

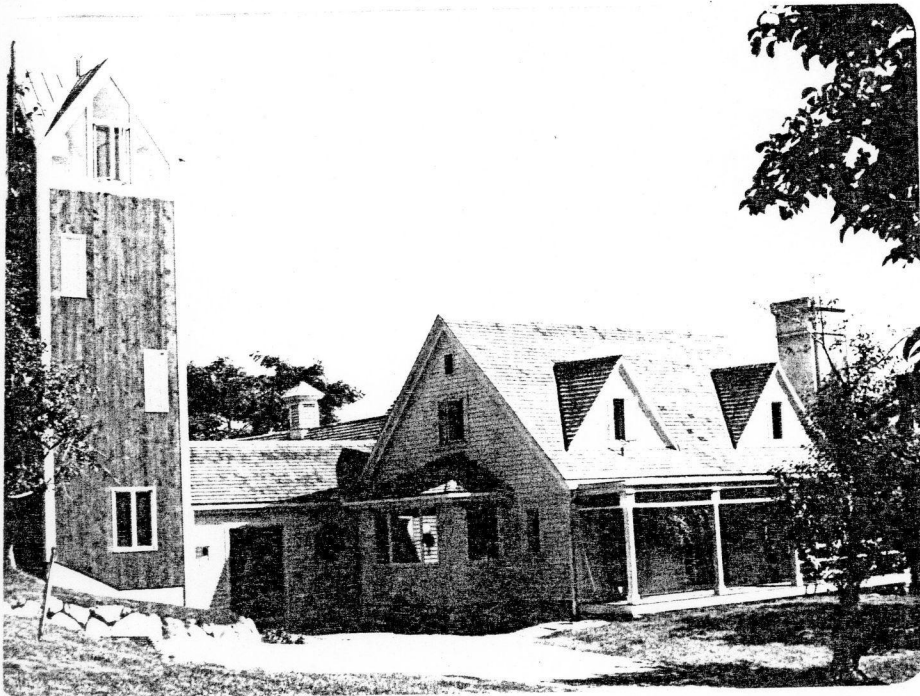
NRIND NRMRA 10/17/1985

FORM B - BUILDINGMASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA

FORM NO.

98/357-4-13

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

See attached map
Key

1. Lawrence House
2. "Long barn" with attached residence, shed
3. Nursery School building/barn
4. John Harris House
5. Tenant's Cottage
6. Sheds and Greenhouses

Recorded by Carla BenkaOrganization Brookline Historical CommissionDate Fall, 1979Town Brookline MRA / Boston (Jamaica Plain)Address 284 (282c) Newton StreetHistoric Name John Harris House and farm(Allandale Farm)Use: Present Residential; commercialfarm; nursery school
Original Residential and private farmDESCRIPTION:Date pre 1788Source Nina Fletcher Little, Some OldStyle Brookline Houses
not applicableArchitect information not availableExterior wall fabric clapboardOutbuildings barns, tenant's cottage
other farm buildingsMajor alterations (with dates) extensive remodelling to Harris house-1976Moved no Date Approx. acreage approximately 105 acres
in Boston and BrooklineSetting House is set back approx. 1/3 mi
from street at end of dirt road

Newton Quadrangle

UTM References: A: 19/323890/4685240
 B: 19/323960/4685730
 C: 19/323170/4686000
 D: 19/323600/4685680

(Staple additional sheets here)

Map #: 52

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

One of a few 18th century houses in Brookline, this structure, originally a simple farmhouse, was extensively remodelled in 1978. Before that date, beaming in the hall and cellar and the old staircase with very wide board treads were visible and indicated 18th century construction.

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

The John Harris House was built on property which belonged to Robert Harris in 1655. According to Nina Fletcher Little, the house was probably built by John Harris before 1788. Harris was a farmer as well as a deputy sheriff.

At one time, the property was owned by Mary and Edward Brandegee whose large mansion still overlooks the house. At the time of Brandegee ownership, the John Harris House was a caretaker's cottage and the entire estate was called Faulkner Farm, named for the Faulkner family who owned land in this area in the early part of the 19th century.

