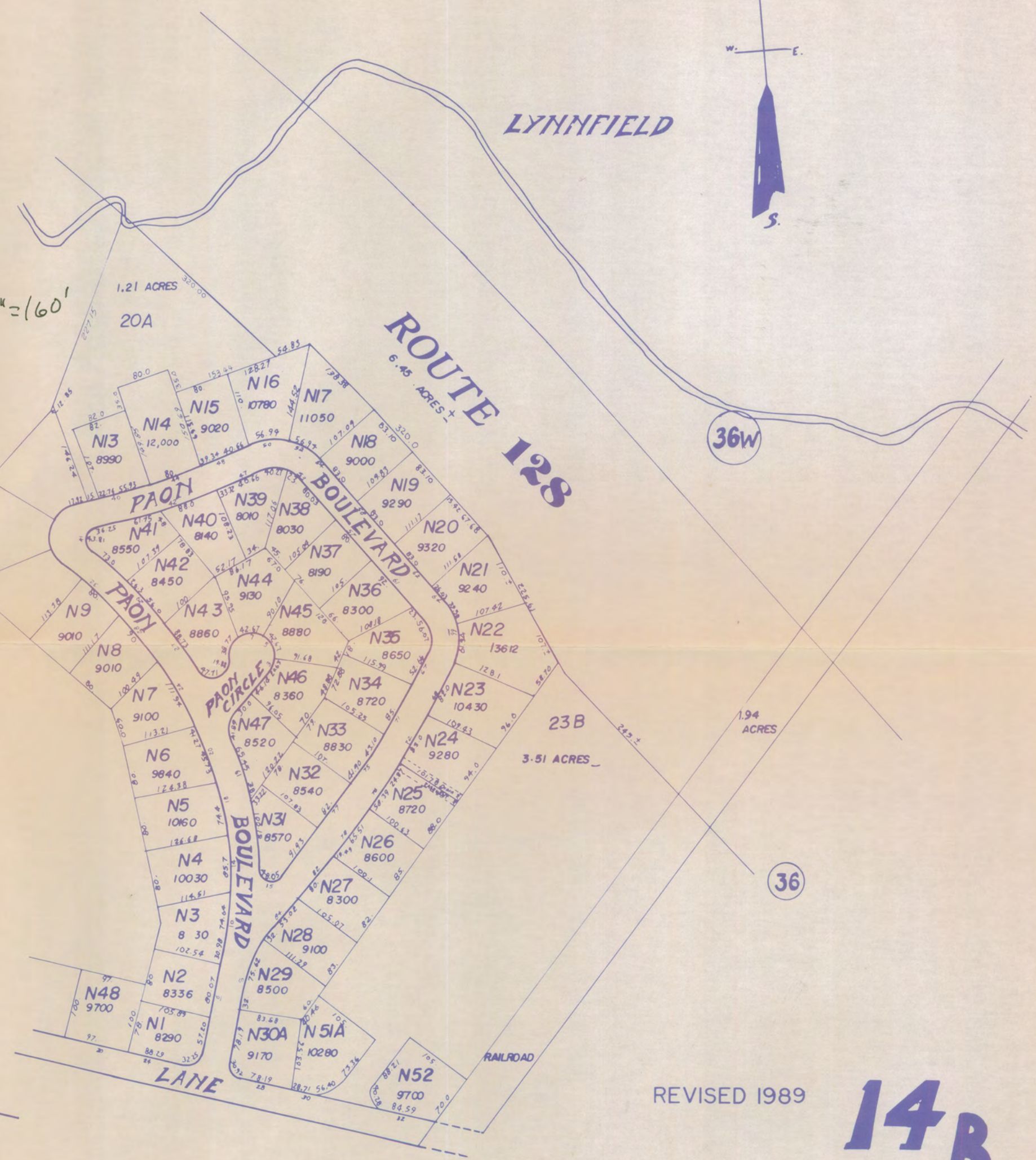
1985-

14B



WAKEFIELD, MA
GREEN HOUSE
391 VERNON ST.

Scale: 1"=160'



REVISED 1989

14B

A.W. Carleton Civil Eng'r.

Issued

Scale: 1 inch equals 80 feet

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000300