

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	HIN.1193
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Harden, Halah House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	188R South St
<b>City/Town:</b>	Hingham
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Hingham;
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1859
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Greek Revival;
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House;
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture;
<b>Area(s):</b>	HIN.G, HIN.K
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Local Historic District (08/01/1989); Nat'l Register District (01/07/1991);
<b>Building Materials:</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Wall: Wood; Wood Shingle;
<b>Demolished</b>	No



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site ([www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

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)

This file was accessed on: Wednesday, January 21, 2026 at 2:32 PM

FORM B - BUILDING

AL-HING USGS-WEY HIN.1193  
AREA FORM NO.  
G,K 1193  
LHD-8/1/89

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116



Hingham

188R South Street 10/INC

Historic Name Halah Harden House

Present Residence

Original Residence

OPTION

1859

Julian C. Loring records

Greek Revival

Architect

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north

Exterior Wall Fabric Wood clapboards

Outbuildings Board and batten shed

Major Alterations (with dates) None

Condition Fair

Moved No Date

Acreage 20,450 sq. ft. Shares lot with 190 South Street

Setting

Located at the rear of 188-190 South

Street on the same lot.

Recorded by Fannin/Lehner

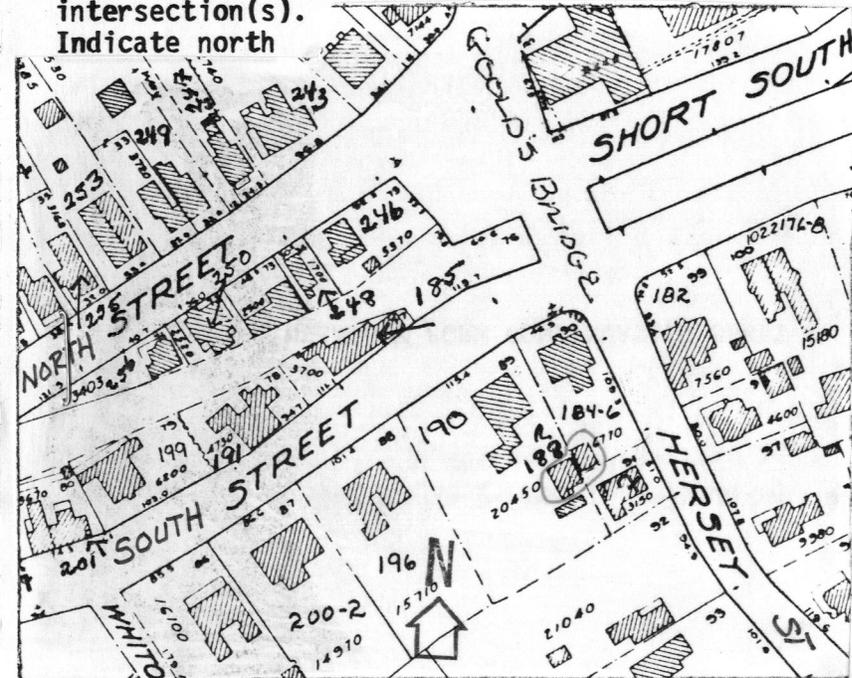
Organization Hingham Historical Commission

Date June 10, 1988

UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE



**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

SEE INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

In 1636 a five acre home lot was granted to Jonas Austen in the present area of 184-186 South Street. Shortly afterwards, Austen's Lane was laid out, eventually to stretch between South and Elm Streets, the name later changed to Hersey Street. Shoemaker John Beal (d. 1688), ancestor of all the families bearing the Beal(e) surname in Hingham, and the first of five generations of John Beals to own 184-186 South Street, bought the Austen property in 1650. The land at 188R South Street as well as 184-186 and 190 South Street and 7 Hersey Street remained in the Beal family until 1832.

Elisha Brown, who married Almira Whiton in 1833, purchased the house lot for 190 South Street in 1834 from Edward Cazneau and built a Cape Cod house in 1834. However, in 1837 he sold the property to master mariner Ephraim Harden (1799-1888). Ephraim owned the property until his death in 1888 with the exception of the five years between 1855 and 1860 when it was under the ownership of housewright/carpenter Halah Harden (b. 1829). It was during this period, in 1859, that Halah built 188R South Street, which shares the lot with 190 South Street.

Upon Ephraim Harden's death in 1888, the 188R and 190 South Street property was inherited by his granddaughters. Emma Frances Harden (b. 1865) was the owner until her death in 1892, and Laura Louisa (b. 1861) until 1936. Extensive landowner Roger L. Hersey purchased 188R and 190 South Street from Laura Louisa's estate in 1938 and retained the property until past 1967.  
MJF

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

- Hingham Journal. Aug. 24, 1883; Dec. 7, 1883; Feb. 8, 1889; Aug. 31, 1894.  
Lincoln, George. History of the Town of Hingham: The Genealogies, 1892, reprint ed., 1982.  
 Vol 11, p. 53-54, 56, 59-60, 94, 288-289.  
 Julian C. Loring Records  
 John P. Richardson Archival Collection

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

H.N. 1193

Community: Hingham	Form No:
Property Name:	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE 188R South Street  
Halah Harden House**

The Greek Revival Style, 1830-1860, was one of the most popular and long lived styles in the United States. The most important changes to residences from the past delicate Federal Style to the Greek Revival Style were the orientation of the gable-end to the street which was an effort to create the desired "temple front", and the use of simple, bold classical details. The town of Hingham is fortunate to have over forty examples of this classically derived mode; some are manifestations of a high style interpretation of the style, while others, such as the 1859 Halah Harden House, were simple vernacular examples of the style with only one or two characteristic elements to identify it as Greek Revival.

The Halah Harden House is a plain, compact structure with a gable-ended facade, composed of a side entrance with three windows to the west. The sole architectural decorative element of the house is the simple stylized Greek pediment over the door. Plain corner boards articulate the corners. A modest and conservatively styled residence, the Halah Harden House is a pleasing component in the proposed extension of the Lincoln Local Historic District.

MBL