

56 Winthrop Street (circa 1798)

From Boston Landmark Commission's Charlestown Historic Resources Study 1981*:



56 Winthrop Street

2015

Number 56 Winthrop Street is a modestly scaled 2 story wood frame Federal vernacular house with a five bay south-facing main façade and a narrow one bay street-facing gabled sidewall. Wood shingles have replaced the original clapboards. The main block has a low pedimented gable roof. To the rear is a two-story, two bay by one bay ell. The house has a center hall plan.

The front door has a three-pane transom and a later-added (ca. mid-19th century) bracketed hood. The windows are fully enframed with raised outer moldings and have 6/6 wood sash.

Builder: Thomas Osgood/Capt. Comfort Bird

Original owner: Thomas Osgood

Number 56 Winthrop is part of Winthrop Square's remarkable collection of 1790s/early 1800s federal wood frame houses. Although its lot is hemmed in between large early 20th century masonry structures, this house retains much of its late 18th/early 19th century charm.

Bibliography:

Maps-1818, 1852

Atlases-1868, 1875, 1885, 1892, 1901, 1911

Charlestown Enterprise- "50th Anniversary of Bunker Hill Monument", special publication on leading figures of Charlestown circa 1893

City of Boston Buildings Department-Application for a Permit to Build

*Digitized and edited without change in content from the scanned record in the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System, with the addition of current photographs. In the case of houses that have been altered since the survey, these photographs may not entirely correspond to the architectural description. If earlier photographs of suitable quality are available, these have been included.

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