**1 NAME**

**HISTORIC**

PAUL REVERE HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

Paul Revere House

**2 LOCATION**

**STREET & NUMBER**

19 North Square

**CITY, TOWN**

Boston

**VICINITY OF**

Eighth

**STATE**

Massachusetts

**CODE**

025

**COUNTY**

Suffolk

**CODE**

025

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>OWNERSHIP</th>
<th>STATUS</th>
<th>PRESENT USE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DISTRICT</td>
<td>PUBLIC</td>
<td>X OCCUPIED</td>
<td>MUSEUM</td>
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<tr>
<td>BUILDING(S)</td>
<td>PRIVATE</td>
<td><em>UNOCCUPIED</em></td>
<td><em>COMMERCIAL</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>STRUCTURE</td>
<td>BOTH</td>
<td><em>WORK IN PROGRESS</em></td>
<td><em>EDUCATIONAL</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SITE</td>
<td>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</td>
<td>ACCESSIBLE</td>
<td><em>ENTERTAINMENT</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>OBJECT</td>
<td>IN PROCESS</td>
<td><em>YES RESTRICTED</em></td>
<td><em>RELIGIOUS</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td>BEING CONSIDERED</td>
<td><em>YES UNRESTRICTED</em></td>
<td><em>GOVERNMENT</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td><em>NO</em></td>
<td><em>SCIENTIFIC</em></td>
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<td><em>MILITARY</em></td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>OTHER</em></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

**NAME**

Paul Revere Memorial Association

**STREET & NUMBER**

19 North Square

**CITY, TOWN**

Boston

**VICINITY OF**

STATE

Massachusetts

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

**COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC**

Suffolk Registry of Deeds

**STREET & NUMBER**

Suffolk County Court House, Somerset Street

**CITY, TOWN**

Boston

**STATE**

Massachusetts

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

**TITLE**

Historic American Buildings Survey

**DATE**

1941

**FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL**

**DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS**

Library of Congress/ Division of Prints and Photographs

**CITY, TOWN**

Washington

**STATE**

D.C.
The Paul Revere House stands on the western side of North Square (numbered at 19) in Boston, Massachusetts. The small lot on which it was constructed is now part of a larger, irregularly shaped parcel containing the Revere House to the northeast, the Moses Pierce-Hichborn House (also a national historic landmark) to the south, and landscaped grounds between and to the rear (west) of the buildings. The Paul Revere Memorial Association owns both houses (as of 1970) and operates them as a unit.

The oldest portion of the Revere House was constructed shortly after the Boston fire of 1676, probably c. 1680. The two-and-a-half story frame house featured a steeply-pitched gabled roof, second story overhang with corner pendants, and leaded casement windows. The deeply recessed fireplace at the northern end of the hall has a bake oven, indicating that the house followed the typical 17th century one-room plan. A small entrance porch and winding stair are located in front of the chimney. Two summer beams span the large hall. The two-story frame kitchen ell, set at an angle to the main house to fit the irregular lot, is probably an early addition since it also carries a bold overhang at the second story level. When Paul Revere moved into the house in 1770, the structure had already been raised to a full three stories.

By the late 19th century, the Revere House had deteriorated into a tenement and store and was considerably altered. In 1907 the Paul Revere Memorial Association purchased the house for the purpose of preserving it and, in 1907-08, the structure was extensively restored and reconstructed under the direction of Joseph Everett Chandler. The structural skeleton of the house is original, but all exterior surfaces, including pendants, quarreled windows with shutters, front door, and roof shingles, and all interior treatment are reconstructions. The later third story has been removed. The front (east) elevation of the five-bay house retains its overhang supported by the three main crosswise timbers—the chimney girt and two summers. Wall studs are covered by "parallel" rather than feather-edged clapboards, beaded at the lower corners.

Both the structural and stylistic elements of the Revere House appear to be in excellent condition. The first floor has been restored to 17th century style, but the second story bedroom is fully plastered, cased, paneled, and painted as it might have been during Revere's residence there. A few small Revere items have been returned to the house, largely in the kitchen, but the majority of the furnishings are "of the period". The kitchen chamber contains a display of Revere's copperplate engravings, five drawn from the original plates, the remainder reproductions.
The original portion of the Paul Revere House was probably built by John Jeffs, a mariner, soon after the Boston fire of 1676. The small, irregularly shaped lot on which it was erected had been the site of the parsonage occupied by Increase Mather as minister of Boston's Old North Meeting House. Architectural investigation indicates that the house was initially of the simple, one-room type.

