

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED FEB 28 1975

DATE ENTERED MAR 18 1975

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORMSEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

## 1 NAME

HISTORIC Francis Wyman House

AND/OR COMMON Wyman Homestead

## 2 LOCATION

STREET &amp; NUMBER Francis Wyman Road

CITY, TOWN Burlington

STATE Massachusetts

VICINITY OF  
CODE 025

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY Middlesex

CODE 017

## 3 CLASSIFICATION

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE  
☐ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☒ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER:

## 4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Francis Wyman Association

STREET &amp; NUMBER c/o Rev. Ralph Tucker, 928 Main Street

CITY, TOWN West Newbury

VICINITY OF

STATE Massachusetts 01985

## 5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. County Courthouse

STREET &amp; NUMBER Third Street

CITY, TOWN Cambridge

STATE Massachusetts

## 6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth (also HABS, 1935-37)

DATE 1967

☒ FEDERAL ☒ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS Mass. Historical Commission (Library of Congress)

CITY, TOWN Boston

STATE Massachusetts

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

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### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

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The Wyman Homestead sits atop a small knoll on the west side of Francis Wyman Road, a short distance northwest of the center of Burlington, Massachusetts. The first quarter 18th century building faces south and utilizes the cellar foundation and chimney structure of the former mid-17th century Francis Wyman farmhouse. The land to the north, south and east of the Wyman Homestead is occupied by a slightly crowded twentieth century urban development. The view to the west, however, presents a picture of the mid-17th century, when the Wyman farm consisted of 500 acres purchased from Henry Dunster, president of Harvard College.

The Wyman Homestead is a four over four dwelling with central chimney and pitch roof. The exterior walls are covered with clapboards with cornerboards. The fieldstone foundation extends under slightly more than half of the building and together with the chimney foundation appear to have been built during the 17th century. The roof framing is of the common rafter and purlin variety with ridge pole. Primary structural components are made of pine with the exception of studs, braces and posts.

It appears that the Wyman Homestead was built around 1730 and is an unquestionably fine example of a transition period house. The floor plan is definitely mid-18th century; however, the structure and interior trim relate more closely to the type of construction which characterizes the typical first period, single room wide structure. Each of the eight rooms of the Wyman Homestead is framed in the late first period fashion with posts at each corner and summer beams joined perpendicularly to the chimney girts with rising braces at the second floor level.

Major structural components are exposed on the second floor and retain the characteristic 18th century half round bead, whereas the exposed portion of the frame on the first floor is more elaborately enclosed in a beaded casing.

Most of the interior walls are covered with early bevel and bead molded edge sheathing complimented by large reverse curve molding at the ceiling junction. Located at the front of the chimney is a fine 18th century staircase with original newel post and molded edge rail. Other interior features include early two-panel doors, many retaining their original hardware, and a fine example of an original nine-panel front door.

The two most interesting interior features of the Wyman Homestead are the original puncheon stairway which leads to the cellar and an unfinished room in the northwest corner of the second floor. The puncheon stairs are unique in that they are one of the few intact surviving examples of this primitive construction technique. (Each stair is sawed diagonally from a rectangular block of oak and connected to the stringers with large wooden pegs.) The second floor northwest room is literally untouched in appearance with exposed wall framing which provides an excellent example of early 18th century construction.



## 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

### STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Wyman Homestead stands on a small portion of the 500 acres of land originally purchased by Francis Wyman in 1655 from Henry Dunster, first president of Harvard College. The early 18th century building utilizes the chimney structure and foundation that was once incorporated in the original 1666 farmhouse built by Francis Wyman. The present house was built by a third generation Wyman. The house is architecturally significant because it clearly displays the transition in construction between the first period style, (before 1720), and that style common to mid-18th century buildings.

Many interior features also display the trend in style which placed great emphasis on the joiners trade and a decrease in importance on the carpenter or housewright's trade. The Wyman Homestead depicts that stage in the history of building construction when the heavy First Period frame became diminished in size and eventually was hidden by plaster ceilings and elaborate raised panelled sheathing.