Today the house is part of Allandale farm, the only working farm left in Brookline. The farm's acreage encompasses land in both Brookline and Boston; until 1968, the land was still privately farmed, but after that date it became a commercial enterprise. Although the farmhouse and one of the barns have been dramatically altered, there are still a number of outbuildings, including another barn and numerous sheds as well as a tenant's cottage which remain relatively untouched. Some of the facilities of the property are used by a private nursery school during the academic year. In addition, part of the acreage crosses over into Boston, MA. There is a greenhouse just over the line. Because the house and outbuildings are set so far back from Newton Street and are approached by a narrow dirt road, the rural atmosphere of this 18th century farm has, in large part, been retained.

The John Harris House and farm meet NR criteria A, representing the last working farm of the town whose first economy was based on agricultural activity.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Little, Nina Fletcher, Some Old Brookline Houses
 Building permit-1978
Land Ownership in Brookline

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

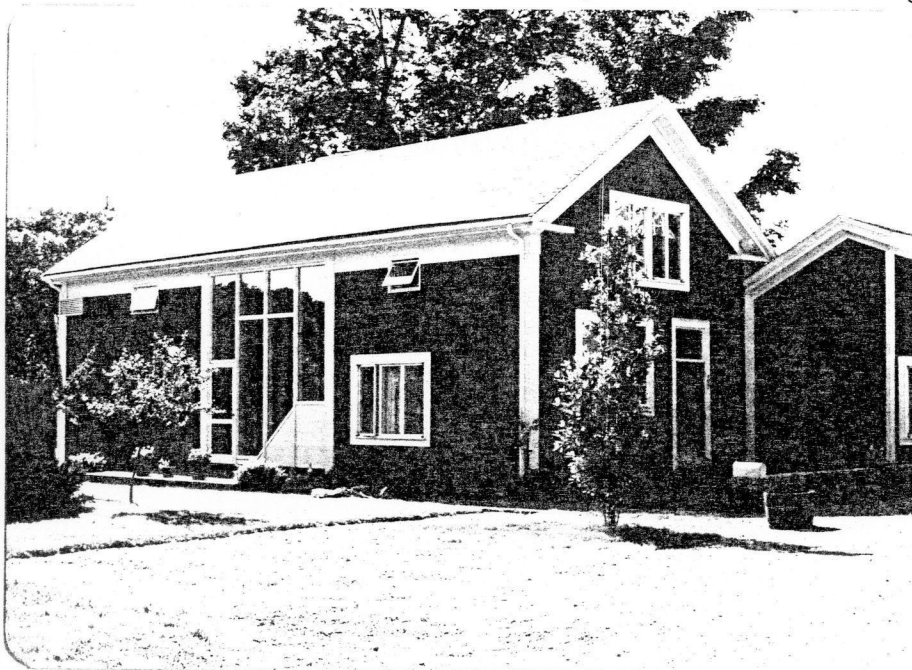
Community:

Brookline

Form No:

98/357-
4-13Property Name: John HARRIS HOUSE
FARM

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



"Long Barn" with attached
residence - # 2 on map



Nursery School Building/barn
#3 on map

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

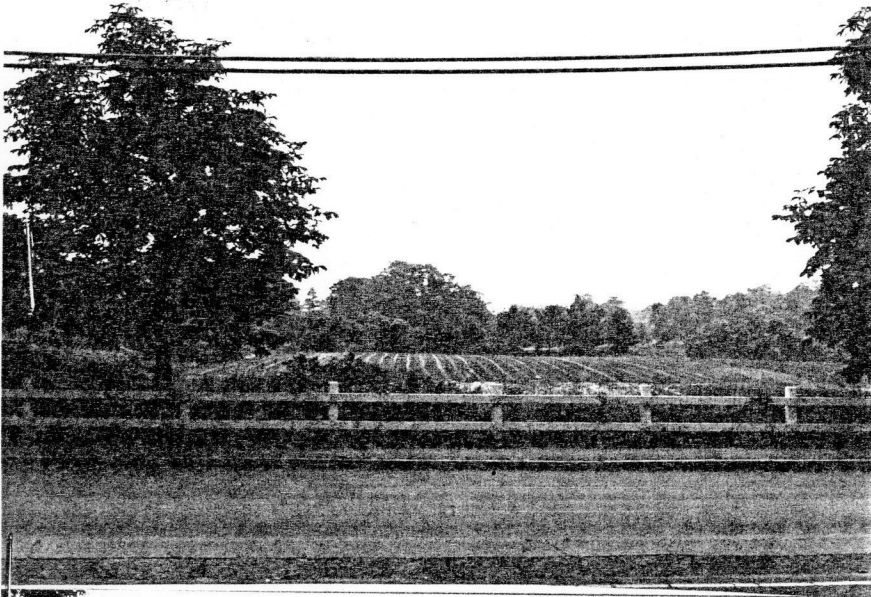
Brookline

Form No:

