United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property
   historic name First Period Buildings of Eastern Mass. Thematic Resource Nomination
   other names/site number

2. Location
   street & number See Property Index
   city, town N/A not for publication
   state Massachusetts code MA
   county Essex code 009
   zip code Middlesex 017

3. Classification
   Ownership of Property
   X private
   □ public-local
   □ public-State
   □ public-Federal
   Category of Property
   X building(s)
   □ district
   □ site
   □ structure
   □ object
   Number of Resources within Property
   Contributing 115
   Noncontributing 112
   Buildings
   Sites
   Structures
   Objects
   Total 227

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register: 0

4. State/Federal Agency Certification
   As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination □ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
   In my opinion, the property □ meets □ does not meet the National Register criteria. □ See continuation sheet.
   Signature of certifying official: Valerie A. Tallman
   State Historic Preservation Officer
   Date Commission; 3/9/90

5. National Park Service Certification
   I, hereby, certify that this property is:
   □ entered in the National Register. □ See continuation sheet.
   □ determined eligible for the National Register. □ See continuation sheet.
   □ determined not eligible for the National Register.
   □ removed from the National Register.
   □ other, (explain): TB cover accepted

Signature of the Keeper: 3/9/90
Date of Action:

OMB No. 1024-0018
First Period Buildings Thematic Nomination

6. Function or Use

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7. Description

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Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION

This thematic nomination for the extant First Period buildings of Eastern Massachusetts documents 113 individual domestic, agricultural, and public properties (115 structures) not previously nominated to the National Register. They are listed in the Property Index and located on the attached area map (see Map I) of "First Period Buildings." This nomination supplements twelve National Historic Landmarks (including two houses in Minute Man Historical Park), 50 other properties claiming First Period elements already individually listed on the National Register, and approximately 85 buildings in National Register Historic Districts and Multiple Resource Areas known to be First Period in style and/or construction. In addition, there are some 66 other buildings within National Register Districts or Multiple Resource Areas claiming a First Period construction date before ca. 1725 which have not been confirmed by interior investigation. (See Appendix I)

In addition to the structures proposed in this nomination for National Register listing, there are a small number of buildings known to be of First Period date and/or construction to which the research team could not gain access. There are also properties that retain only fragmentary or reused evidence of First Period construction or, despite their traditional dates, were Second Period in style or construction. Thus they are not included in this nomination.

Together with the nearly 150 structures already listed on the National Register, the 113 recommended properties are the most complete surviving above ground physical evidence of the vernacular architecture in the Massachusetts Bay Colony from the late 1630s to the late 1730s. These buildings (exclusive of those not confirmed by visual evidence), together with an undetermined number of First Period buildings in other Massachusetts counties, constitute the largest number and most diverse domestic range of seventeenth- and early eighteenth-century pre-Georgian buildings still surviving in a single state.

Historical/Architectural Context

Buildings in the "First Period style" may be defined as those structures (built during and immediately after the first century of Massachusetts English
settlement) that show evidence of originally exposed and decorated structural carpentry. Such construction methods were used in plan types that, like the carpentry traditions of their construction, were transferred or evolved from post-medieval English vernacular architecture.

This definition includes wooden and masonry construction methods, structural carpentry variations, stylistic characteristics and building types used in the Bay Colony during the seventeenth century and into the eighteenth century. It excludes, on stylistic and structural grounds, those houses of First Period plan type constructed later than 1720 unless they originally had exposed structural framing members. However, it includes a number of buildings constructed after ca. 1730 in which carpenters continued to make use of earlier methods of structural carpentry and decorative practices.

The characteristics of properties sharing this context are derived from modern scholarship, particularly the work of Abbott Lowell Cummings on the Anglo-American structural carpentry of timber-framed architecture before 1725, as well as Dr. Cummings' studies of the introduction of an urban masonry architecture\textsuperscript{1}. Robert Blair St. George's research on vernacular farm buildings in New England has been used in defining the First Period barn.\textsuperscript{2} The participation of both scholars in this survey provided a preliminary list of previously identified First Period structures, as well as the name and location of many more potential sites.

Geographically, this survey concentrates on the Massachusetts Bay Colony, and covers the modern boundaries of Suffolk, Essex, and Middlesex Counties, although its effective limits follow the pattern of town settlement and the survival rate of pre-1730 buildings in those towns and cities. Historically, the Massachusetts Bay Colony included the present-day counties of Suffolk, Essex, Middlesex, and Norfolk Counties and towns once part of them now administered in other counties. (Plymouth County and Cape Cod, which were until 1692 the Old Colony of Plymouth, are not included in the present survey.) First Period buildings included in this thematic nomination are located in 46 Essex, Middlesex, and Suffolk towns or cities. Of the 113 properties, 85 are in Essex County; 27 are in Middlesex County, and one is in Suffolk County. All other eligible First Period buildings in Suffolk County are already listed on the National Register.

