

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston



4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

- * 1904 - Pantry altered and an extension built on ell for servants quarters.
1927 - Greenhouses built.
1928 - Part of building taken down.
1925 - 1-story addition, 18'X36' (over)
1961 - Ell removed.

M-GREEN

Hill

BKL. 1616

NRDS/MRN

In Area no.	Form no.
M, W	2

1616

Town Brookline

Address 130 Warren Street

Name NA

Present use Residential

Present owner G.P. Jr. & T.S. Gardner

Description:

Date c. 1840

SOME OLD BROOKLINE HOUSES

Source by Nina Fletcher Little

Style Some Gothic Revival influence

Architect Information not available

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Garage and

Outbuildings (describe) greenhouses

Other features U-shaped with appendage

steeply pitched gable roofs, diamond

pane glass; 5 chimneys, clapboard ex

Altered Yes* Date

Moved no Date —

5. Lot size: 220,262 sq. ft.

One acre or less Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 530'

Approximate distance of building from street

175'

6. Recorded by Leslie Larkin-research
Carla Benka-compilation&write-up
Organization BHC

Date May 1982

82\333-10A

7. Original owner (if known) Stephen Higginson Perkins

Original use Single family dwelling

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Highly visible from the street because of the tall chimneys, siting on small hill, and extensive greenhouses, #130 Warren Street was built c. 1840. Over the years it has undergone several alterations, including the addition of an ell in 1904 which was subsequently removed in 1961. The 1925 one story 18'x25' addition remains. Although the somewhat blocky, two story hip roof portion tends to dominate the house, special notice should be given to the steeply pitched intersecting gabled roof, diamond pane windows, gable dormers, and deep eaves. All of these characteristics are attributable to the influence of the Gothic Revival style, yet the entrance to the house, with its fanlight and sidelights, is more classical in orientation. The greenhouses were built in 1927 by Mrs. C.C. Ely.

Like many of the other homes in the "Green Hill" area, this house was built and first occupied by a Boston merchant who was related, either by direct descent or by marriage, to many of the other property owners in the neighborhood. Written documents indicate that this house was built for Stephen Higginson Perkins, son of Samuel G. Perkins and Barbara Higginson Perkins. Samuel was a brother of James and Thomas Handasyd Perkins; the former lived in Jamaica Plain while the latter lived at the corner of Heath and Warren Streets (See 450 Warren Street). Samuel lived at 25 Cottage Street. Stephen Perkins's uncle on his mother's side, Stephen Higginson, owned 215 Warren Street for a short while. Like many of his relatives, Stephen Perkins was a merchant, although he was not involved in the Perkins's firm. He was a partner with Supply Clap Thwing who later worked for Thomas and James Perkins.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Seaburg and Paterson, Merchant Prince of Boston, Harvard Univ. Press, 1971
 Nina Fletcher Little, Some Old Brookline Houses
 Harriet Woods, Historical Sketches of Brookline
 Crawford, Mary Caroline, Famous Families of Massachusetts, Vol. I,
 Little Brown and Co., 1930
 Map-1844, 1855
 Boston Directory-1844, 1852
 Atlases (Brookline)- 1884, 1888, 1893, 1897, 1900, 1907

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Brookline

BKL. 1616
Form No:

82/333-10A

M-2

Property Name: 130 Warren Street

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

(It was Stephen Perkins who wrote in 1846 in a letter to his sister:
"Spring is very early and peas, beans, and country houses are growing
up in Brookline famously. It is getting so horribly fashionable as
to be quite a bore."

Other occupants of the house included Charles Head, a broker in the firm
of Charles Dudley Head and Thomas Handasyd Perkins, Jr. whose offices
were located at 45 State Street. Head was also a selectman in Brookline
from 1870 to 1875. An early 20th century owner was Charles Sprague
Sargent, founder of the Arnold Arboretum and noted horticulturalist.
His niece, Cora Codman Ely, built the greenhouses on the property in
the late 1920's.

This house meets NR criteria A and C, representing the type of estate
which socially and financially elite Boston merchants established
in Brookline during the late 18th and first half of the 19th cent ries
as their "country seats."



Staple to Inventory form at bottom