

1578

AUG 21 1989

AREA FORM NO.

29

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

NATIONAL REGISTER  
Town

WALTHAM, MA MRA  
Waltham, Massachusetts

Address 110 - 112 Crescent Steet

Historic Name Gilbert Colburn House

Use Present double residence

Original " "

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

DESCRIPTION

Date c.1870

Source deed research

Style Italianate

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) none-

Condition good

Moved no- Date n/a-

Acreage 16,100 sq. ft. 0.40<sup>A</sup> 68-18-2

Setting Densely settled residential  
area of mid/late 19th century Waltham  
House near watch factory

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

UTM REFERENCE 19/315440/4693060

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Edward W. Gordon

Organization Waltham Historical Comm

Date June, 1986

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

#110-112 Crescent Street is a well-preserved example of a type of Italianate double-house that was built for American Waltham Watch Company workers during the 1870's. The floral motif, carved in high relief, on the house's bold, scroll-work doorhood bracket, is found on other buildings throughout the neighborhood west of Moody St. It possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and strong associations with the development of the South Side by the Waltham Watch Company. It meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

Architecturally, this property is significant as an essentially intact, double worker's house. Built ca. 1870, this house consists of a 5-bay x 2-bay main block. It rises 2-stories from a granite foundation to a broad gable roof. Its main facade features paired entrances with replacement doors and deep, bracketed doorhoods, with bold scroll brackets. The brackets exhibit a floral motif which appears on front door brackets of c.1860's, 1870's houses throughout this neighborhood. Flanking these entrances are 2-story, octagonal bays, with apron panels. In general, windows are fully enframed and cornice headed. This house's edges are defined by narrow corner-boards. Its rear ell appears to date to the main block (c.1870). Unlike other period houses in the area, this one retains original clapboard siding and 2/2 window sash.

## 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 is a well-preserved example of a type of post-Civil War worker's house found throughout the south side, but usually in an altered state. This house was built c.1870. On May 4, 1870, Thomas Kirk, of Waltham, purchased this house's lot from the American Waltham Watch Company for \$1,126.16 (see Middlesex Deed 1115:425). This deed restricted the property's usage to domestic purposes only - the owner could "never erect a building used by a butcher, currier, tanner, varnish maker, ink maker, tallow chandler, soap boiler, brewer, distiller or charcoal burner." Nor could the lot ever be used for "a laboratory or any noisy, nauseous or offensive trade." This deed further stipulates that no building could be erected that would "disturb the quiet or comfort of the neighborhood." Steam engines, iron foundries, coppersmiths, livery stables, churches or meeting houses were prohibited from the lot. In addition, any building erected here had to be within 15' of the street and the corporation was not bound to erect a fence. Furthermore, the owner had to have been an American citizen for a least 20 years! In any event, Thomas Kerke quickly sold the property to Gilbert Colburn on May 6, 1870 for \$1,447.93. This house was built for Colburn at some point ca.1873. The 1871/1872 Waltham Directory lists Colburn as "boarding at C. Wooley's Adams Corner Spruce". The house appears on the 1874 Waltham map labeled: G. Colburn. No occupation is listed for Gilbert

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

CONT

Maps/Atlases: 1854, 1874, 1886, 1911, 1915  
Waltham Directories : late 19th c.  
Middlesex Deeds: 1115:425, 1115:427, 3793:262

MHC #29

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, 110-112 Crescent Street, continued

Colburn in late 19th c. directories. The house was owned by William Colburn by 1886. He is listed in late 19th/early 20th c. Waltham Directories as an employee of the American Waltham Watch Company.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

AUG 21 1989

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

- 21. Colburn, Gilbert, House Entered in the National Register Keeper *Melores Byers* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 22. Company F State Armory Entered in the National Register Keeper *Melores Byers* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 23. Dow, Lenoir, House Entered in the National Register Keeper *Melores Byers* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- see* 24. Dunbar--Stearns House Substantive Review Keeper *Betty L. Savage* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 25. East Main Street Historic District Entered in the National Register Keeper *Melores Byers* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 26. Eastern Middlesex County District Court Second Entered in the National Register Keeper *Melores Byers* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- see* 27. First Congregational Church Substantive Review Keeper *Betty L. Savage* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- see* 28. First Parish Church Substantive Review Keeper *Betty L. Savage* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 29. Fisher, Henry N., House Entered in the National Register Keeper *Melores Byers* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 30. Fiske, Elijah, House Entered in the National Register Keeper *Melores Byers* 9/28/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Colburn, Gilbert, House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Waltham MRA  
NAME:

