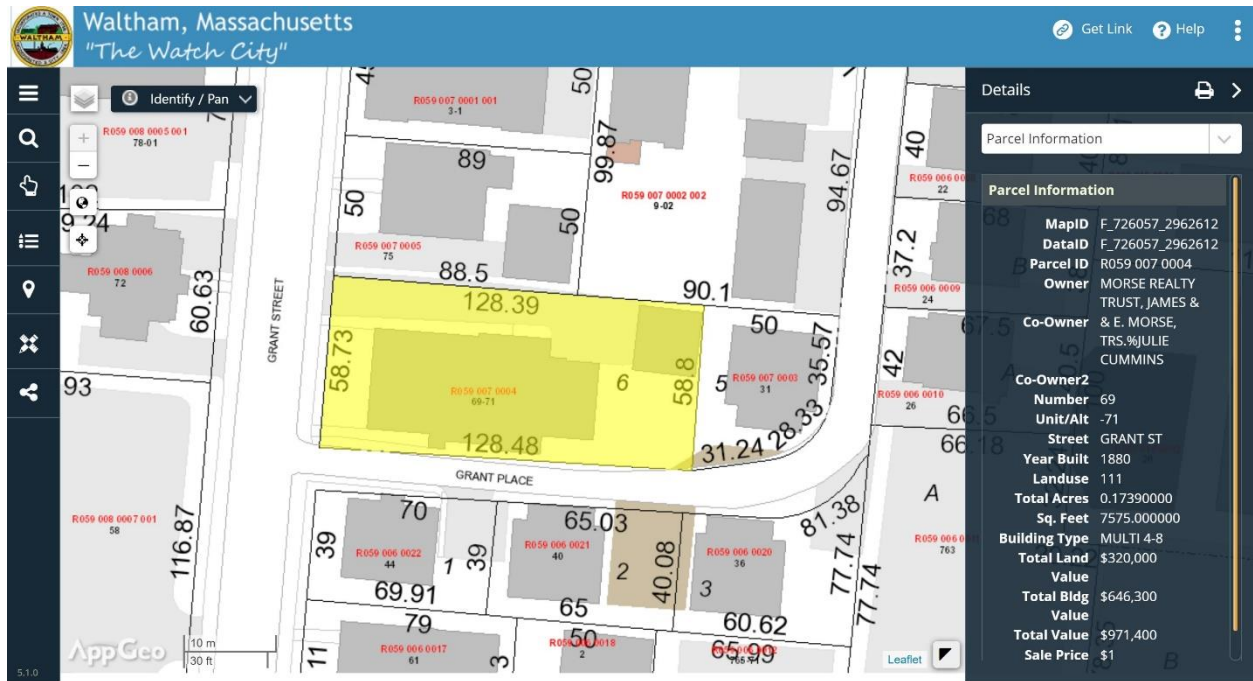
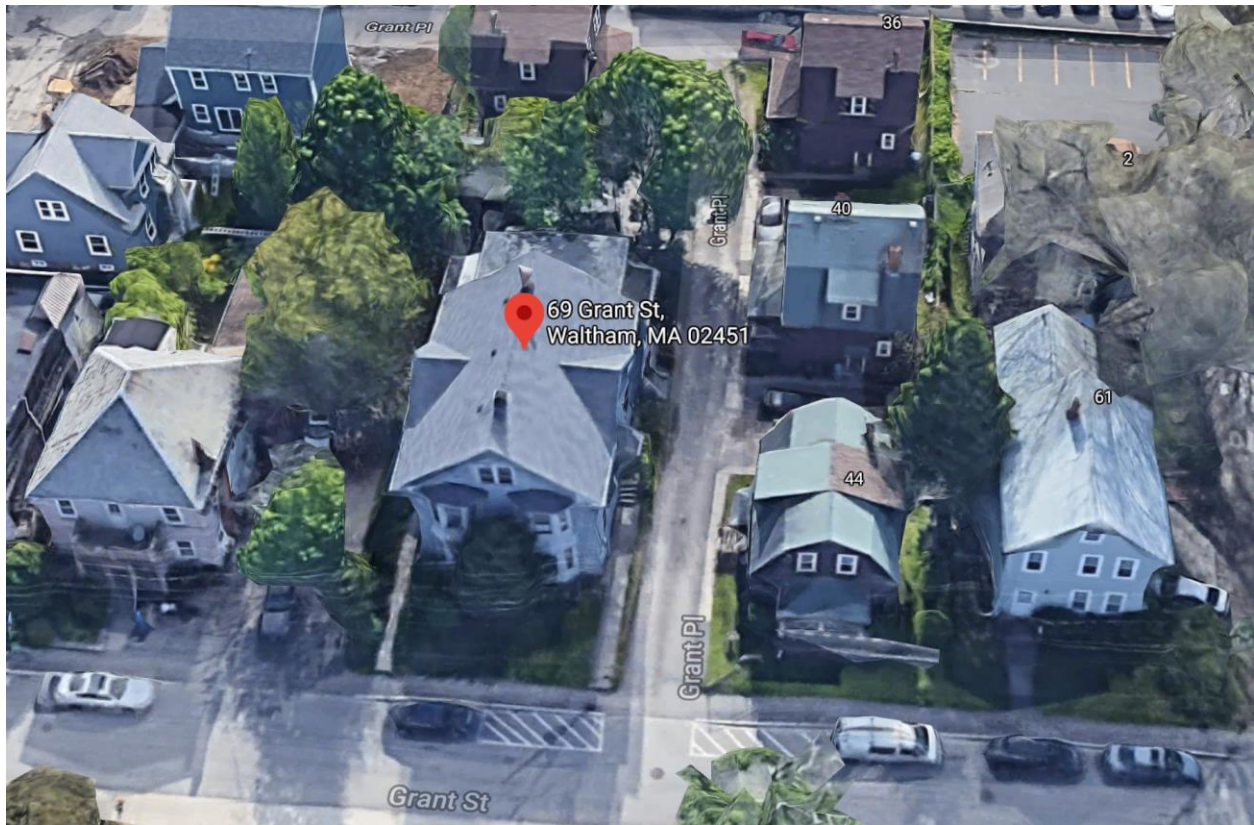


