

67

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Photos

- 2:3 2nd floor, left-hand room
- 2:4 attic
- 2:6 exterior

Town North Andover 009

Address 18-20 Stevens Street

Historic Name Captain Timothy Johnson
House

Use: Present Residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1720

Source Visual assessment, documents

Style First Period/' Transitional

Architect None

Exterior Wall Fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings Modern garage - 20th c.

Major Alterations (with dates) 2 story ell
in rear, 19th cen. Restored:
1966, A.L. Cummings, consultant.

Condition Good

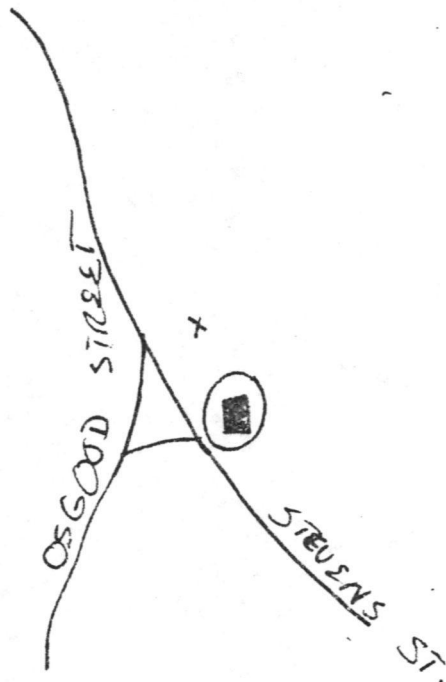
Moved No Date n/a

Acreage 1.3 acres

Setting rural - near intersection on

wooded rural road! - fields behind and opposit

Sketch Map:



Z E N

UTM REFERENCE 19 / 327-050 / 4729-310

USGS QUADRANGLE South Groveland (now Lawrence)

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Nora Pat Small

Organization Boston University

Date August 1985

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: NORTH ANDOVER	Form No: 67
Property Name: Timothy Johnson Ho	

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The Captain Timothy Johnson House retains integrity of location, design, materials, and workmanship in the survival of its transitional frame and detailing, making it eligible under Criterion C. The unusual single-piece peak to its gambrel roof and the retention in the ground floor of integral lean-to framing in a four room plan house are significant transitional features which, when studied, are likely to yield information important to architectural and social history under criterion D.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION:

The Captain Timothy Johnson House is a 2 1/2 story, double cell central chimney house, two-rooms deep. It has a symmetrical 5-bay facade with dentilated cornice and Greek Revival frontispiece, and a gambrel roof with simply-molded trim at the gable ends. A 19th century 2 story ell projects to the rear.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

The transitional nature of the Captain Timothy Johnson House is evident from its wealth of original First and early Second Period features. The front first floor right hand room has an exposed longitudinal summer beam and chimney girt, both with quirked beading; (the other framing members have boxes with quirked beads.)

During restoration in 1966, a cast iron fireback bearing the arms of George I (1714-1727) was found in the fireplace of the southwest room. The two rear first floor rooms have exposed transverse summer beams with quirked beading, but all other exposed framing elements there are unfinished.

The transitional combination of First and Second Period features continues on the second floor, with the more 'stylish' details found in the left hand, or northern, section of the house, as they are on the first floor. First Period decoration appears in the rear left-hand chamber, however, where the transverse summer beam, front and rear plates, end and chimney girts, and flared corner and chimney posts, are all exposed, and have quirked bead finish. The front left-hand chamber has a completely plastered ceiling, with quirk-beaded plates and end girt only slightly visible below the plaster. The 1966 restoration exposed a 4" baseboard strip, painted black, on the original plaster wall of this room, which has been restored on the wall and fireplace.

The summer beam from the right front chamber continues through to the rear plate. In the right rear room, it is finished with a rough beveled chamfer with simple stops. The rear plate and end girt also have rough flat chamfers. The rear face of the medial longitudinal girt, which runs

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from end girt to end girt past the rear of the chimney, is exposed but not finished. The rear posts are flared with rough beveled chamfers with simple stops.

In the attic, the framing of the gambrel roof consists of five principal rafters with butt-cog common purlins, and ridge pole. The gambrel peak is formed by a single curved piece of wood, an unusual and early feature.

OTHER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

Second Period features that appear to be contemporary with those that are First Period in style include two long horizontal raised-field panels with very deep feathers over the fireplace in the right first-floor room. The 4 1/2' wide fireplace opening is surrounded by a molded board without a mantel. Other Second Period features in the room which may be part of the original construction are deep windows with sliding shutters, paneled sides and soffits, and wainscotting with molded chair rail and baseboard.