The buildings studied are overwhelmingly domestic, although three barns built before ca. 1730, a reused early eighteenth century schoolhouse, and one meetinghouse of 1732 are included on the basis of their structural significance. The nomination centers on patterns of First Period construction and building technology, as evidenced in surviving structures. Structures were selected primarily on the basis of physical evidence rather than on local and historical associations and documentation. Thus, the fact that some of

(continued)
the nominated properties no longer stand on their original site nor retain their original setting does not diminish their greater significance.

PERIODS OF CONSTRUCTION:

Houses Built before ca. 1660. There are three broad age categories to which First Period architecture is generally assigned. The first and earliest covers the decades from settlement to about 1660 "when the first immigrant generation of preponderantly younger settlers had come to full maturity."

Cummings has identified ten extant houses in Massachusetts for which structural evidence suggests construction before this date. Seven of the best documented houses are already on the National Register. Also of this group and included in this nomination is the:

Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop (#87), ca. 1650.

This nomination also includes three houses that, based upon traditional dates assigned to the properties, may have been erected as early as 1660. While researchers have not yet been able to study their structural evidence closely, these properties merit further investigation. They are:

Newman-Fiske-Dodge House, Wenham (#12), ca. 1658;
Harraden House, Gloucester (#27), ca. 1660[?];
Noyes House, Newbury (#41) ca. 1650[?]-1699.

Bay Colony Houses, 1660 to 1700. Whether or not the above three houses are eventually determined to be pre-1660 (first generation), they exhibit many of the characteristics of those built in the following decades. After the earliest decades of direct transfer of many English vernacular architectural forms and building practices, New England buildings were increasingly designed and built by carpenters trained within the region and only occasionally influenced by new immigrant craftsmen. These "second generation" buildings have highly decorated wooden frames, are structurally more complex than earlier surviving examples, and fall into a limited number of common plan types. Most characteristic of their interior finish are chamfers with a number of decorative "stops" used on posts, carrying timbers, and other exposed interior framing members.

This nomination includes some twenty later seventeenth century houses, in addition to the three houses of undetermined date mentioned above:

Brown House, Hamilton (#14), ca. 1662-1673/1680+;
Zaccheus Gould House, Topsfield (#64), ca. 1670;
Ross Tavern, Ipswich (#38), ca. 1675-1699;
Burnham House, Ipswich (#34), ca. 1677-1703;
Connant-Chipman House, Beverly (#4), ca. 1680s;

(continued)
Houses Built from ca. 1700 to 1725. Buildings in this nomination also include more than 60 structures built between 1700 and 1730. House frames built from ca. 1700 to ca. 1715 often exhibit less decorative embellishment than the wide or bold chamfers and stops of earlier decades. This is especially true of the character of the chamfering on major timbers which, instead of having quarter-round or wide decorative bevels, displayed narrowed or simplified reductions of older work.

By about 1710-1715, carved and molded decoration became less popular; interiors were increasingly embellished with applied moldings and the frame was finished with "quirked beading" along the exposed edges of the timbers. By about 1725, the frame was likely to be boxed instead of decorated and enclosed rather than exposed, as the Renaissance influence of the Georgian style reached New England. The carpenter was superseded by the joiner as the primary craftsman responsible for introducing raised panel decoration for fireplace walls and other interior finishes.

Post 1720s First Period/Transitional Houses. In addition to the many houses built during the first quarter of the eighteenth century, there are nearly a half dozen buildings from the 1730s on, that provide evidence of having been built with exposed First-Period frames. Those identified by the survey include:

Gott House, Rockport (#29), ca. 1702[?]-1730;
Hopkinson House, Groveland (#52), ca. 1716[?]-1730;
Harris Farm, Marblehead (#83), ca. 1720-1730;
Addington Gardner House, Sherborn (#106), ca. 1730;
Burlington Meeting House, Burlington (#95), ca. 1732;
John Bickford House, No. Reading (#93), ca. 1735;
Christopher Page House, Bedford (#57), ca. 1740;
Boardman-Howard House, Boxford (#57), ca. 1740-1750.
DOMESTIC PLAN TYPES AND BUILDING FORMS

Among domestic buildings, there is less variation of floor plan in Massachusetts Bay Colony towns than in surrounding colonial settlements. The basic unit of construction throughout the period was the single cell, a single room of usually two structural bays, plus an end chimney bay in which the primary entrance and staircase were usually located in front of the chimney stack. The next most numerous house type was the double cell or "hall and parlor" ground floor plan separated by a central chimney bay with a front lobby entrance.