## 69-71 Grant Street



Waltham GIS



Google satellite view



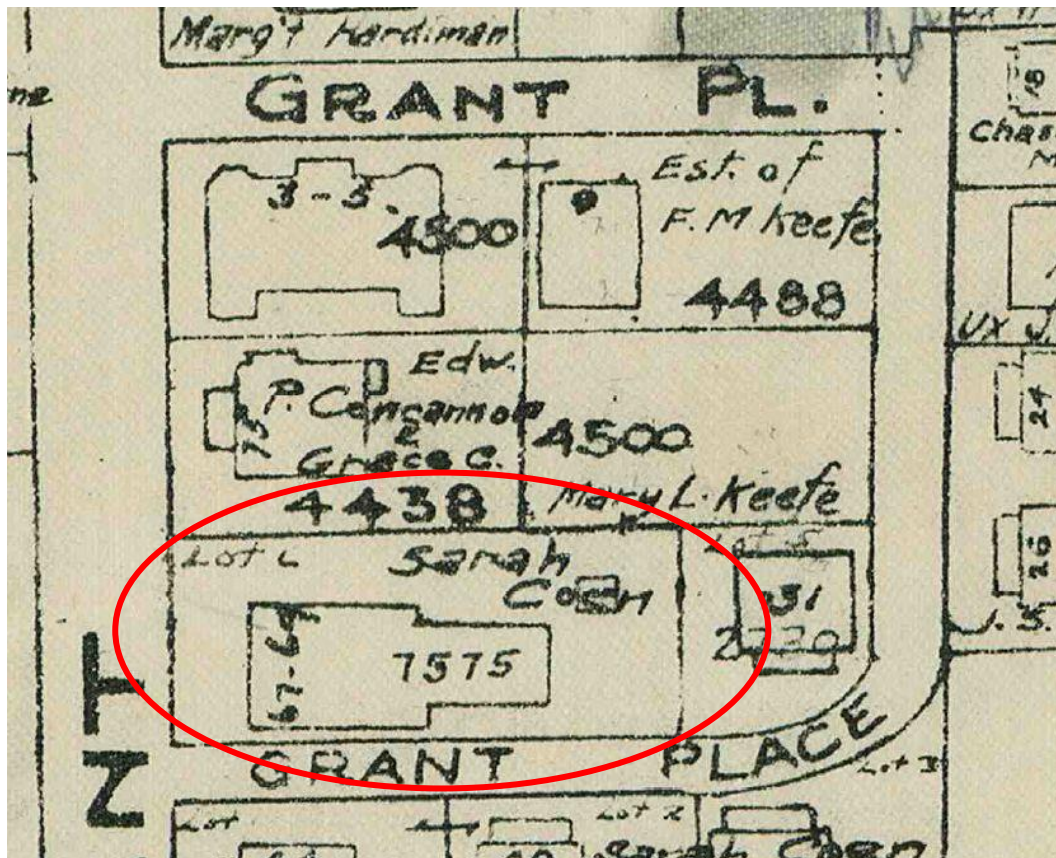


2019 Google street view

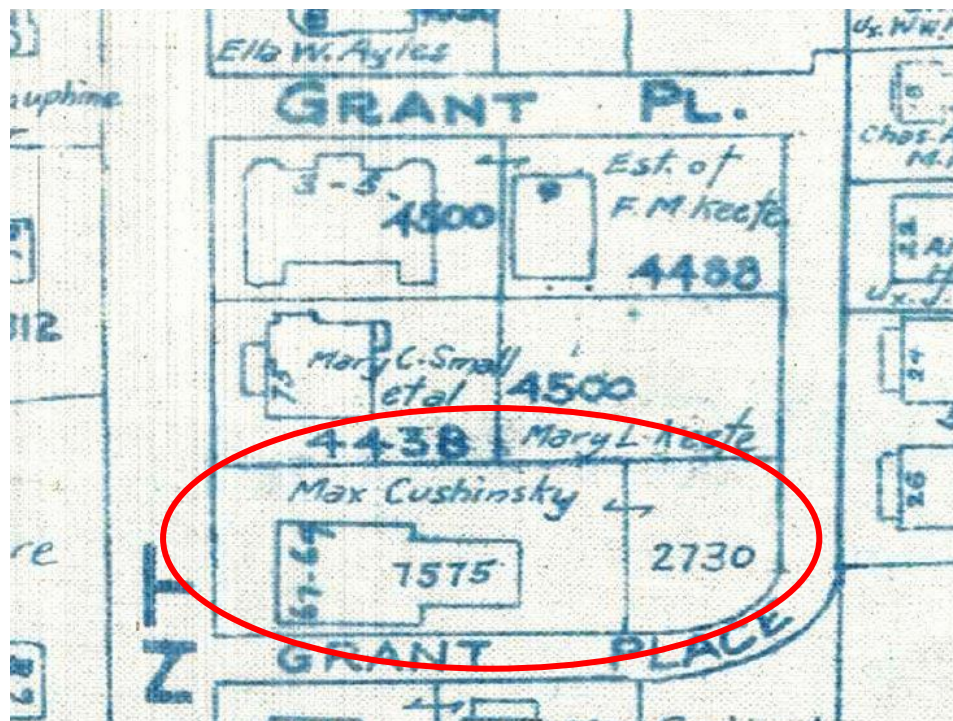


2011 Google street view



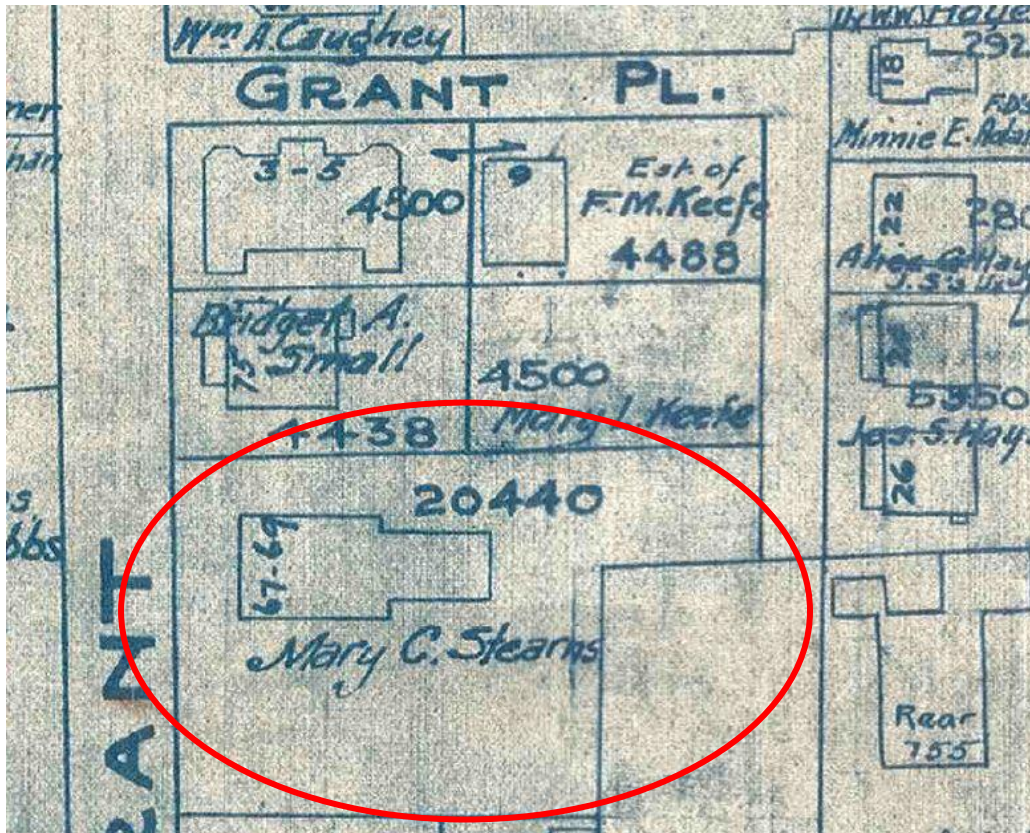


1928 map

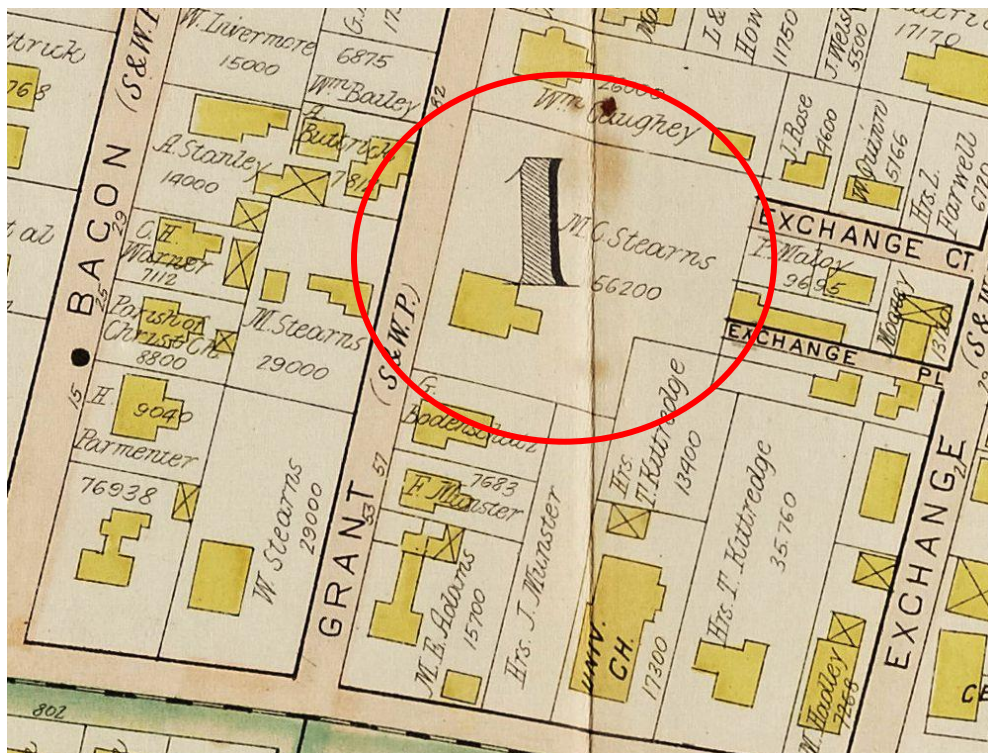


1923 map





1918 map

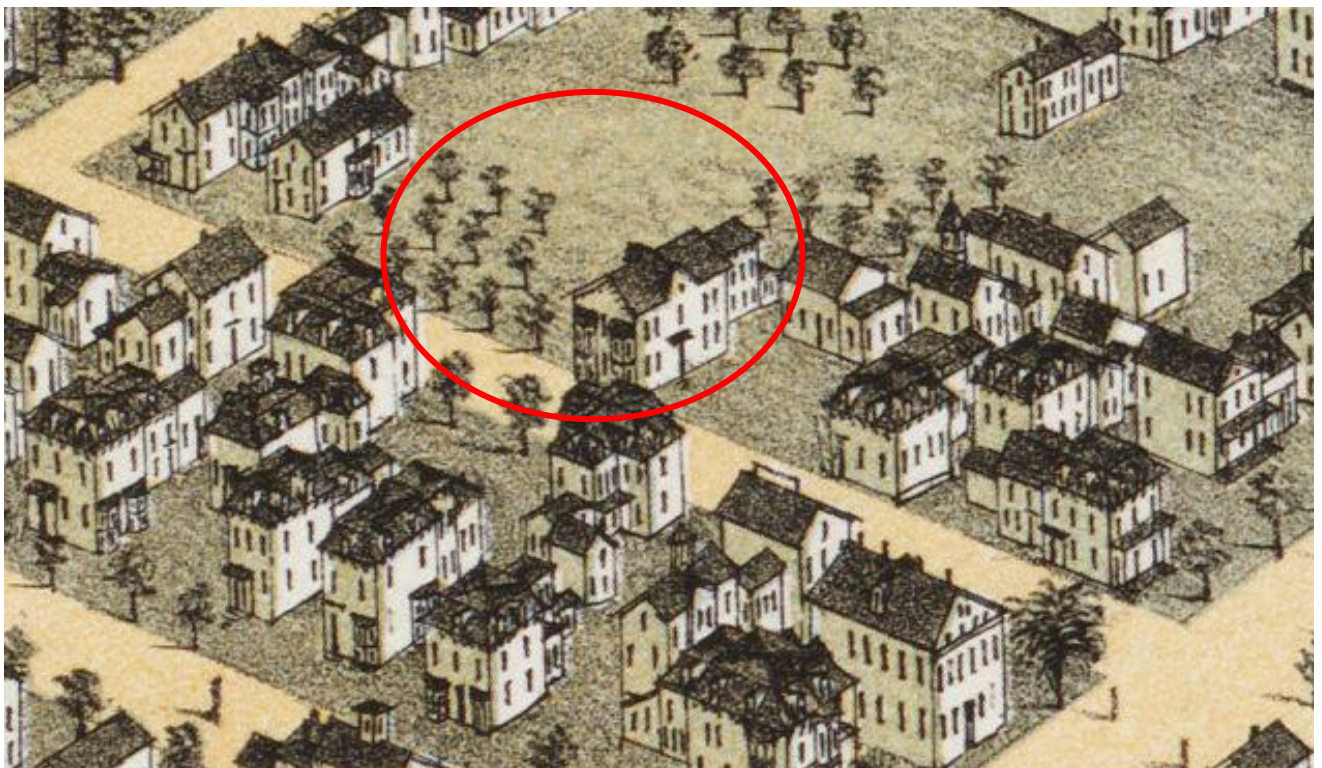


1900 map





1875 map



1877 panoramic map





- 1900 Annual listing, Jesse C. Muzzey, fireman, 69 Grant; Watson Stearns, 68 Grant (Mary C. Stearns would not have been listed, since women could not vote).
- 1900 Census, Mary C. Stearns was living with her brother, Watson, at 68 Grant St.
- 1910 Census, Watson Stearns, Mary C. Stearns, 67 Grant Street, own income
- 1912 Directory, Mary C. Stearns, 67 Grant; Watson, Stearns, 67 Grant
- 1914 Death, Watson Stearns, 67 Grant St., machinist, son of Nathaniel Stearns & Adeline Wellington
- 1917 Death, Mary C. Stearns, 67 Grant St., retired, daughter of Nathaniel Stearns & Adeline Wellington
- 1919 Deed, Harry L. French (for heirs of Mary C. Stearns) to Max Cushinsky [MLR 4262/523]
