

MAY 23 1989

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
D	322

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 WakefieldAddress 71 Prospect StreetHistoric Name Nathaniel Cowdry HouseUse: Present ResidentialOriginal Residential

DESCRIPTION

Date c.1764Source Wakefield's Old HousesM. MerrillStyle GeorgianArchitect NAExterior Wall Fabric Wood ClapboardOutbuildings Carriage Housenoncontributing

Major Alterations (with dates) 2 additions on north; one with gable roof, one with shed roof.

Condition FairMoved NA Date NAAcreage Under one acre

Setting A-prox 125' frontage & set back approx. 24' from curb - residential neighborhood.

UTM REFERENCE 19/328600/4707710USGS QUADRANGLE Reading, Mass.SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates
Organization Wakefield Historical Commission

Date March 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The oldest of 3 Cowdry family homes on Prospect Street, this well preserved house represents nearly 150 years of continuous family ownership - a factor which may be unparalleled in Wakefield history. The house retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and meets Criterion C of the NRHP on the local level.

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

This is a 2½ story, 5 bay house with a shed roof addition on the north which is known often in Massachusetts as a "Beverly Jog". It has a large central chimney and the bays are irregularly spaced suggesting that at one time it was a 3/4 house, two outer bays being added at a later date. Georgian is the window size: small windows whose frames project from the plane of the facade. The door surround is a simple architrave surround with battered pilasters. Its narrow width and height are Georgian features but its thin quality is transitional to the Federal Style which officially began in 1776. Ruth Woodbury reported that the house retains batten doors, H & S, strap and leather hinges, dry laid rubble stone foundations and one clam shell plaster ceiling.

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

William Cowdry was one of Reading's earliest settlers in the 17th c. and his homestead is said to have been on the site of this house. It was the home of Nathaniel Cowdry in 1765 when the area was first mapped along with the colony's other settlements. Cowdrys lived in this house until 1866 and the family retained possession of some of its original farm land and an adjacent house until c. 1900. The continuity in family history and ownership may well be unparalleled in Wakefield and the state of preservation of 3 of the family homes (61, 71 & 98 Prospect Street) is an important part of the historic built environment.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Hurd, D. Hamilton (ed.). The History of Middlesex County, vol. II, Philadelphia, 1896
- Eaton, Lilley. The Genealogical History of Reading, Boston 1874.
- Wakefield Historical Society, Vertical Files, Ruth Woodbury's notes.
- Maps of 1765 (Nathaniel Cowdry), 1874 (no house shown), 1889 (R.H. Ryland), 1906 (James M. Ryland).

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Wakefield MRA
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review _____ Date/Signature _____

11. Cowdry, Nathaniel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

12. Emerson--Franklin Poole House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

13. Flanley's Block

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

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14. Goodwin, Captain--James Custris House
Substantive Review

Keeper Paul J. Savage 3/2/90
Attest _____

15. Gould, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

16. Green, Capt. William, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

17. Green, Deacon Daniel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

18. Greenwood Union Church

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

19. House at 1 Morrison Avenue

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

20. House at 1 Woodcrest Drive

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Delores Byers 7/6/89
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Cowdry, Nathaniel, House

MULTIPLE NAME: Wakefield MRA

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: 89000738

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
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