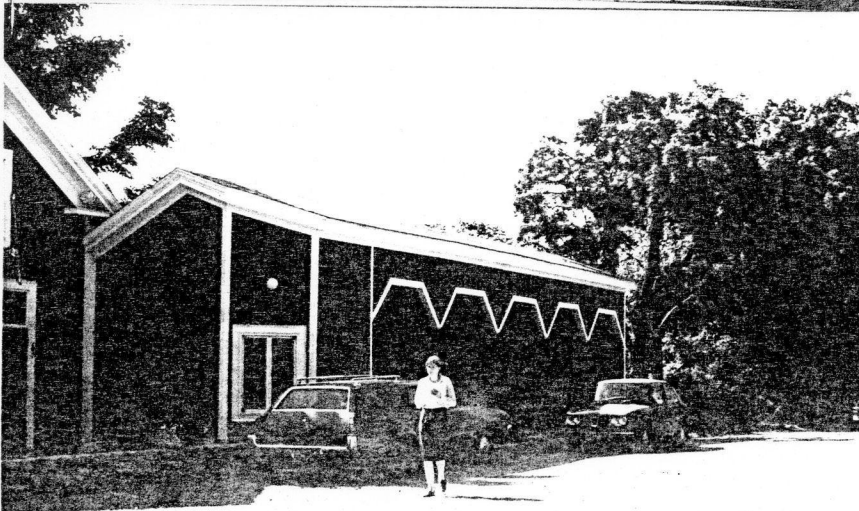
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Property Name: John Harris House and Farm

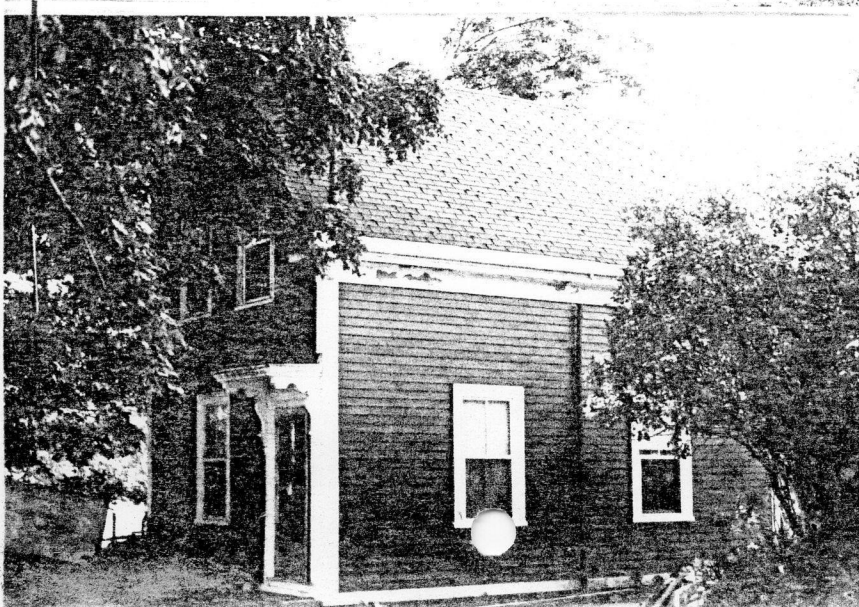
continued below.



Allendale Farm from Newton St.



Allendale Farm - shed
attached to #2 on map



Allendale Farm- Tenant's cottage
#5 on map

rm at bottom

284 Newton St. (48/351-4-13)
John Hamsthouse
Allandale Farm

BOS.MD / BKL.1705

Town of Brookline Map '81
Scale 1/2" = 200ft.
Brookline (Ma)
MRA