- 1923 Directory, 69 Grant, Mr. & Mrs. Michael McNamara, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Bryant; 71 Grant, Mr. & Mrs. Donald MacPherson, Mr. & Mrs. Lewis Simms
- 1924 Deed, Max Cushinsky to David Levinson & Warren Sinclair [MLR 4715/255]
- 1924 Deed, David Levinson & Warren Sinclair to Sara Cohn [MLR 4764/133]
- 1930 Census, Michael McNamara, manager, art store, 69 Grant; Ellen Hannify, Alfred Cormier, building mover, 71 Grant
- 1940 Deed, Sarah Cohn to Samuel A. Cohn [MLR 6382/77] Lot 6
- 1943 Directory, Michael McNamara, 69 Grant, manager, Morgan's Art Store
- 1982 Deed, Esther (Cohn) Morse to James Morse [MLR 14647/228]
- 1983 Deed, James Morse to Esther Morse [MLR 15387/194]
- 1983 Deed, Esther Morse to James & Eileen Morse [MLR 15387/199]
- 1998 Deed, James & Eileen Morse to Morse Realty Trust, James & Eileen Morse, Trustees [MLR 28759/486]
- 2008 Death, James Morse
- 2020 Death, Eileen (Sherman) Morse

## Summary

The house at 69-71 Grant Street was originally numbered 67-69 Grant Street and was likely built between 1871 and 1874 for its first owner, Mary Crehore Stearns. The property was originally part of the estate of her father, Nathaniel Stearns, whose house was located on Main Street at what later became Grant Street. The original Stearns house on Main Street had been built in 1807 by Mary's grandfather, William Wellington Jr. This may have been the Wellington Tavern that William Wellington supposedly owned. The famed "Burgoyne Elm" stood in front of the Stearns house on Main Street, and there was a public well located here. According to one account, the founders of the Boston Manufacturing Company, Francis Cabot Lowell, Patrick Tracy Jackson and Paul Moody, stayed at this house when they first came to Waltham. Nathaniel Stearns was a trader in business with his partner, Elisha Crehore. Their business was located in the Stearns & Crehore Building, just west of the Lawrence Building (corner of Main & Common Sts.) Nathaniel Stearns, son of George Stearns and Ruth Watson, died in 1848.