The existence of a partially exposed frame, simple beaded trim and considerable feathered edge sheathing in combination with elaborate reverse curve moldings make this building an interesting example of transition features. This, together with a completely untouched and unfinished room, and elegant 18th century staircase with newel post and molded edge rail and a primitive puncheon stairway add another degree of importance to this dwelling.

Historically, the Wyman Homestead is significant because it stands as one of the few reminders of the first settlers in the Woburn-Billerica area. The Wymans not only played an important role in the settlement period of Billerica, but were significantly involved in the early stages of the Revolutionary War as evidenced by the fact that Samuel Adams and John Hancock took refuge in the John Wyman House while fleeing from the British prior to the battle of Concord.

Another interesting feature which adds to the historical significance of the Wyman Homestead is that this building was used as a garrison prior to 1740 because of Indian attacks in the area.

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Hazen, History of Billerica, Boston, MA

Dow, George Francis (S.P.N.E.A.), talk given to Francis Wyman Assoc. in October 1923

Middlesex Registry of Deeds, Book 3, page 149, 139

Woburn Town Records, 1:56, 1:50

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY slightly more than 1 acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 19 317210 47109519

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

C                                    

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

B                                    

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

D                                    

ZONE EASTING NORTHING

HR/UTM OK

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Christine Boulding, Assistant Survey Director, by Frank Demers

ORGANIZATION

Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE

February 1975

STREET & NUMBER

40 Beacon Street

TELEPHONE

617-727-8470

CITY OR TOWN

Boston

STATE

Massachusetts 02108

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL   

STATE   

LOCAL X

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

Elizabeth R. Amador

2/26/75

TITLE Mass. State Historic Preservation Officer

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

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

AR Montezuma

DATE

3/13/75

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

DATE

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

Wm. Montezuma

3/12/75



Property Wyman, Francis, House

Middlesex

State Mass.

Working Number 2.28.75.309

**TECHNICAL**

Photos 2  
Maps 2

**CONTROL**

OK pl  
3.3.75

**HISTORIAN**

Accept  
Thorman  
3-6-75

**ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN**

RESTORATION 1901-2  
UNKNOWN IF NOW ASSOCIATED IN RESTORATION

ACCEPT  
LEBOVICH  
3-3-75

**ARCHEOLOGIST**

**OTHER**

**HAER**

Inventory \_\_\_\_\_  
Review \_\_\_\_\_

**REVIEW UNIT CHIEF**

Accept  
Cole  
3/1/75

**BRANCH CHIEF**

accept  
Run  
3.12.75

**KEEPER**

WKA  
3/12/75

National Register Write-up \_\_\_\_\_

Send-back \_\_\_\_\_

Entered MAR 18 1975

Federal Register Entry \_\_\_\_\_

5-6-75

Re-submit \_\_\_\_\_

INT:2106-74





FORM 10-301 A  
(6/72)

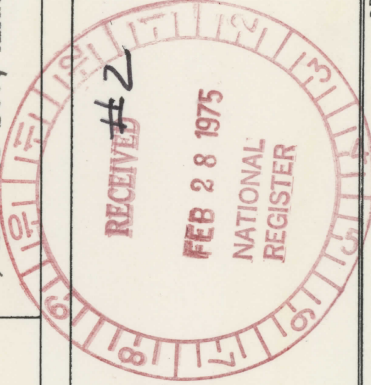
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME		NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS)
COMMON	AND/OR HISTORIC	
Wyman Homestead	Francis Wyman House	
2. LOCATION		
STATE	COUNTY	TOWN
Massachusetts	Middlesex	Burlington
STREET AND NUMBER		

3. PHOTO REFERENCE		NEGATIVE FILED AT
PHOTO CREDIT	DATE	
A.A. Cerullo	January 1975	9 Andover St., Andover, MA
4. IDENTIFICATION		
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC.		

