

FORM B - BUILDING

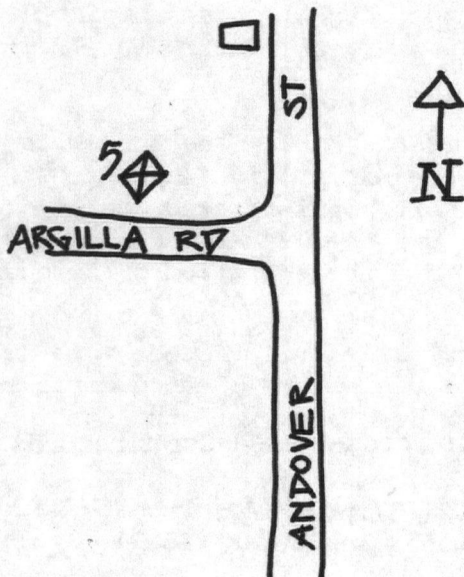
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	45

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location
in relation to nearest cross streets and
other buildings. Indicate north.

45: Lawrence Quad, 1:25000
19/323405/4723550



1. Town ANDOVER

Address 5 Argilla Road

Name Abbot-Baker House

Present use Residential

Present owner White, Sidney P.

3. Description:

Date ca. 1685

Source Historic Houses of Andover

Style First Period

Architect ---

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard
barn, attached

Outbuildings (describe) carriage shed

Other features 2 1/2 stories; gable roof
w/integral leanto; center chimney;
5 bay facade w/small 6/6 windows; small
gabled center vestibule; large barn
also has leanto; faces south; rear ell,
secondary door on each side

Altered Windows Date 18th C.

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: Map 93, Parcel 5

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 265'

Approximate distance of building from street

50'

6. Recorded by W. Frontiero

Organization Andover Historical Comm.

Date August 7, 1980

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Thomas Abbot
Original use residential
Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal

Conservation

Recreation

The Abbot-Baker House is significant (1) for its early and continued associations with the Abbot family, farmers prominent in the founding and development of Andover, (2) for its association with a turn-of-the 19th century physician, and (3) as an excellent example of First Period architecture in Andover. The property retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting, and meets Criteria A, B, and C of the National Register.

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

No. 5 Argilla Rd is thought to have been built ca. 1685 for Thomas Abbot, a farmer. Thomas (1666-1728) was a son of George Abbot (who arrived in Andover with the first group of settlers) and a brother of Benjamin Abbot (who built the house next door at 9 Andover Street). Thomas is described in the Abbot genealogy as "a strict Puritan, he taught his children to reverence the Sabbath, and keep it holy, and to make the Bible their only rule of faith and practice."¹ He and his wife Hannah Gray (m. 1697) had ten children. Thomas Sr. sold the homestead (containing 20 acres with buildings) to his son Thomas Jr., also a farmer, in 1723. Thomas Jr. (1699-1774) lived here with his wife Elizabeth Ballard (m. 1725) and their ten children. The genealogy remembers the second Thomas as "useful in the town, guardian of orphans, observer of events, and re- recorded them in his almanac, respected for his piety and worth."² Thomas was succeeded on the homestead by his son, a third Thomas (1729-1776), who was married (1756) to Lydia Blunt. The last Thomas left 200 acres of land and a substantial personal, all valued at about 860 pounds; his wife was appointed executor of the estate, an uncommon procedure. Twenty years later, in 1797, Lydia finally sold the homestead.

The buyer was Symonds Baker, a physician. Baker (1736-1815) lived here with his second wife, Lydia Holt (m. 1766). Probate records provide an interesting comparison between this "country" doctor and his more sophisticated contemporary, Abiel Pearson.* Baker was succeeded by son Symonds Epes Baker and his wife Sarah Holt. The farm is now in possession of the fourth generation of Symonds Epes' descendants.

The building is distinguished by its very simplicity. A broad facade with small unornamented windows and doorway, center chimney, and integral leanto comprise the major architectural features. A still large estate and southward orientation **

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Lawrence and Salem (627/370; 57/142; Probate Docket Nos. George F. Baker (1907), David Baker (1888), Symonds Epes Baker (1819), Symonds Baker (1815), 142)

Andover Historical Society Vertical Files, "Baker Family"

* (see 33 High Street)

** complete the near-perfect setting.

Footnotes

1) Genealogical Register of the Abbot Family, p.83

2) Ibid.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Town of Andover Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | |
|-----|---|--|----------------------------|
| 1. | Lower Shawsheen Railroad Bridge
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION | Keeper <u>W.H. Graham 6.10.82</u>
Attest <u>Patrick Andrus 6/8/82</u> | <u>Determined eligible</u> |
| 2. | Upper Shawsheen Railroad Bridge
DOE/OWNER OBJECTION | Keeper <u>William H. Graham 6.10.82</u>
Attest <u>6/8/82 Patrick Andrus</u> | <u>Determined eligible</u> |
| 3. | Andover Village Industrial District (92)
Substantive Review | Keeper <u>Thomas H. Day 10.7.82</u>
Attest _____ | |
| 4. | Bradlee School | Keeper <u>William H. Graham 6.10.82</u>
Attest | |
| 5. | Abbot Tavern
<i>Entered in the National Register</i> | Keeper <u>Delores Byers 6/10/82</u>
Attest _____ | |
| 6. | Central Street District
<i>NR decision</i> | Keeper <u>Thomas H. Day 10/7/82</u>
Attest _____ | |
| 7. | Abbot, J. T., House
<i>Entered in the National Register</i> | Keeper <u>Delores Byers 6/10/82</u>
Attest _____ | |
| 8. | Ballardvale District
Substantive Review | Keeper <u>Thomas H. Day 10.7.82</u>
Attest _____ | |
| 9. | Abbot-Baker House
<i>Entered in the National Register</i> | Keeper <u>Delores Byers 6/10/82</u>
Attest _____ | |
| 10. | Abbot-Battles House
<i>Entered in the National Register</i> | Keeper <u>Delores Byers 6/10/82</u>
Attest _____ | |

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Abbot-Baker House (Town of Andover MPA) Working No. 428/82-283
State, County: MA, Essex Fed. Reg. Date: FEB 1 1983
Federal Agency: _____ Date Due: 5/27/82 - 6/12/82

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Action: ACCEPT 6/10/82
 RETURN _____
 REJECT _____
 Entered in the _____
 National Register _____
 photos _____
 maps _____

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
 Reviewer _____
 Discipline _____
 Date _____
 see continuation sheet

omination returned for: technical corrections cited below
 substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

for NPS use only

8. Significance

Period _____ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates _____ Builder/Architect _____

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- _____ summary paragraph
- _____ completeness
- _____ clarity
- _____ applicable criteria
- _____ justification of areas checked
- _____ relating significance to the resource
- _____ context
- _____ relationship of integrity to significance
- _____ justification of exception
- _____ other

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UNIT References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

_____ national _____ state _____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-35

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



5 Argilla Rd.

Abbot-Baker House

Town of Andover MRA, Ma

OCT 1980

OCT 1980

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000298