While both prevailing types could be built in less than two full stories, as the Balch House (NR) in Beverly shows, no 1 or 1 1/2-story houses were identified by the survey of First Period buildings in Essex, Middlesex, or Suffolk County except the late transitional dwelling known as the Gott House in Rockport (#29). The only other 1 1/2-story frame, at 50 Essex Street in Beverly (#3), appears to have been an unheated public school of ca. 1716.

Single Cell, 2 stories plus attic. The survey identified some three dozen two-story houses whose earliest core had a floor plan of one room with a chimney bay, and which had no apparent evidence of major First Period additions. The restored Abraham Browne House in Watertown (#104) is perhaps the best example of this type in the thematic area, despite later side and rear additions. (See Fig. 1) These one-room-plan houses include some of the earliest constructed, and they continued to be built well into the eighteenth century.

Single Cell with Leantos at Rear. Of the large group of single-cell First Period cores, more than half a dozen also had an early or original one-story leanto. Most leantos were located to the rear of the main room, as evidence suggests for the plans of:

Henfield House, Lynnfield (#85);
Rea-Putnam-Fowler House, Danvers (#77);
Ephraim Davis House, Haverhill (#47);
Samuel Foster House, Reading (#91);
Humphreys-Burrill House, Swampscott (#84);
Haraden House, Gloucester (#27);
Harris Farm, Marblehead (#83);
John Thorndike House, Beverly (#1);
Smith House, Ipswich (#32);
Goldsmith-Pickering-Low House Farm, Wenham (#8).

Chimney-End Leantos. Both the Goldsmith-Pickering House (#8) in Wenham and the Stanley-Lake House (#62) in Topsfield show evidence of a "parlor" leanto on the gable end opposite the chimney, built either originally or as an (continued)
Single Cells Enlarged to Central Chimney Plans. About twenty nominated houses began with one-cell plans and during the First Period had a second room added at both stories. These additions transformed the original house size to the second major type of First Period floor plan, the central chimney, two-room, 2 1/2-story "hall and parlor" house type. The nominated houses that were built in two First Period phases, growing from single- to double-cell central chimney plan, are:

Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop (#87) Phase I = ca. 1650, Phase II = ca. 1650-1675;
Newman-Fiske-Dodge House, Wenham (#12) Phase I = ca. 1658, II = ca. 1700;
Brown House, Hamilton (#14) Phase I = ca. 1662-1673, II = ca. 1680-1700;
Whittemore House, Gloucester (24), Phase I = ca. 1675-1699, II = ca. 1700;
Ross Tavern, Ipswich (#38), Phase I = ca. 1675-1700. II = 1734;
Wm. Murray House, Salem (#82), Phase I = ca. 1688, II = 1700-1725;
"Old Farm," Wenham (#10), Phase I = ca. 1689, II = unknown;
Woodbury-Quarrels House, Hamilton (#15), Phase I = 1690, II = 1700;
Samuel March House, W. Newbury (#45), Phase I = ca. 1695, II = 1700;
Phineas Upham House, Melrose (#88), Phase I = after 1703, II = 1725+;
Pillsbury-Witham House, Georgetown (#56), I = 1700+, II = later;
Carlton-Frie-Tucker House, N. Andover (#68), I = ca. 1709, II = ca. 1690;
Hazen-Kimball-Aldrich House, Georgetown (#56), I = 1710, II = 1725;
Prince-Osborn House, Danvers (#79), I = ca. 1700, II = ca. 1715;
Thorndike House, Beverly (#7), I = ca. 1678, II = ca. 1710+;
Corning House, Beverly (#7), I = ca. 1700, II = ca. 1720;
Samuel Giddings House, Essex (#20), I = ca. 1678, II = ca. 1703+;
Zaccheus Gould House, Topsfield (#64), I = ca. 1670, II = ca. 1700;
Joseph Gould House, Topsfield (#63), I = ca. 1710, II = ca. 1725.

In the Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62), the added end lean-to was later raised in the First Period to a full two floors.

