

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

DATA SHEET

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED JAN 21 1976

DATE ENTERED MAY 28 1976

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

1 NAME

HISTORIC *mk* Puritan House (Tappan's Hotel, Atlantic House, Gloucester House, Mason's House)

AND/OR COMMON

Puritan House (Preferred)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER 3 Washington Street and 2 Main Street

— NOT FOR PUBLICATION

CITY, TOWN

Gloucester

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Sixth

STATE

Massachusetts

CODE
025

COUNTY
Essex

CODE
009

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE	
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PARK
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL	<input type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	PUBLIC ACQUISITION	ACCESSIBLE	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENTIFIC
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Vacant

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME Mr. Frank Ahearn, Puritan Realty Trust

STREET & NUMBER

24 Edgemore Road

CITY, TOWN

Gloucester

— VICINITY OF

STATE

Massachusetts 01930

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC. Essex South County Registry of Deeds

STREET & NUMBER

Federal Street

CITY, TOWN

Salem,

STATE

Massachusetts

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth

DATE

1969

— FEDERAL STATE — COUNTY — LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

Massachusetts Historical Commission

CITY, TOWN

Boston

STATE
Massachusetts

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Puritan House (1810) is located in downtown Gloucester Center at the corner of Main and Washington Streets. Its main facade faces Gloucester Harbor and the rear extension stretches up the hill on Washington Street. The Puritan House is situated near the commercial district, although it is separated from it by a vacant lot and a number of intrusions.

The principal section of the building facing Main Street is four stories with a six-bay facade. The building is brick and sits on a granite foundation which is nearly a full story in height. The central doorway on Main Street is arched (originally with fanlight) as is another entryway on Washington Street. The roof of the main section is a hip roof and has two brick chimneys. There are dentils at the eaves.

The rear portion of the building (also built in 1810) provides additional hotel rooms and echoes the treatment of the main section. This part of the building is also brick, but is only three stories. Another addition on the northeast side of the building was built around 1905 and is of wood construction.

On the interior, the main lobby is approached by a stairway leading from the Main Street entrance. The most striking feature of the lobby is the winding staircase which goes to the third floor. Just off the lobby on the east side of the building is a room approximately 20 feet by 30 feet which has a nicely appointed marble fireplace. On the Washington Street side of the lobby is another room with two brick fireplaces at either end of the west wall.

The floors above are divided into rooms used for lodging in the old inn. Most of the original molding and wainscoting survives and many of the rooms have elegant fireplaces with carved mantels.

At the present time the Puritan House is unoccupied, although preservation work is now in progress. The windows are boarded, but the original shutters are stored in the attic for future replacement on the facade. Although much work needs to be done on the building, it has been found to be structurally sound, and its rehabilitation will prove to benefit greatly the downtown area of Gloucester.

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 type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY) Hotel
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES 1810

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Puritan House is significant as one of the first brick buildings in Gloucester and as the first hotel in the community. Standing on a prominent spot overlooking Gloucester's inner harbor, the Puritan House (Tappan's Hotel or Atlantic House as it was first known) was certainly the most impressive hotel in the vicinity at the time of its construction. With forty-five rooms for guests, it had the capacity to serve a city ten times the size of the little fishing village of Gloucester. Therefore, its erection was no small source of amazement to the inhabitants there.

When the Puritan House was built, there were only two brick structures in town -- a fort-keeper's house at the fort point and an old gunhouse on High Street. The new four-story hotel became the most significant brick building in the area and a forerunner of the brick commercial buildings which followed on Main Street. The Puritan House was one of the few buildings to escape a disastrous fire of 1830.

The hotel was built by Colonel James Tappan of New Hampshire. Tappan was a school teacher, one of whose students was Daniel Webster. Tappan employed a large force of workers to excavate the foundation, during which a solid ledge was encountered. The task of cutting through this rock brought about such added expense that Tappan was forced to borrow money to complete the venture.

In the late nineteenth century the hotel was owned by John Mason, a surveyor of Cape Ann. Both Tappan and Mason served as representatives from the area to the State Legislature.

One of the famous occupants of the hotel was Winslow Homer who stayed there in 1873. In the nineteenth century most of the important social functions of the community were held in the large building.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Babson. History of Gloucester. 1860.
Boston Globe. 1890.