D. 322

71 Prospect St

Conroy, Nathaniel, Hus

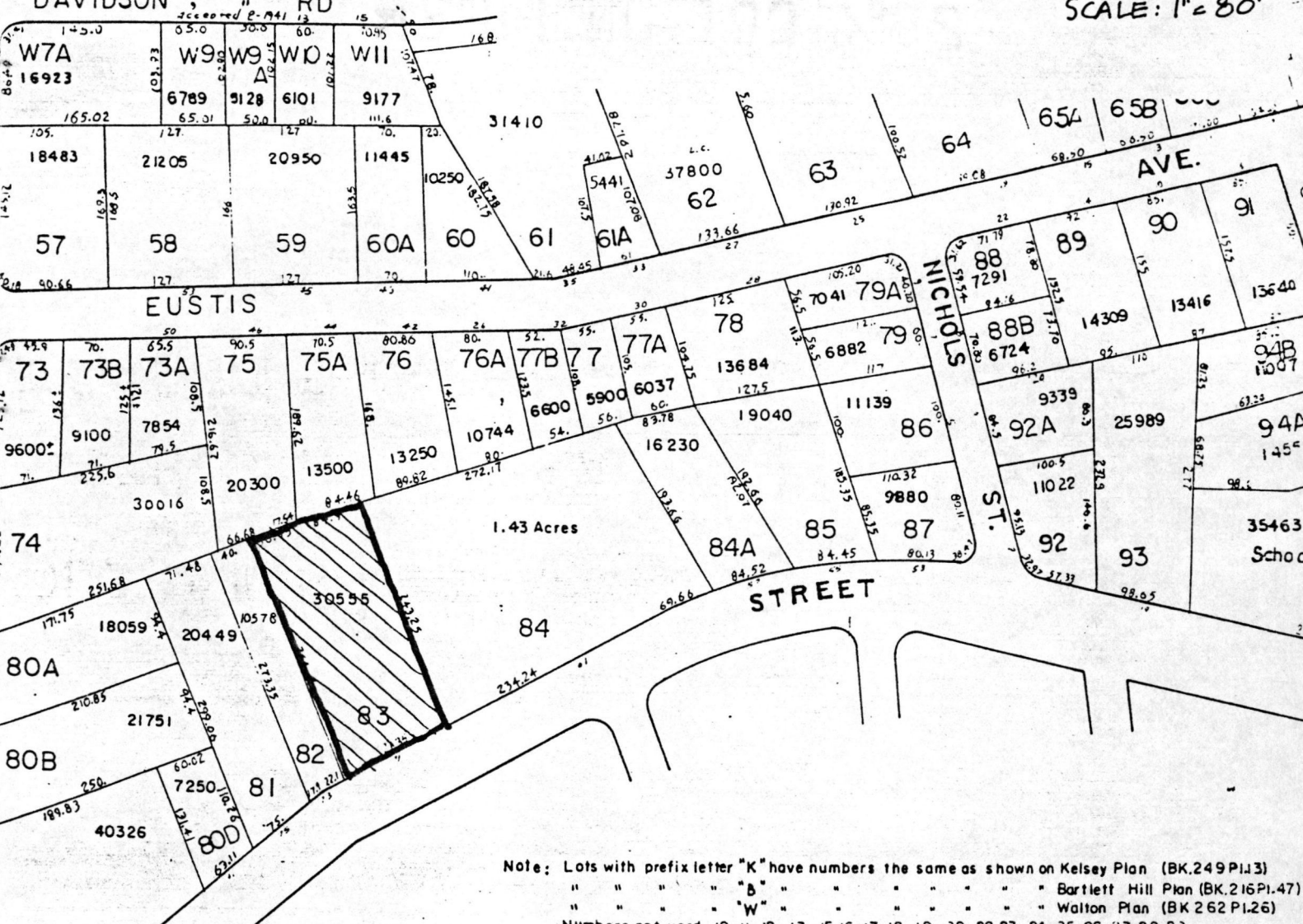
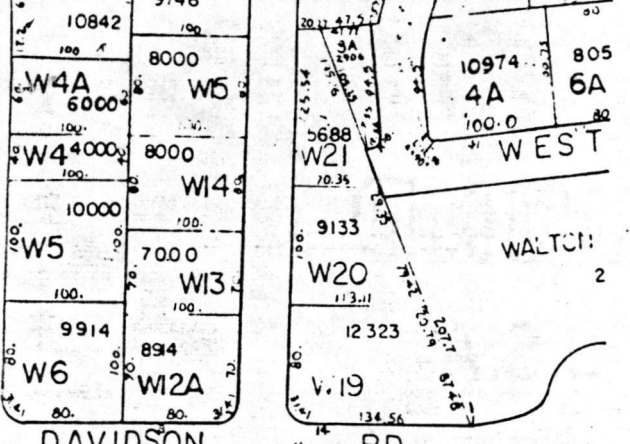
Wakefield MPA, Ma

D 322

71 PROSPECT STREET



SCALE: 1" = 80'



Note: Lots with prefix letter "K" have numbers the same as shown on Kelsey Plan (BK.249 P1.13)
 " " " " "B" " " " " " " " " Bartlett Hill Plan (BK.216 P1.47)
 " " " " "W" " " " " " " " " Walton Plan (BK 262 P1.26)
 Numbers not used 10-11-12-13-15-16-17-18-19-20-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29
 31-32-33-34-35-37-38-39-41-42-48-49-50-51-52-96-K 56-K 64

REVISED 1987

Scale: 1 inch equals 80 feet

A.W. Carleton Civil Eng

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000300