Two-Cell Central Chimney Plan, Two Stories Plus Attic. The double-cell plan, which evolved from the East Anglian farmhouse with central chimney and lobby entrance in front of the chimney stack, was nearly as common a building type during the First Period as was the single-cell with various lower additions. (The former plan was well-established in East Anglia by the beginning of the 17th century, and spread to the western counties as the century progressed.) The ca. 1637 Fairbanks House in Dedham (NHL) began as this type, as did several other very early houses in Massachusetts Bay, such as the George Giddings House in Essex (see Fig. 2). This plan type continued, with its variations, to be a basic rural house type throughout much of the eighteenth century beyond the First Period. More than 30 houses in this nomination started out as double-cell, two-story central chimney plans, apparently (continued)
without leantos when first built.

Five-Room Central Chimney with Leanto Plan. Both one- and two-cell houses commonly had additional ground floor rooms in leantos, usually located behind the chimney on the rear wall. By the last decades of the seventeenth century, the framing structure of the house and roof were modified to enclose a wider rear range beneath an integral leanto roof. This type appeared in Massachusetts Bay by the late 1680s. The Whipple-Matthews House (NR) in Hamilton (Fig. 3) is one of the best examples.

Some, like the Brown House in Hamilton (#14), had an integral leanto that was integrated into the roofline when the house was enlarged from a single cell to double cell with a central chimney plan. Others, like the ca. 1687 Thomas Fuller House in Middleton (#75) or the later Frie House in North Andover (#69), had a leanto added to existing central chimney plans. Other examples in the survey include:

- Titcomb House, Essex (moved from Newburyport) (#19) ca. 1700+;
- Paine-Dodge House, Ipswich, (#37) ca. 1703;
- White-Ellery House, Gloucester, (#26) ca. 1710;
- Harris Farm, Marblehead, (#83) ca. 1720;
- Blanchard-Upton House, Andover, (#70) ca. 1710-1720;
- Smith House, Ipswich, (#32) ca. 1725.

The Humphreys-Burrill House in Swampscott (#84) is an early eighteenth century combination of what appear to be two older frames, joined to create a central chimney plan with rear leantos. A similar sequence must have joined a single cell of indeterminate date to another old frame of ca. 1720 in the Col. John Osgood House in North Andover (#66), at which time a rear leanto was added beneath a new integral leanto roof.

Two-Room-Deep, End-Chimney Plan. One exception to the homogeneity suggested by the limited range of Massachusetts Bay plans built with First Period construction methods is the arrangement of two rooms, one behind the other, with an end chimney. This "half-house" plan type is found in two houses in the thematic area: the brick Thomas Dustin House (#51) in Haverhill and the earliest phase (ca. 1700) of the Captain Joseph Gould House (#63) in Topsfield.

Double Cell, Two-Room Deep, Raised Five Room Center-Chimney Plan (on both floors). By the end of the 17th century in surrounding colonies, but as late as ca. 1720 in the surviving examples found in this thematic area, the first-story plan of five rooms with leanto was continued to the second floor under a wider and somewhat lower pitched roof. The only known example of this form type is the Capt. Joseph Gould House in Topsfield (#63), built in the early 1700s (see above) and enlarged to a central chimney plan in the late First Period.

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Central Hall Plan Houses. Continued reliance on First Period methods of structural carpentry and decorative embellishment can be seen in a small number of brick houses (built between 1707 and 1725 in the Haverhill, West Newbury, and Bradford area) which adopted the Georgian central-hall floor plan. In each, end chimneys in the brick walls permitted a central hall and staircase to separate the two rooms on each story. Major examples are the Peaslee Garrison in Rock Village, Haverhill (worthy of individual nomination but not included in the present nomination because the research team could not gain access to the interior), and:

Samuel Chase House, West Newbury (#46), ca. 1715; Hazen-Spiller House, Haverhill, (#49), ca. 1724.

CONSTRUCTION METHODS:

Timber Frame. Almost all Massachusetts First Period architecture is timber framed, accounting for more than 100 of the nominated properties. The key components are a box frame composed of sills, posts, plates, girts, and bridging and/or binding beams. (See Fig. 4) Above the house frame itself is a roof constituting a separate structural system. Between the corner and chimney posts, regularly spaced studs usually provide additional vertical support and originally served to contain wattle-and-daub (as in the ca. 1680-1690 Giddings-Burnham House in Ipswich [#36]) or brick nogging (which was found in several examples, e.g., the Humphreys-Burrill House (#87) in Swampscott). The studs also provide support for exterior horizontal boarding, although on occasion clapboards were nailed directly to the studs. Early, possibly original, First Period clapboards survive at the Joseph Gould House in Topsfield (#63), the Samuel Giddings House in Essex (#20), and the Henfield House in Lynnfield (#85). (Specific structural carpentry methods employed for timber-framed buildings of the First Period are described in a following section of this nomination.)