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY .14

UTM REFERENCES

47 18

A	1 1 9	3 6 3	3 0 1 0	4 7 1 4	7 9 1 0	B			
	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	ZONE	EASTING				
C				D					

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

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

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE Judy D. Dobbs, National Register Editor, and	Deidre Henderson and Richard V. Hunt, Consultants
ORGANIZATION Massachusetts Historical Commission	DATE January 13, 1976
STREET & NUMBER 294 Washington 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

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.

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER SIGNATURE

Elizabeth Reed Amador

TITLE Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

DATE Jan. 8, 1976

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER	
<i>[Signature]</i>	DATE 5/28/98
Acting DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION	DATE 5/28/76
ATTEST: <i>[Signature]</i>	
Acting KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER	

Property Puritan House (Tappan's Hotel, Atlantic House, Gloucester House, Mason's House)

State Mass.

Working Number 1.21.76.2378

ESS 27
OB 76 000 244

TECHNICAL

Photos 2
Maps 1

*Nothing appears incorrect 5.26.76
Wrong tick called
#12 data missing 1.8.76*

CONTROL

pl
OK-2.2.76

HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
LIVE
21 Apr 76

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ACCEPT
HW Jan 22
2/27/76

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

Accept
w. R. Luce
4/22/76

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

Accept
Colz
5-17-76

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

To be rehabilitated

Hunt
5/18/76

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 7-6-76

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered MAY 28 1976

INT:2106-74



Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-73)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

JAN 21 1976

DATE ENTERED

MAY 28 1976

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*
TYPE ALL ENTRIES ENCLOSE WITH PHOTOGRAPH

1 NAME

HISTORIC Puritan House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Gloucester VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Lawrence Maver DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT West Wharf, Gloucester, MA 01930

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET
Looking northwest at main facade and east elevation.

PHOTO NO. 1 of 2



8

Form No. 10-301a
(Rev. 10-75)

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM**

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1 NAME

HISTORIC Puritan House

AND/OR COMMON
Puritan House

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Gloucester VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 PHOTO REFERENCE

PHOTO CREDIT Lawrence Maver DATE OF PHOTO 1975

NEGATIVE FILED AT West Wharf, Gloucester, MA 01930

4 IDENTIFICATION

DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. IF DISTRICT, GIVE BUILDING NAME & STREET

Facing north, showing facade and west elevation along Washington Street.

PHOTO NO. 2 of 2

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 Puritan House

AND/OR COMMON

Same

2 LOCATION

CITY, TOWN Gloucester VICINITY OF COUNTY Essex STATE MA

3 MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE USGS, Gloucester Quadrangle

SCALE 1:24000 DATE 1960

4 REQUIREMENTS

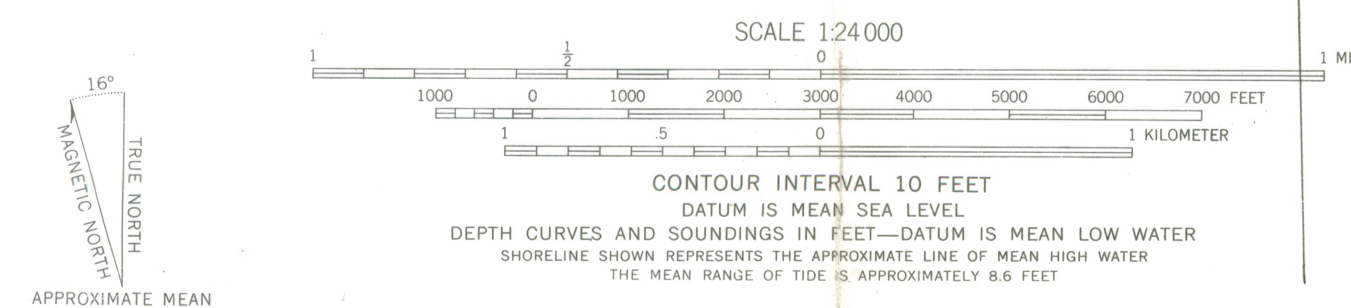
TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

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



Gloucester: Puritan House
UTM Reference: 4718-790
19/363300/4714790

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USC&GS and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by plane-table surveys 1942. Revised 1960
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 243 (1959) and 1206 (1960). This information is not intended for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION
Heavy-duty ——— Light-duty ———
Medium-duty ——— Unimproved dirt ———
State Route ○