By the time Paul Revere moved into the house in 1770, a kitchen ell had been added and the structure had been raised from two to three full stories. It was probably through the rear door in the kitchen ell that Revere departed on the night of April 18, 1775, to warn the towns of Middlesex County that the British forces stationed in Boston were about to begin their march to Concord. The front door would not have been safe since Redcoats were assembling in North Square, then only one block from the waterfront, and no civilians were allowed to enter or leave the area.

Revere and his family left the North Square home in 1800. By the end of the 19th century it had deteriorated into a tenement and store and was considerably altered. When the building was condemned as unsafe in 1907, the Paul Revere Memorial Association was immediately formed to acquire and preserve it. The following year Boston Architect Joseph Everett Chandler supervised an extensive restoration of the house. Since that time the Paul Revere Memorial Association had maintained the house in excellent condition and opened it to the public on a regular basis.
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

See continuation sheet

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

Zone Easting Northing Zone Easting Northing
A 19 3 0 8 3 0 4 6 9 1 9 8 0
B
C

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

See continuation sheet

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE CODE COUNTY CODE

FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Polly M. Rettig, Historian, Landmark Review Project
Original forms prepared by C.E. Shedd, Jr. (8/1/60) and Charles W. Snell (11/30/67).

ORGANIZATION DATE
Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service 12/8/75

STREET & NUMBER TELEPHONE
1100 L Street, N.W. 202-523-5464

CITY OR TOWN STATE
Washington D.C.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS

NATIONAL ___ STATE ___ LOCAL ___

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVE SIGNATURE

TITLE N/A National Historic Landmark

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

(NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARKS)
Paul Revere House, Boston, Massachusetts

Bibliography


Handbook of the Paul Revere Memorial Association (Boston, 1954).


The boundaries of the national historic landmark designation for the Paul Revere House, Boston, Massachusetts, include both that building, located at 19 North Square, and the adjacent Moses Pierce-Hichborn House, at 29 North Square. The latter building is a national historic landmark in its own right and, like the Revere House, is owned by the Paul Revere Memorial Association. Specific boundary lines, including the two landmark buildings on some 6,841 square feet of land, are shown in red on the accompanying sketch map, a photocopy of a plan prepared for the "Final Report of the Boston National Historic Sites Commission to the Congress of the United States", dated June, 1960.
PAUL REVERE HOUSE
Boston, Massachusetts

National Historic Landmark Boundary

SEAMEN'S HOME

CITY OF BOSTON

UNIT I

UNIT II

UNIT III

A - Moses-Pierce-Hichborn House
B - Paul Revere House

Graphic Scale

map source:
Date 9/22/67
Locality
Boston, Mass.

By
Charles W. Snell

Subject
Paul Revere House, 1676 East (front) eLevations and south end

Negative No. 4616
Paul Revere House, 1676 South end (center) and part of south side of rear wing.

Date 9/22/67
Locality Boston, Mass.

Subject (to left) and part of south side of rear wing.

By Charles W. Shull

Negative No. 4619
Subject  Paul Revere House, 1676  East (front) elevation

Date  9/22/67  Locality  Boston, Massachusetts  By  Charles W. Snell
Subject  Paul Revere House, 1676  East (Front) elevation and south end

Date  9/22/67  Locality  Boston, Mass.  By  Charles W. Snell
Subject: Paul Revere House, 1676 South side (center) and west end (left)

Date 9/22/67 Locality: Boston, Massachusetts By: Charles W. Snell
1 NAME
HISTORIC PAUL REVERE HOUSE
AND/OR COMMON Paul Revere House

2 LOCATION
CITY, TOWN Boston
VICINITY OF
STATE Massachusetts
COUNTY Suffolk

3 PHOTO REFERENCE
PHOTO CREDIT Polly M. Rettig, Landmark Review Project
DATE OF PHOTO July, 1975
NEGATIVE FILED AT Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service, 1100 L Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

4 IDENTIFICATION
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
PHOTO NO.
East (front) and south elevations
## 1 NAME

**HISTORIC**  
PAUL REVERE HOUSE

**AND/OR COMMON**  
Paul Revere House

## 2 LOCATION

**CITY, TOWN**  
Boston

**VICINITY OF**

**STATE**  
Massachusetts

**COUNTY**  
Suffolk

## 3 PHOTO REFERENCE

**PHOTO CREDIT**  
Polly M. Rettig, Landmark Review Project

**DATE OF PHOTO**  
July, 1975

**NEGATIVE FILED AT**  
Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service, 1100 L Street, NW

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**

## 4 IDENTIFICATION

**DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET**  
West (rear) and south elevations

**PHOTO NO.**  
2