Alternative Walling Systems. There were three building systems which involved alternative walling methods in eastern Massachusetts during this period. Each was a relatively minor variant to the box frame. These were plank framing; log walling and brick masonry.

Plank Frame. Plank framing, like the thinner vertical-board cladding of early barns, did not entirely eliminate the box frame itself. Rather, in these buildings, vertical plank sheathing was substituted for the studs, while corner posts and braces were retained, as illustrated in the drawing of the White-Ellery House in Gloucester (Fig. 5). Common to the commercially timbered settlements of Maine and New Hampshire, this walling system was most prevalent in Essex County—in its eastern towns, on Cape Anne, and in the commercial ports of the North Shore. Fig. 6 shows its geographic distribution as determined by Cummings, with the addition of buildings confirmed by this nomination.

(continued)
The plank-framed buildings included in the survey are:

George Giddings House, Essex (#18), ca. 1690s;
White-Eallery House, Gloucester (#26), ca. 1710;
Davis-Freeman House, Gloucester (#23), ca. 1709-1712;
Dyke-Wheeler House, Gloucester (#25), ca. 1720;
Woodberry-Quarrels House, Hamilton (#15), ca. 1690;
Rev. Daniel Putnam House, No. Reading (#92), ca. 1720;
Deacon Edward Putnam House, Middleton (#74), ca. 1710;
Goldsmit-Pickering House, Wenham (#8), ca. 1700;
Livermore House, Beverly (#6), ca. 1700+;
Haskell Houses, Gloucester (#21), ca. 1720;
Hopkinson House, Groveland (#52), ca. 1716-1730;
Hardy House, Groveland (#53), ca. 1725;
Henfield House, Lynnfield (#85), after 1700;
Hart House, Lynnfield (#86), ca. 1690[?]-1720;
Gott House, Rockport (#29), ca. 1702[?]-1730;
and probably the house on Labor in Vain Road in Ipswich (#31),
ca. 1720-1730.

Log Walling. "Logg" walling was an alternative to the box frame and has been associated with the sawmills of northern New England. It refers to walls built not of unhewn logs, but of closely spaced and squared timbers dovetailed or jointed at the corners.  

The only First Period example of log building in Massachusetts, the Old Garrison House in Rockport (#28), is of hewn timbers some 9 inches deep and up to 18 inches high. It combines typical log building floor framing, using closely spaced parallel beams (which help form the front and rear overhang), with more common Anglo-American tie/summers for joisted ceilings in both the cellar and at the second story. Similar log and timber-framed structural combinations in the northern colonies appeared after ca. 1700. The Old Garrison can now be redated to ca. 1700+ on the basis of these features. It is also unique among all New England log constructions for having angled wall braces set into part of the log walls.

Brick Masonry. A small group of six known brick houses located in the West Newbury, Haverhill and Bradford area of Essex County form a unique cluster of late First Period transitional houses. Although all but one are two room with central passage plan, some retain interior timber-framed construction methods in combination with late First Period interior embellishments characteristic of the first decades of the eighteenth century.  

(continued)
three surviving brick houses included in this nomination:

Thomas Dustin House, Haverhill (#51), ca. 1700+;
Hazen-Spiller House, Haverhill (#49), ca. 1724;
Samuel Chase House, West Newbury (#46), ca. 1715.

Non-Domestic Structures. The only non-domestic structures of First Period construction identified in this nomination are three barns, a reused schoolhouse, and the frame of a meetinghouse.

The barns are each typical "English" barn types with side entrances into a series of bays formed by transverse framing units, or "bents," composed of posts, cross timbers, and rafters that were raised as units during construction. Difficult to date, barns "rarely gesture to the clockwork progression of stylistic details." Two included in this nomination are associated with First Period houses: the Stanley-Lake barn in Topsfield (#62) documented as before 1718, and the George Giddings barn in Essex (#18) predating 1702. The third is the pre-1730 Abraham Howe barn in Ipswich (#35), now reused as a house.

The roof of the 1732 Burlington Meeting House (now United Church of Christ, #95) shows clear evidence of decorative braces that were once exposed in the manner of the few surviving public structures of the First Period. While the frame is now enveloped in later casings and the braces hidden by the ceiling, the double rafter and king post roof and the braces below the ties provide evidence of the continuation of exposed interior framing.

The ca. 1716 structure at 50 Essex Street, Beverly (#3), has been identified as having been built as a grammar school and reused as a house after it was later moved. The 1 1/2-story building was apparently of two bays, and the central bridging beam and its story posts were decorated with quirked beading consistent with that date. While it has lost its original roof to later alterations, it has yielded unique information about the First Period construction methods employed for such a public structure.

