

Area	Form no.
48-M	48-113

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Town Uxbridge

Address 81 North Main Street

Historic Name Benjamin Adams House

Use: Original residence

Present same

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization

Public

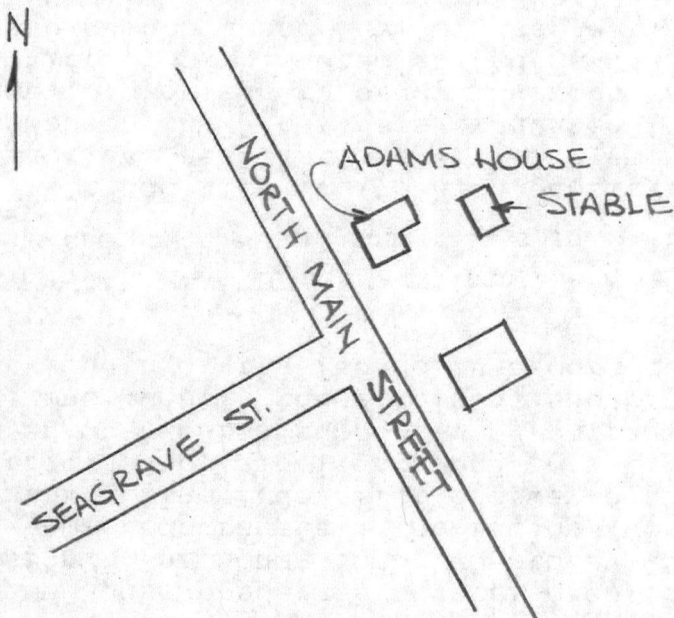
Original owner Benjamin Adams

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
 Staple to left side of form
 Photo number _____

Roll 10 frame 4A

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date pre-1792; ca.1800-1815 (decorative details)

Source exterior & secondary sources

Style Federalist

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric aluminum

Outbuildings stable

Major alterations (with dates) 2/2 sash & aluminum siding installed (20th C.)

side porch added (ca.1900-1920)

Moved no Date N/A

Approx. acreage 1.86 acres

Setting in residential district of frame houses of 19th & 20th centuries

Recorded by B.R.Pfeiffer

Organization Uxbridge Historical Commission

Date May 1981

UTM: 19 282100 4661830
 Quad Ux

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

Although altered by aluminum siding and replacement sash, the Benjamin Adams House preserves several excellent elements of its original Federalist design. The house is a two-storey, timber-frame structure set on a foundation of hammered granite. The facade (west) is symmetrical and contains at its center a fine Federalist doorway consisting of a panelled door (mid-19th century surrounded by sidelights and an elliptical fanlight. Set in front of the entry is an open porch supported by paired engaged columns (east) and paired fluted columns (west); these columns support a cornice and half-hip roof. Extending the length of the facade is a cornice decorated with mutules.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

In addition to its high quality Federalist trim, the Adams House possesses historical associations with Benjamin Adams, Uxbridge's second lawyer. Born in Mendon in 1764, Adams graduated from Brown University in the 1780's and came to Uxbridge to study law with Nathan Tyler, the town's only lawyer. Upon completion of his studies, Adams was admitted to the bar and moved to Hopkinton where he practiced law for one year. Following the death of Nathan Tyler (1790's), Adams returned to Uxbridge and assumed Tyler's practice. Subsequently Adams served as Uxbridge's representative to the General Court (1809-1813) and as the representative to the U. S. Congress for Worcester South (reported variously as 1820-1822 and 1815-1823). At least one source (Chapin) credits Adam's defeat for re-election to Congress to a strong speech he delivered in favor of tariff protection for American manufacturers. Chapin claims that this pro-tariff position aroused the opposition of the "commercial interests of Boston" and of Daniel Webster who worked for Adam's defeat in 1822-1823. In 1825, Adams was one of the founders of the Blackstone Bank.

By the mid-1850's, the Adams House had been sold to a member of the Gunn family, probably George Gunn, a manufacturer of men's suits and also the father of Horace E. Gunn, a pharmacist, who owned the house in 1898.

The Benjamin Adams House possesses integrity of location, design, setting and workmanship, as well as historical associations with Benjamin Adams, a locally prominent attorney and representative to the United States Congress during the Federalist period.