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: 89001578

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  
 UTMs       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 \_\_\_\_\_



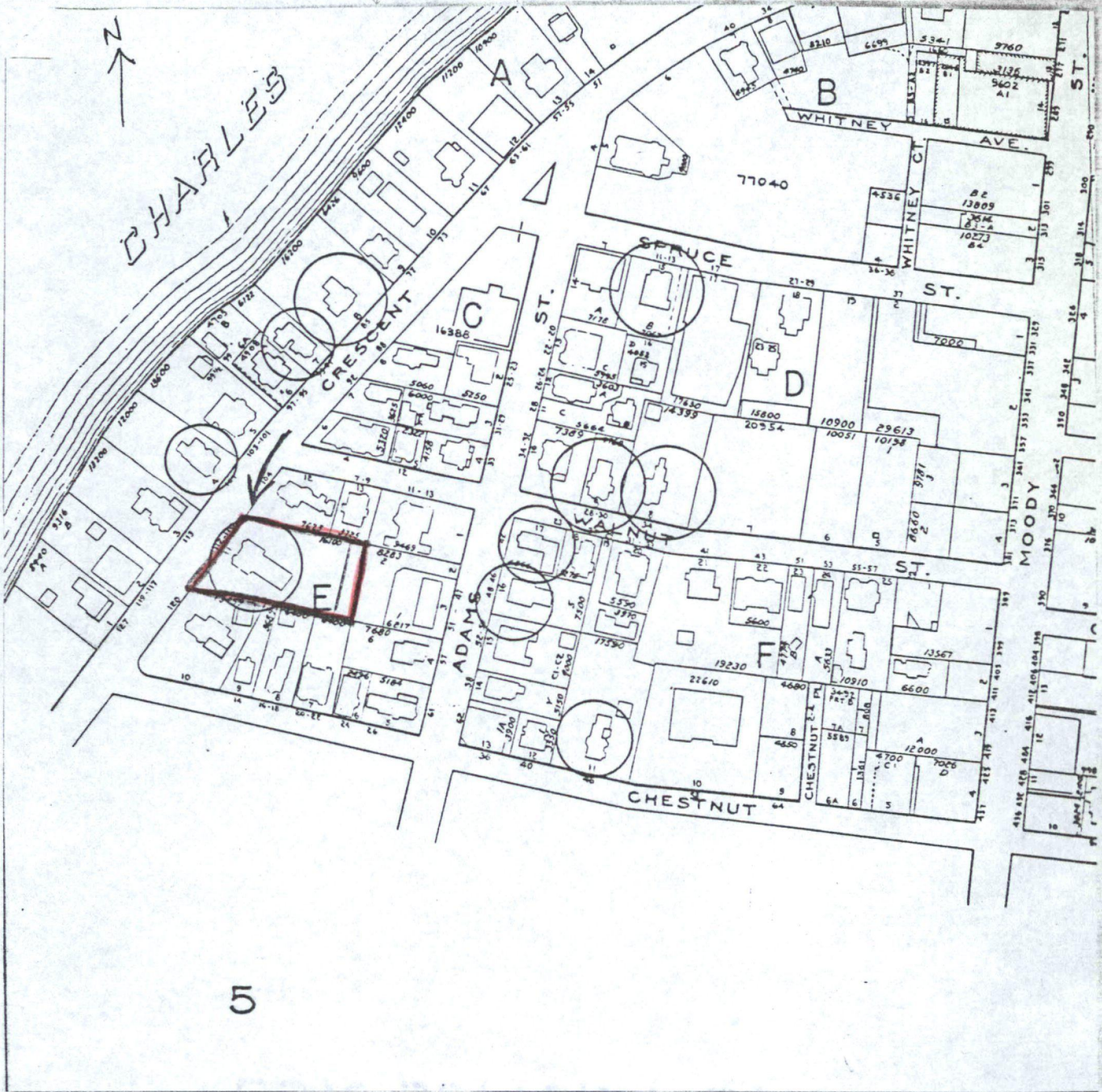
110-112 Crescent St.

Calburn, Gilbert, House

MHC # 29

110-112 Crescent St.