Many outbuildings associated with the domestic structures included in this nomination may be of early construction or have replaced similar farm buildings that were First Period. However, only a few retain convincing evidence of their early dates. Thus most surrounding farm buildings are considered noncontributing at present, due to the narrow period of significance established for the purposes of this finite study. Future research may confirm early construction dates.

PROPERTY ANALYSIS

All properties nominated in the Thematic Resource Area contribute to our
understanding of First Period architecture in eastern Massachusetts, especially in regard to changing patterns of structural carpentry in First Period timber framing, sub-regional variations and characteristics of both masonry and carpentry traditions, and the evolution in decorative finish of the interior spaces over the first century of settlement.

First Period building in eastern Massachusetts continued and extended the English timber-framing traditions that had evolved through the late sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries. The greater concentration of settlers from the eastern counties of England made the box-frame system of construction (and probably the principal/common rafter roof) the dominant pattern in Massachusetts, as in all of New England, throughout not only the seventeenth but also well into the eighteenth century. In addition, significant concentrations of immigrants from the Western English counties, particularly in the North Shore communities of Beverly, Salem, and Essex, introduced some of the more distinctive variants on the First Period Style, such as the transverse first-story summer beam, the "molded" post head, and the principal and purlin roof.

STRUCTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF FIRST PERIOD TIMBER FRAMING

In Massachusetts, as elsewhere in New England, patterns were derived from English post-medieval carpentry traditions. The patterns evolved and developed into sub-regional patterns or competing building methods generally available to clients. Cummings' research concentrates on the direct transfer of English technology, especially that of the early and middle-seventeenth century. This nomination includes eighteen of the houses included in Cummings' publication (another 45 houses are already listed on the National Register), while some forty more are those he had confirmed earlier as being First Period. The remaining number of nominated buildings are either examples identified by others or later buildings discovered during the course of the survey on which this nomination is based. This latter group includes "transitional" structures of Georgian plan or detailing but with First Period features.

The Overhang. The framing of an overhanging second story, known as a "jetty," was not the product of initial settlement but of the full flowering of Colonial society in the later seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. The complexity of such construction, often considered a major characteristic of the First Period, was actually part of a "late seventeenth-century flowering of post-medieval architectural forms." Framed overhangs, like facade gables, were "nonfunctional indices of material well being or status" and mark these houses as those of economically prominent individuals.  

Of a dozen houses with framed overhangs in this nomination, examples are:

(continued)
Ross Tavern, Ipswich (#38a/b),* ca. 1675+/1700[?];
Samuel March House, West Newbury (#45a/b), ca. 1695/1700;
William Murray House, Salem (#82a only), ca. 1698;
Garrison House, Rockport (#28), ca. 1700;
Humphreys-Burrill House, Swampscott (#84), ca. 1700+;
Brown House, Hamilton (#14b only), ca. 1680-1700 addition;
Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62c only), ca. 1710 addition;
White-Ellery House, Gloucester (#26), ca. 1710.

* "a," "b," and "c" refer to successive sections of the house, built at different times.

There is evidence that the half-lapped ceiling beams of the "Old Garrison" in Rockport were carved or shaped as they projected to carry the overhanging second story. This is also true of the projecting summer beam in the Ross Tavern's framed overhang.

The exterior lower ends of the second-story posts were often carved with decorative pendant drops. Houses with surviving drops or evidence of such pendants embellishing the overhang include:

William Murray House, Salem, (#82) ca. 1688;
Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield, (#62) ca. 1700 addition;
Brown House, Hamilton, (#14) ca. 1662-1673.

In addition, there are several properties with only hewn jetties. These did not "evolve" from the framed overhang, and serve no structural purpose. Rather, on the basis of English precedent, the corner posts were cut to allow a modest two-inch projection of the upper story. At the Davis-Freeman House in Gloucester (#23), built ca. 1709-1712, the front and sides of the hewn overhang are marked by a decorative carved post head. The embellishment of the post head, in fact, is a feature common enough in Essex County as to be considered a regional characteristic for that area.

Other examples included in the nomination are buildings whose overhang is located at the gable end, formed with molded end girts like those that on the side of the Ross Tavern (#38), which is further decorated with shadow-molded sheathing and applied dentils above the projecting girt. As several of these houses are also plank-framed, the hewn overhang may be related to the walling system employed. Examples are:

Dickerson-Pillsbury-Witham House, Georgetown (#56a/b), ca. 1700+;
Thomas Low House, Ipswich (#33), ca. 1700;
Giddings-Burnham House, Ipswich (#36), ca. 1680-1690;
Blanchard-Upton House, Andover (#70), ca. 1710-1720.