The left front room was evidently the original parlor, as it is entirely finished in original early Second Period work. The ceilings are plastered and the framing members are hidden, except for the barely visible chimney girt, which is boxed and covered with heavy molding. Raised-field paneling covers the fireplace wall except for the slightly recessed section over the mantel. Bolection moulding similar to that at the Parson Barnard House (and possibly by the same hand [1]) surrounds the slightly recessed fireplace opening, surmounted by a narrow mantel piece. The room also has deep windows with folding shutters and paneled soffits.

On the second floor, much Second-Period finish appears, including raised-field paneling on the fireplace walls, and heavy bolection molding around the fireplace of the front left chamber.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The present house is the third on the property; visual analysis dates it to ca. 1720. The earlier two houses were built in 1704 and 1708; at least one was probably built by Timothy Johnson, who bought the land in 1704. The stylish-ness of the current, third house reflects the rising fortunes of Timothy Johnson, who became one of the most prominent men in North Andover, serving as an officer (he became Captain in 1737) in the 1745 Louisburg expedition under Pepperell, representative to the General Court for five terms, and moderator of the town meeting for many years. Besides being one of the major landowners in North Andover, he was one of the first settlers of Concord, NH, where he owned a house. [2] His son, Colonel Samuel Johnson, inherited the house in 1771. Col. Johnson was an officer in the Revolutionary War, active in many campaigns, including the Battle of Saratoga. Subsequent heirs to the property were prominent men in their community. The most notable was the Reverend Samuel Johnson, a

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Lynn preacher known for his abolition work (in 1846 he and his friend Rev. Samuel Longfellow compiled "Hymns of the Spirit") and volumes on oriental religions. 3 The house remained in the Johnson family until 1918.

NOTES

- 1 Cummings, The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay, pp. 189-90.
- 2 George Williams Pierce, "The Captain Timothy Johnson Homestead", Massachusetts Magazine, 3 (1910): 95-96; deed research by S.F. Rockwell and son Forbes (N. Andover H.S.)
- 3 Pierce, pp. 95-98.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1/24/90

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
State _____

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
51. Johnson, Capt. Timothy House in the National Register	Keeper <u>Alvina Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
52. Kimball, Solomon, House Substantive Review Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Beth J. Savage</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
53. Lake, Stanley, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Alvina Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
54. Lambert, Thomas, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Alvina Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
55. Larch Farm Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Alvina Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
56. Livermore, William, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Alvina Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
57. Low, Thomas, House Substantive Review	Keeper <u>Beth J. Savage</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
58. March, Samuel, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Alvina Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
59. Morse, Timothy, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Alvina Byers</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____
60. Murray, William, House Substantive Review	Keeper <u>Beth J. Savage</u> 3/9/90 Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Johnson, Capt. Timothy, House

MULTIPLE NAME: First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/24/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/07/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/23/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/10/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000249

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/9/90 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

___ count ___ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___ historic ___ current

DESCRIPTION

___ architectural classification
___ materials
___ descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___ acreage ___ verbal boundary description
___ UTM's ___ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___ sketch maps ___ USGS maps ___ photographs ___ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Capt. Timothy Johnson House ^{2:6}

18 Stevens Rd

No. Andover, MA

1st Floor Buildings of E. Ma., TR

EXTERIOR

1985



2:3

Capt. Timothy Johnson House
18 Stevens Rd.
No. Andover, MA

1st Period Buildings of E. Ma., TR

2nd floor, left-hand room
fireplace wall

1985-



Capt. Timothy Johnson
House

18 Stevens Rd,

No. Andover, MA

Cruck Rafter

1st Point Building at E. Main, TN

1985

H.C.

SEE PLAT

A,
1

Mary F Charles
45.0 A
37.623 ac

SAMUEL STEVENS ROGERS
1928-170
1985

B



PRIVATE WAY

17
"EDGEWOOD FARM"
A

TRUSTEES OF LOT B
ABRAHAM STEVENS

1337-527
1977

15

THE TRUSTEES OF NORTH ANDOVER, MA
TIMOTHY JOHNSON HOUSE
18-20 STEVENS ST.
Essex County

7
THE TRUSTEES OF

B

4

185
GEORGE W. JR. OUSLER
DEANNA M.
2689-226
1985

4.A
2.142 ac

15,313 ac
3 20 2 19

4 21
MICHAEL L.
Kettenbach
2400-330
1986

5 NANCY S. MELIA
1968-151
1985

Susan H. Baer
David J. Silberman
2669-95
1988

BATTLES PLACE
KATHY S. LIRENE
GONZALES

OSGOOD ST.

OSGOOD ST.

STEVENS

SEE PLAT NO. 100

SEE PLAT NO. 101

SEE PLAT NO. 102

SCALE ~ 200 FEET = 1 INCH

THE TRUSTEES OF
RESERVATIONS
1227-405
1975

506
TRUSTEES
RESERVATIONS
1227-405
1975

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281