

AUG 21 1989

1521

AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

NATIONAL REGISTER

WALTHAM, MA MRA

121

Town Waltham

Address 147-149 Weston Street

Historic Name Nelson F. Libby House

Use: Present dwelling

Original same

DESCRIPTION

Date 1891

Source deeds

Style Queen Anne

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric wood shingle

Outbuildings garage-NC

Major Alterations (with dates) wood shingle

replacing clapboards--c1920s

Condition good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage 13,858 sq. ft. 03A 58-18-31

Setting on a rise, surrounded by field-

stone wall, above busy roadway

Recorded by Nancy Seasholes

Organization Waltham Historical Comm.

Date August, 1986

revised by C. Jenkins

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

see attached map

UTM REFERENCE 19|314340|4693520

USGS QUADRANGLE NATICK

SCALE 1:25,000

### **NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

The Nelson F. Libby House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as the well-designed Queen Anne style home of a local industrialist who owned the woodworking and planing mill that apparently made the woodwork for many Waltham residences and commercial blocks of the period. Despite replacement of clapboard with wood shingle sheathing, the house retains its fine details and massing. It meets criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

Set on a rise above a roadway with constant traffic, this imposing Queen Anne style house is in a residential area of predominantly 20th century houses. Like other similar examples of the style, its basically boxy gable-roofed form is successfully camouflaged by projecting bays, turrets and porches. These include a corner tower with distinctive bell-shaped roof and round-headed windows at the top level, a recessed porch at the attic level with a balustrade and spindle screen, a strong cross gable with triple arched windows in the gable and canted sides, and a verandah with balustrade, bulbous turned posts and a gable marking the location of the entrance. The entry itself displays a segmental fan. The only alteration to this fine late 19th century house is the replacement of clapboards with wood shingles.

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

This house was built in 1891 by Nelson F. Libby, an owner of the Libby and Larcom planing mill at Prospect and Felton Streets. This mill, which undoubtedly made the woodwork for this house, was also apparently the source of woodwork for many other Waltham houses and commercial blocks of the period. In 1908, the Libbys sold the house to Alfred L. Chase, a salesman, who still owned it in 1923.

### **BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds. 2005:550; 3354:507  
Maps/Atlases--1900, 1911, 1915, 1923  
Directories. 1899, 1909.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

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National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Waltham MRA  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

- | Nomination/Type of Review  | Date/Signature   |
|--|--|
| 51. Johnson, Newell D., House<br><i>National Register</i>                              | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 52. Lawton Place Historic District<br><i>Entered in the National Register</i>          | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 53. Libby, Nelson F., House<br><i>Entered in the National Register</i>                 | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 54. Linden Street Bridge <i>Substantive Review</i>                                     | Keeper <u><i>Beth J. Savage</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____ |
| 55. Lord's Castle<br><i>Entered in the National Register</i>                           | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 56. Lyman Street Historic District<br><i>Entered in the National Register</i>          | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 57. Martin, Aaron, Houses<br><i>Entered in the National Register</i>                   | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 58. Martin, Aaron, House<br>(786 Moody St.)<br><i>Entered in the National Register</i> | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 59. Moody Street Fire Station<br><i>Entered in the National Register</i>               | Keeper <u><i>Aelores Byen</i></u> <u>9/28/89</u><br>Attest _____   |
| 60. Moody Street Historic District<br><i>Substantive Review</i>                        | Keeper <u><i>Beth J. Savage</i></u> <u>3/9/90</u><br>Attest _____  |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Libby, Nelson F., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Waltham MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/21/89      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/05/89  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/21/89      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/05/89  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001521

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    9/28/89 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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