In 1865, Watson Stearns, the son of Nathaniel Stearns, sold part of the Stearns estate to his sister, Mary C. Stearns. Watson Stearns was a carpenter, and a gas and plumbing fitter, and in 1880 employed four men in his business. Grant Street may have been laid out around this time. Watson had built a new house for himself across the street at 68 Grant Street. Mary C. Stearns and her mother Adeline (Wellington) Stearns, lived in her new house at 67-69 Grant Street beginning between 1871 and 1874. Mary C. Stearns was a 5<sup>th</sup> grade schoolteacher at the Banks School in Waltham. Mary lived with her mother Adeline (Wellington) Stearns until her mother's death in 1890. Mary was listed at her brother's address across the street in 1900, but in 1910, her brother, Watson, was listed at Mary's house. She was probably caring for him at that time. Watson Stearns died in 1914 and his sister, Mary, died in 1917. The

house was sold by her heirs to Max Cushinsky. After this sale, the house became rental property. Up to 1943, Michael McNamara, the manager of Morgan's Art Store lived at 69 Grant Street. The other tenants were ordinary working-class citizens.

### **The Nathaniel Stearns house on Main Street**

In 1798, William Wellington, Jr., victualer, purchased 30 acres of land and buildings on Main Street from Daniel Mixer. The Mixer house stood by the famous Waltham landmark, the Burgoyne Elm, where prisoners-of-war, British General John Burgoyne and his troops, stopped to rest on their march to Cambridge. According to a 1907 newspaper article, William Wellington built the house in 1807. Considering his occupation, the size of the house, and its location by a public well, the house may prove the oral history about his tavern to be accurate.

Nathaniel Stearns was a trader, and was in business with a partner, Elisha Crehore. His business was located in the Stearns-Crehore Building, just west of the Lawrence Building. Stearns had married Adeline Wellington, the daughter of William Wellington.



Wellington-Stearns house with Burgoyne Elm, Main Street corner Grant Street





Stearns and Crehore Building, Main Street