(continued)
Cornices. As with the end girts, decoration of the front plate and cornice can be found in only a few rare examples. The Giddings House in Essex (#18) is unique in having a molded front plate with a wide quarter-round profile. By the early eighteenth century, other houses adopted the plastered cove cornice. Those in the thematic area include:

- Benaiah Titcomb House, Essex (ex-Newburyport) (#19) after 1700;
- Joseph Gould House, Topsfield (#63), ca. 1690-1700;
- Rea-Putnam-Fowler House, Danvers (#77) ca. 1700;
- Henfield House, Lynnfield (#85), ca. 1700.

VARIANT PATTERNS IN EXTERIOR WALLING MATERIALS

Plank. The sixteen houses with plank walls constitute a pattern of alternative construction associated in New England with water-powered saw mills. Cummings has previously identified the major geographic outlines of this pattern in Massachusetts Bay. While plank building was widespread in Plymouth Colony and can be found in later domestic building in central and western Massachusetts, these sixteen buildings constitute nearly the entire number extant in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. (See "Plank Frame" discussion)

Log. The "Old Garrison" in Rockport (#28) is unique among all the First Period buildings in the thematic area for its log construction. Log was used in Maine and New Hampshire from the mid-seventeenth century on to build dwellings capable of being garrisoned with soldiers in times of Native American conflict. In those colonies, the log house was normally built of sawn timbers, although later (ca. 1750) military "blockhouse" construction seems to have preferred hewn timbers like those at the "Old Garrison." This building, then, takes its historic context from the others of its construction type outside Massachusetts (see Fig. 7) although it may have been the progenitor of two smaller and apparently much later log-walled houses, also on Cape Anne.

Brick. The three brick houses surveyed here are part of a small group of brick houses located in West Newbury, Haverhill, and Bradford. They are significant as a group, apparently built between 1707 and 1725, and share similarities in brickwork, fenestration, and interior detailing and construction.

FIRST PERIOD ROOF TYPES

Roof framing in eastern Massachusetts usually evolved from specific English post-medieval prototypes. In Massachusetts there are three common structural systems: the principal and common rafter system, the principal rafter and purlin system, and the principal rafter system. While construction details of these roof types can be shown to have had earlier post-medieval
English prototypes, these systems continued into the later eighteenth century (to greater or lesser extent) in combination with the undecorated and boxed frame of the later house. The presence of such roof systems, therefore, does not necessarily indicate a date or style, or suggest the hidden presence of First Period construction in the main frame of the house. They, like many earlier house construction details, continue throughout the 18th century irrespective of building's interior or exterior "style." The use of specific roof systems, however, suggests a geographic pattern within the thematic area. (See Maps II, III, and IV.)

The principal rafter and purlin system may, as Cummings (1979) has suggested, have evolved from the roof framing of the west of England. In Massachusetts and throughout New England, multiple purlins span the principal rafters at the level of the outer face of the rafters, which are usually located directly above the bay posts, and support vertically laid roofing boards. By the third quarter of the seventeenth century, this system had become predominant and nearly 100 houses in this nomination retain some evidence of such a roof system. This type is particularly concentrated in Essex County, as the list below shows, where a large proportion of settlers had migrated from the west of England.

Of houses with principal rafter and purlin roofs, only a dozen of the earliest retain evidence of the use of collar beams. Many are found only on the part of the roof covering the oldest section. Roof framing above a later First Period addition usually lacked collar beams. Consequently, the presence of roof collars in the Low House, Ipswich (#33), is the primary evidence of its First Period construction, as the internal frame is now boxed.

Buildings with principal rafter and purlin roofs in the survey are:

- Noyes House, Newbury (#41), ca. 1650-1699[?];
- Newman-Fiske-Dodge House, Wenham (#12), ca. 1658 roof;
- Harraden House, Gloucester (#27), ca. 1660;
- Brown House, Hamilton (#14), 3rd quarter 17th c. roof;
- Ross Tavern, Ipswich (#38), 3rd quarter & later roof;
- Giddings-Burnham House, Ipswich (#36), ca. 1680-1690;
- William Murray House, Salem (#82), ca. 1688 roof;
- Woodbury-Quarrels House, Hamilton (#15), ca. 1690 roof;
- Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62), ca. 1690 roof;
- Herrick House, Gloucester (#22), late 17th century;
- Coker House, Newburyport (#42), ca. 1700-1719;
- Sawyer House, Boxford (#59), ca. 1700;
- Pillsbury-Witham, Georgetown (#56), after 1700 roof;
- Paine-Dodge House, Ipswich (#37), after 1703;
- White-Ellery House, Gloucester (#26), after 1703;
- Adams House, Byfield/Newbury (#40), after 1705.

