

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	WEL.102
Historic Name:	Wellesley Hills Railroad Station and Post Office
Common Name:	
Address:	404 Washington St
City/Town:	Wellesley
Village/Neighborhood:	Wellesley Hills
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Greek Revival; No style
Use(s):	Post Office; Rail Station; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture; Community Planning; Politics Government; Transportation
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

102

JUL • 78



1. Town Wellesley Hills

Address 404 Washington Street

Name Old Railroad Station

Present use Residence

Present owner Ernest G. & Dorothy C. Sibley

3. Description:

Date 1855

Source Maps, Town Reports, Histories

Style Ridge roof

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings (describe) Tool shed rear left of plot.

Other features Dormer breaks roof left side
Bay widow-2 floors on right side.

House is placed at right angle to street
with porch & entrance on right side

Altered Yes Date 1890s

Moved Yes Date 1884

5. Lot size:

One acre or less X Over one acre

Approximate frontage 78.67 ft.

Approximate distance of building from street
30 feet

6. Recorded by Emily C. Ballou

Organization Wellesley Historical
Commission

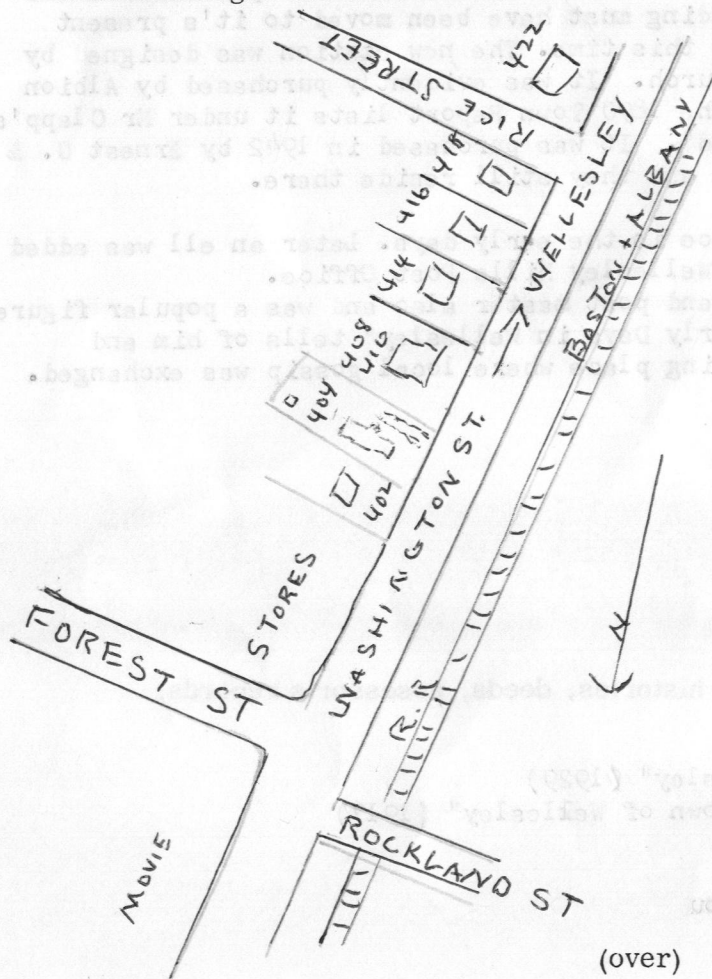
Date June 1978

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in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Boston & Worcester R.R.

Original use Railroad Station & Post Office

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Moved & converted to dwelling c 1884

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/	_____	Science/	_____
The Arts	_____	settlement	_____	invention	_____
Commerce	_____	Industry	_____	Social/	_____
Communication	<u>X</u>	Military	_____	humanitarian	_____
Community development	_____	Political	_____	Transportation	<u>X</u>

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

The date of this house which was once the Grantville and after 1881 the Wellesley Hills Railroad Station & Post Office is well authenticated by maps & Town Reports. It was probably built in 1855 as the map of 1856 shows it at it's location on Washington Street by the tracks. The new stone station which replaced this old one was built c. 1885- so this building must have been moved to it's present location at 404 Washington Street about this time. The new station was designed by H.H. Richardson who designed Trinity Church. It was evidently purchased by Albion Clapp who remade it into a dwelling. The 1890 Town Report lists it under Mr Clapp's name as "dwelling, old depot unfinished". It was purchased in 1942 by Ernest G. & Dorothy C. Sibley from the Clapp estate and they still reside there.