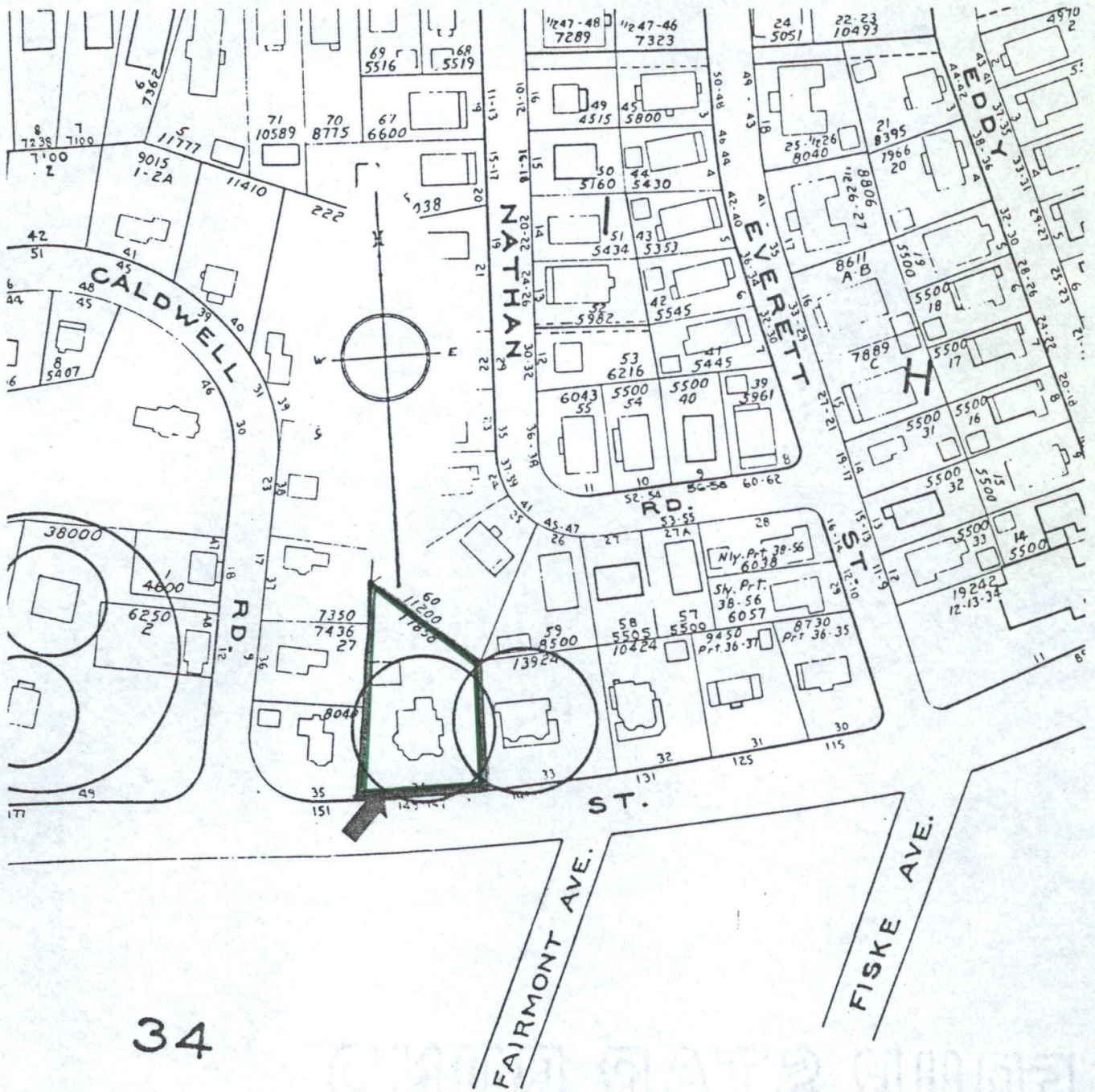
\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



147 Weston St.  
Nelson F. Libbey H&L #121  
Waltham MA MAIA





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1970 Atlas, City of Waltham  
 Compiled by the Waltham  
 Engineering Division  
 Scale: 1 inch = 140 feet

Waltham, Massachusetts MRA  
 147-149 Weston Street  
 Nelson F. Libby House  
 35-I-34

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301