interior, room in north west corner, second floor



#1022

GPO 932-009

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

CERULLO

1/11/75 FRANCIS WYMAN HOUSE AA CERULLO







111175 FRANCIS WYMAN HOUSE AA CERULLO

FORM 10-301 A  
(6/72)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE  
**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES**  
**PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

1. NAME COMMON Wyman Homestead	AND/OR HISTORIC Francis Wyman House	NUMERIC CODE (Assigned by NPS) MAR 13 1975
2. LOCATION STATE Massachusetts	COUNTY Middlesex	TOWN Burlington
STREET AND NUMBER		

3. PHOTO REFERENCE PHOTO CREDIT A.A. Cerullo	DATE January 1975	NEGATIVE FILED AT 9 Andover St. Andover, MA
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4. IDENTIFICATION DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. south facade	#1
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#202

GPO 932-009

CERULLO

PROPERTY OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- ENCLOSE WITH MAP

### 1 NAME

HISTORIC

Francis Wyman House

AND/OR COMMON

Wyman Homestead

### 2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN

Burlington

— VICINITY OF

COUNTY Middlesex

STATE MA

### 3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE

sketch map

SCALE

not to scale

DATE

January 1975

### 4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES



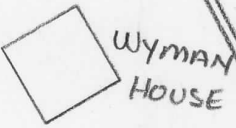
BILLERICA

TOWN LINE

BURLINGTON



500 ft ±



WYMAN  
HOUSE

100 ft ±

FRANCIS WYMAN Rd. (RTE 62)

FRANCIS WYMAN  
HOMESTEAD

CENTER OF  
BURLINGTON



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

## NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

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### 1 NAME

HISTORIC Francis Wyman House

AND/OR COMMON

Wyman Homestead

### 2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Burlington

\_\_\_\_ VICINITY OF

COUNTY Middlesex

STATE MA

### 3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE United States Geological Survey

SCALE 1:24,000

DATE 1965

### 4 REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. PROPERTY BOUNDARIES
2. NORTH ARROW
3. UTM REFERENCES









*The Commonwealth of Massachusetts*  
*Office of the Secretary*

*Massachusetts Historical Commission*

Paul Guzzi

*Secretary of the Commonwealth*

*40 Beacon Street Boston, Massachusetts 02108*

*727-8470*

February 26, 1975

Mr. Charles Herrington, Chief  
Registration  
National Register of Historic Places  
National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
18th and C Streets, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20240

CERTIFIED MAIL  
APPORTIONMENT WARRANT  
NOMINATION

Dear Charles:

Enclosed please find three National Register submissions for the following properties:

1. Burlington, Francis Wyman House, Middlesex County
2. Gloucester, Oak Grove Cemetery, Essex County
3. Newburyport, Brown Square House, Essex County

These properties have been declared eligible for submission by the Massachusetts Historical Commission (the State Review Board), and have been signed by Elizabeth R. Amadon, Massachusetts State Historic Preservation Officer.

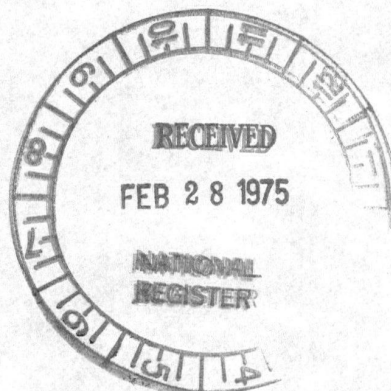
Please note that the properties covered by these submissions expect to apply for FY '76 funding. If you have any questions or need more information please let us know.

Sincerely,

*Patricia L. Weslowski*

Patricia L. Weslowski  
Survey Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

PLW:CB:nb  
Encl.





ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE **MASSACHUSETTS**

Date Entered **MAR 18 1975**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>G.A.R. Hall</b>	<b>Worcester Worcester County</b>
<b>Wyman, Francis, House</b>	<b>Burlington Middlesex County</b>

Also Notified

**Hon. Edward M. Kennedy  
Hon. Edward W. Brooke  
Hon. Joseph D. Early  
Hon. Torbert H. MacDonald**  
**Regional Director, North Atlantic  
Region**

**State Historic Preservation Officer  
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Ansdon  
Executive Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
40 Beacon Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02108**

**PR MMott 3/14/75**

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 3/23/77  
Reviewer INITIALS: gaff  
NR DOE Mar 13, 1975

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Wyman, Francis, House

OTHER NAMES: Wyman Homestead - rec.

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER Francis Wyman Road

CITY, TOWN Burlington

STATE Massachusetts

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

COUNTY Middlesex code 017

OWNER OF PROPERTY: (Circle)

PRIVATE STATE LOCAL GOV'T MUNICIPAL COUNTY OTHER

ADMINISTRATOR (underline)

FEDERAL (AGENCY NAME):

NPS REGION: (CIRCLE) N. ATLANTIC MID ATLANTIC SOUTHEAST MIDWEST

SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN WEST PACIFIC NORTHWEST

FEATURES:

INTERIOR  
Substantially intact-1  
unknown - 4  
not applicable - 7

EXTERIOR  
Substantially intact-2  
unknown - 5  
not applicable - 8

ENVIRONS  
Substantially intact-3  
unknown - 6  
Not applicable-9

Interior, exterior, environs not intact-0

CONDITION - EXCELLENT  
GOOD  
FAIR

DETERIORATED  
RUINS  
UNEXPOSED  
Unexcavated

UNALTERED  
ALTERED  
Reconstructed  
Excavated

ORIGINAL SITE  
MOVED  
Unknown

ACCESS - Yes-restricted Yes-unrestricted No access Unknown

historic district? YES NO

WITHIN NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT? YES NO  
IF YES, NAME:

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO  
IF YES, NAME:

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)

then- private residence

now- museum

SIGNIFICANCE:

ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC  
ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC  
AGRICULTURE  
ART  
COMMERCE  
COMMUNICATIONS

CONSERVATION  
ECONOMICS  
EDUCATION  
ENGINEERING  
EXPLORATION  
INDUSTRY  
INVENTION

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE  
LAW/Gov't/politics  
LITERATURE  
MILITARY  
MUSIC  
PHILOSOPHY  
POLITICS/GOVERNMENT

RELIGION  
SCIENCE  
SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN  
TRANSPORTATION  
OTHER (SPECIFY)

entertainment  
health  
recreation  
settlement  
socio/cultural  
urban & commun  
planning

Claims

"first" YES NO

"oldest" YES NO

"only" YES NO



ARCHITECTURAL STYLE: colonial

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role

&

appropriate date)

personal

events

Francis Wyman - early area settler -  
involved in Rev. war struggles

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): c. 1730

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS:

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S):

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE: (to nearest tenth of an acre)

slightly more than 1

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

FRAME, CLAPBOARDING, FIELDSTONE  
FOUNDATION; 2 1/2 STORIES, RECTANGULAR, GABLED ROOF, <sup>central</sup> CENTER  
CHIMNEY; FRONT CENTER AND SIDE ENTRANCES, EACH WITH <sup>wide</sup> ARCHIT-  
TRAVE; INTERIOR FEATURES ~~PRIMITIVE WOODWORK AND RARE PUNCHED~~  
<sup>BUILT ON FOUNDATIONS OF 1666 HOUSE.</sup>  
CELLAR STAIRS; ~~CONCRETE~~ <sup>CLASSIC</sup> EXAMPLE OF TRANSITIONAL CONSTRUCTION  
TECHNIQUES, WITH ~~SOME EXPOSED FRAMING~~; ~~CLASSIC EXAMPLE OF~~

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences)

~~MID-18TH C. COLONIAL STYLE.~~

EXHIBITING BOTH PRIMITIVE EXPOSED FRAMING AND REFINED.

INTERIOR WOODWORK. Museum.

HABS, C.