The Adams House meets criteria A, B and C of the NRHP.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps & Atlases: 1855, 1857, 1870, 1898
 Uxbridge 250th Anniversary Commemorative Book, 1979: p. 55
 Chapin 1881: 48-49
 Jewett 1879 II: 436

OWNER: Peter and Anne Gaurillen
 81 North Main Street
 Uxbridge, MA 01569

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 8/20/83
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 198 | 1. Adams, Benjamin, House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 199 | 2. Albee, E., House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 200 | 3. Aldrich, Daniel, Cottage and
Sawmill | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 201 | 4. Aldrich, J., House | Substantive Review | <i>f</i> Keeper | <u><i>Paula Ann Boyd</i> 1/20/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 202 | 5. Aldrich, W., House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 203 | 6. Aldrich, S., House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 204 | 7. Bank Building | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 205 | 8. Brown, E., House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 206 | 9. Butler Block | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |
| 207 | 10. Carpenter, George, House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i>
Keeper | <u><i>Delores Byers</i> 10/7/83</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Adams, Benjamin, House (Uxbridge MRA)
Worcester County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. AUG 26 1983
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85
Date Due: 9/22/83 - 10/10/83
Action: ACCEPT 10/7/83
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

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

Entered in the _____
National Register _____

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

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

Nomination 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"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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

Adams, Benjamin (House) (Orange M.A.)
Worcester County
MASSACHUSETTS

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM 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: _____



Town: Uxbridge *MRA, Ma*

Form #48-113

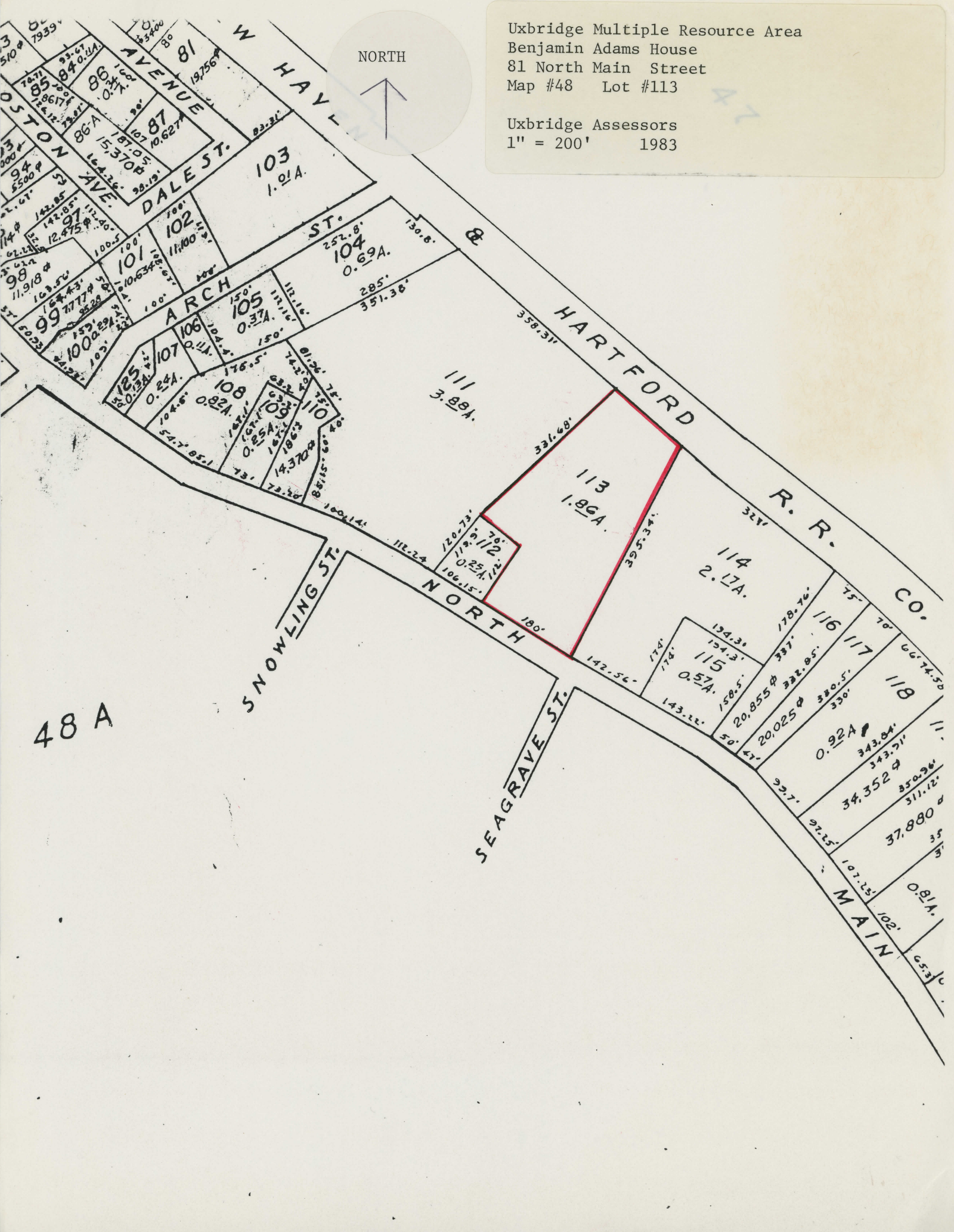
Benjamin Adams House

Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area

Benjamin Adams House
81 North Main Street
Map #48 Lot #113

Uxbridge Assessors
1" = 200' 1983

NORTH



48 A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000299