Waltham, Ma MA



5

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

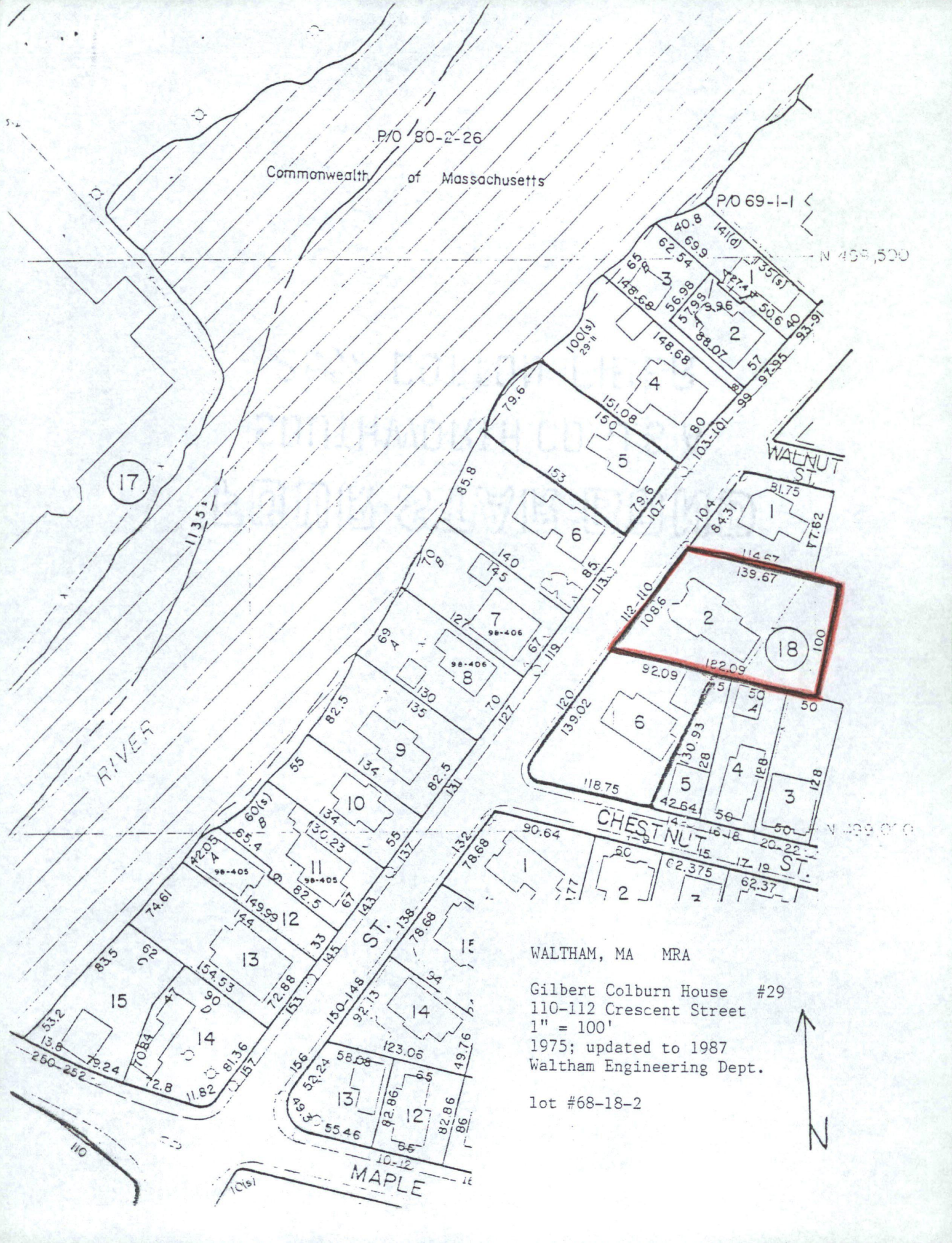
Waltham, Massachusetts MRA  
 110-112 Crescent Street  
 Gilbert Colburn House  
 4-E-11  
 MHC #29

P/O 80-2-26

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

P/O 69-1-1

N 498,500



17

WALNUT ST

18

CHESTNUT ST

N 499,000

ST.

MAPLE

WALTHAM, MA MRA

Gilbert Colburn House #29  
 110-112 Crescent Street  
 1" = 100'  
 1975; updated to 1987  
 Waltham Engineering Dept.

lot #68-18-2



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000301