

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SBR.349
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Walla, Peter House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	18 Meadow Ln
<b>City/Town:</b>	Southborough
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	56-3
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Colonial Revival; Four-square
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Vinyl Siding; Wood Foundation: Stone, Uncut; Poured Concrete



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

56-3 Marlboro 349 350

Town SOUTHBOROUGH

Place (neighborhood or village)



18 Meadow Lane

Name Peter Walla House

Present residential - single family

Original residential

Construction 1925-1926

Assessor's Records/Deeds

Form Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder unknown

Foundation Material:

Foundation poured stone/concrete

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures shingled barn (MHC #350) on stone foundation with one-car garage attached to side of barn. Vertical board shed behind house. Small shingled shed low with two doors such as chicken coop.

Major Alterations (with dates) two-story hipped roof side addition on poured concrete foundation - late 20<sup>th</sup> c. Vinyl siding and vinyl shutters.

Condition fair (siding) / good

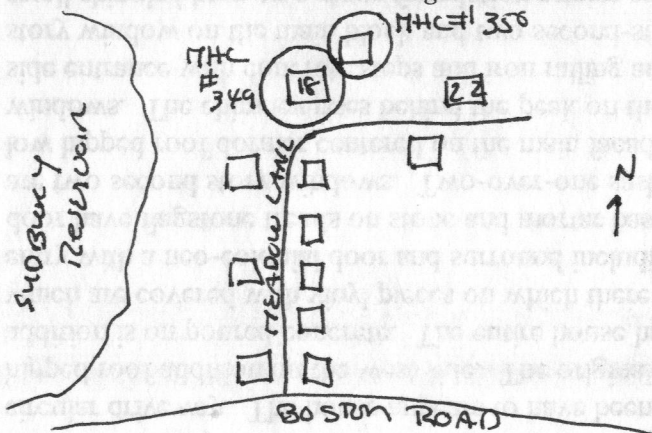
Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 3.13 acres

Setting Dead end road off main route - Boston St. which is Rt. 30 - high above Boston St. near private runway, next to one historic house and among mid 20<sup>th</sup> c. modest caps and ranch style houses. Open lot and meadow on west side and behind house.

## Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.



Recorded by Schuler/Forbes

Organization Southborough Historical Commission

Date (month / year) 5/00

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JUL 03 2000



## BUILDING FORM

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

☐ see continuation sheet*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The two-story hipped roof Colonial Revival is at the bend of the dead end street, Meadow Lane, on what appears to be a double lot with a large meadow behind and on the west (left) side of the house. Tall mature pines form a natural boundary around the meadow and several mature trees are situated on the east side where there is a small circular driveway. The house appears to have been built as a Four Square and now has a sizable two-story hipped roof addition on the west side. The original house rests on a stone and mortar foundation while the addition is on poured concrete. The entire house has been covered with vinyl siding including the corner posts which are covered with vinyl pieces on which there is some fluting. The main three-bay facade has a sidehall entry with a neo-colonial door and surround including fluted pilasters and dentil molding. The four steps to the door have flagstone treads on stone and mortar bases. Two windows are next to the side hall entrance and there are two second story windows. Two-over-one sash are set in covered frames with vinyl shutters. There is one low hipped roof dormer centered on the main facade roof slope in which there are two small one-over-one windows. The chimney rises behind the peak on the rear roof slope. On the east side is a one-story hipped roof side entrance with concrete steps and iron railing and a multi-light door. On this same side there is only one first-story window on the main block and two second-story windows near the rear over the side entrance ell. The small shingled barn on a stone foundation retains some of the character of the turn of the century construction.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

☒ see continuation sheet*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Meadow Lane, first referred to a "A" Street and also "Pleasant Road" was laid out in 1898 over land owned by **Oren P. Walker** of Marlborough and **Charles F. Choate, Jr.** of Southborough and was accepted by the town in 1899. At first it looped to have two road cuts onto Boston Road (Rt. 30). However, in 1909 that part that was east of the present street was discontinued from Boston Road at the house of Silas G. Allen (no longer extant) traveling north and then west to the house of **Frank Goodfellow**, which probably referred to 22 Meadow Lane. As stated above the land of Meadow Lane had belonged to Walker and Choate who had lots laid out also on the 1898 plan. A 1925 deed showed the granting of two lots on the Walker and Choate plan to Peter Walla of Framingham. The lots were described as "two parcels on a new Town way", one having been conveyed in 1918 by **Fred Small** (Lot #5), the other Lot #6 on the plan with rights to the well on Lot #8. The two lots, although conveyed in separate deeds were owned by the same person from the time that they were conveyed by Walker and Choate to Napoleon Cordeau of Worcester County, then to Olive St. James of Dorchester in 1905, and to **Norma and Florence Curry** in 1910. The earlier conveyances described a house and barn on lot #6 and land only for Lot #5 until the 1918 and 1925 conveyances when there was land only. This situation is explained in an unpublished paper of stories about Fayville that tells of Fred Small coming to Fayville in 1910 in response to an advertisement in a paper by a Mrs. Mary Curry who had a convalescent home and farm on A Street. He is reported to have made his way to the farm, within a few short weeks married "Mrs. Curry", transferred the property to his name, and took out an insurance policy for \$10,000 which he collected following a fire between 1913 and 1915. This story accounts for the two lots of land only reflected in the 1915 assessment of Frederick Small of Mountain View New Hampshire for a 3-acre 97 rod parcel of land only - the combination of Lots #5 and 6. The same unpublished account goes on to report that Small and his wife (presumably Mrs. Curry) moved to Mountainview, New Hampshire. In 1916 the wife died in a fire planned by Small who was convicted of murder in 1918 and hung soon thereafter. Thus in January of 1918 the two lots of land only were conveyed by Small to William Matthews and Sidney Stevens also of New Hampshire, who also in the early 1920s were

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town  
SOUTHBOROUGH

Property Address  
18 MEADOW LANE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

349 350

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (Continued)

assessed for a 3-acre 26,409 square foot parcel. **Peter Walla** acquired the property in 1925 and by 1927 he, a 44-year old laborer on A Street, was assessed for a 3 acre, 26,409 square foot parcel with a house and shed.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

☐ see continuation sheet

Assessors Reports: 1909, 1913, 1915, 1921, 1924, 1927.

Directories: 1900, 1903, 1913

Noble, Richard. Fences of Stone, 1990.

Worcester County Registry of Deeds: Book 2369, Page 3; Book 1940, Page 297, Book 1817, Page 165.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