GLOUCESTER, MASS.
14233.75—W7037.5/8x7.5
1960



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered MAY 28 1976

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Quincy, Josiah, House	Quincy Norfolk County
Puritan House	Gloucester Essex County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. James A. Burke
Hon. Michael J. Harrington
Regional Director, North
Atlantic Region

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Elizabeth R. Amadon
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

PR MMott/row 6/2/76

NR Data Sheet

DATE: 21 Apr 76
Reviewer INITIALS: [Signature]

NR DOE

MAY 28 1976

NAME AS IT APPEARS IN FEDERAL REGISTER: Puritan House

OTHER NAMES: Tappan's Hotel, Atlantic House, Gloucester House, Mason's House

see separately

LOCATION:

STREET & NUMBER: 3 Washington St. @ 2 Main St.

CITY, TOWN: Gloucester CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: 4

STATE: MA VICINITY OF: COUNTY: ESSEX code: 009

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
NOT 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

WITHIN NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK? YES NO

ADAPTIVE USE: YES NO Saved? YES NO

FUNCTION(S): (use vocabulary words)
then- HOTEL
now- NONE

SIGNIFICANCE:

- ARCHAEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC, CONSERVATION, LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE, RELIGION, entertainment
- ARCHAEOLOGY-HISTORIC, ECONOMICS, LAW/Gov't/politics, SCIENCE, health
- AGRICULTURE, EDUCATION, LITERATURE, MILITARY, recreation
- ARCHITECTURE, ENGINEERING, MUSIC, SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN, settlement
- ART, EXPLORATION, PHILOSOPHY, TRANSPORTATION, socio/cultural
- COMMERCE, INDUSTRY, POLITICS/GOVERNMENT, OTHER (SPECIFY), urban & commun
- COMMUNICATIONS, INVENTION, planning

Claims

"first" YES NO "oldest" YES NO "only" YES NO

Hotel in Gloucester

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

personal Col. James Tappan - owner, builder
John Mason, owner

events

institutional

DATES:

DATE OF CONSTRUCTION (Specific date or 1/4 of century): 1810 ✓

DATE(S) OF "MAJOR" ALTERATIONS: 1905 addition

HISTORICALLY SIGNIFICANT DATE(S): 1830 - survived city fire

SOURCE:

(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre) .1

COMMENTS: (include architectural information here)

Brick, ^{Flemish} common bond, 4 stories main section, 3 stories rear, L shape.

Shallow hipped roofs. 3 interior end chimneys on main section, 5-10 side interior chimneys in rear section.

Main section 6 bays by 3, rear 6 bays long. Wood addition.

Plain sills + lintels on all windows. One fan-lit door in center of ~~main~~ section and one on side. Dentiled eaves.

Main lobby includes winding staircase. Side room contains marble

SIGNIFICANCE: (maximum two sentences) fireplaces. 45 guest rooms above, most with wainscoting + ~~decor~~ ^{carved} fireplaces.

The hotel was unusually large when built in 1810, and was one of the earliest brick buildings in Gloucester. It was the first hotel in town, serving as a community focus into the late 19th century and early 20th centuries.

see 2nd sheet

ARCHITECTURAL STYLE:

architect/m.builder:

landscape/garden designer:

interior decorator:

engineer:

artist/artisan:

builder/contractor:

ETHNIC GROUP:

NAMES:

(label role & appropriate date)

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(OF NOMINATION)

PRIVATE

STATE

LOCAL GOV'T

MUNICIPAL

COUNTY

OTHER

FEDERAL AGENCY:

ACREAGE:

(to nearest tenth of an acre)

2nd sheet

✓ Brick (Flemish and common bonds), 4-story main block with 3-story rear ell, L-shaped, low hipped roof sections; 3 interior end chimneys on main block, numerous chimneys in rear section; ^{center} round-arched entrance on main block, ~~the~~ simple entrance ⁺ windows, denticulated cornice, winding staircase; excellent interior woodwork, ^{45 guest rooms.} Federal.

Community's ^{1st} hotel; one of ^{city's} Gloucester's first brick buildings; ^{late 19th and early 20th c.} built by Col. James Tappan. community focal point.

one of the earliest brick buildings in Gloucester. It was the first hotel in town, serving as a community focus into the late 19th century and early 20th centuries.