The old station served as the post office in the early days. Later an ell was added on the left end which became the first Wellesley Hills Post Office. Mr Alvin Fuller was the station master and post master also and was a popular figure in town. Gamaliel Bradford in his "Early Days in Wellesley" tells of him and describes the station as the town gathering place where local gossip was exchanged.

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

Gamaliel Bradford- "Early Days in Wellesley" (1929)
 Hon. Joseph E. Fiske- "History of the Town of Wellesley" (1917)
 Town Reports of 1881, 1890, 1921
 Maps of 1856, 1888, 1897.
 Research by Margaret Urann & Emily Ballou

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

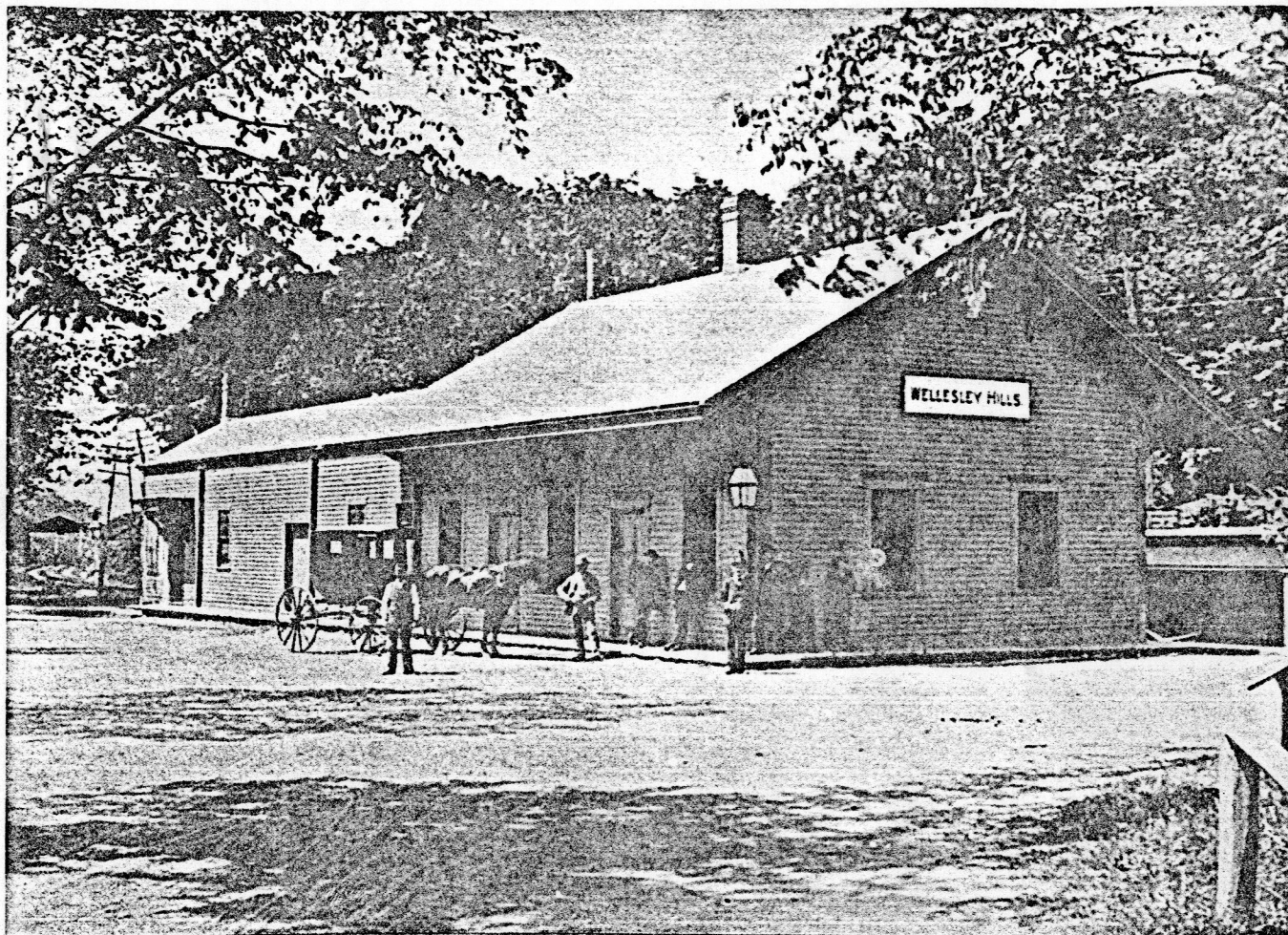
Wellsley

Form No:

102

Property Name: 404 Washington St.

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



Wellesley Hills Railroad Station & Post Office about 1884

Staple to Inventory form at bottom