(continued)
In the principal and common rafter system, principal rafters of heavy section occur at bay or transverse intervals. Common rafters are smaller, act as intermediaries between principal rafters, and are supported by purlins. Principal rafters may or may not have collar beams. Horizontal roof boards rest on the outer face of both sets of rafters. Cummings finds this roof type to be "the characteristic post-medieval English roof frame[,] . . . especially prevalent in the eastern counties" and also notes its 18th century revival.13 Originating in East Anglia, it had spread throughout England by the seventeenth century. Surveyed houses with principal and common rafter systems include:

- Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop (#87), 1650/1675-1699, ca. 1650 roof with collar; ca. 1675-1699 roof, no collars;
- Brown House, Hamilton (#14), 1662-1673, no collars in addition;
- Abraham Jaquith House, Billerica (#98), 1725, no collars;
- Z. Spaulding House, Carlisle (#100), 1720s, with collars;
- Christopher Page House, Bedford (#96) 1740.

Less frequently found is the roof system composed of closely and regularly spaced pairs of principal rafters (without purlins). This system, too, may or may not employ collar beams. Here, the regularly spaced rafters themselves support horizontal roof sheathing. This system predominates in Middlesex County, where it also continued as a variant throughout the eighteenth century. In contrast to the other roofing systems, the principal rafter system appears to have had no exact English prototype. Cummings has speculated that it may be an American innovation related to the use of wooden shingle as a roof covering. Lighter in weight than English thatch, shingles did not require as much support under the roof boards.14 Examples of houses with the principal rafter systems included in this nomination are:

- Hopestill Bent Tavern, Wayland (#110) ca. 1700;
- Noyes-Parris House, Wayland (#111) ca. 1700;
- Henfield House, Lynnfield (#85), with collars ca. 1700;
- Isaac Bullard House, Holliston (#108), no collars ca. 1711;
- John Mason House, Lexington (#102), no collars ca. 1715;
- Stephen Bacon House, Natick (#109) ca. 1704-1720;
- 922 Dale St., No. Andover (#65) ca. 1700-1725;
- Brown-Stow House, Stow (#115) ca. 1720s;
- Abraham Hill House, Belmont (#103) ca. 1725;
- Hapgood House, Stow (#113) ca. 1726;
- Addington Gardner House, Sherborn (#106) ca. 1730.

One feature commonly associated with First Period roof form is the facade gable (Fig. 8). A large projecting gable at right angles to the ridge of the main roof usually held a small casement window providing extra light into the attic. The only three roofs in the nomination in which evidence of original
facade gables appear are:

- Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop (#87), 1650/1675-1699;
- Ross Tavern, Ipswich (#38), Late 17th century;
- Samuel Giddings House, Essex (#20), ca. 1690/1710.

The only original gambrel roofs are found on three later (ca. 1720 and 1735) "transitional" houses that continue First Period interior framing treatment. No other gambrel-roofed houses surveyed showed any First Period characteristics. The three are:

- Gott House, Rockport (#29), 1702 [?]-1730;
- Timothy Johnson House, North Andover (#67), ca. 1720;
- John Bickford House, North Reading (#93), 1735.

Meetinghouse Roof Structure. The Burlington Meeting House (United Church of Christ, #95), built in 1732, has a roof form found only in public buildings. It is framed with a double rafter system, and has a king post "hung" from the roof in Rennaissance manner. Such roof framing continued to be part of New England meetinghouse building practices well into the mid-eighteenth century.15

Barn Frames and Roof Types. Barn construction utilized the same roof framing systems as houses, the most common being the principal and purlin roof. However, the frame was constructed and erected in bents (see Fig. 9), with posts, ties, and rafters raised in a single unit. These bents could and did vary in their framing in order to provide the appropriate framing for different functional requirements of the barn. One roof element apparently found in barn roofs earlier than in domestic roof frames is the use of struts angled between the tie beam and the rafter.16 The reasons for this are unclear.

The First Period barns in this nomination are:

- George Giddings barn, Essex (#18), pre 1702;
- Abraham Howe barn, Ipswich (#35), ca. 1715 (converted to residence);
- Stanley-Lake barn, Topsfield (#62), pre 1718.

INTERNAL STRUCTURE FRAMING

Typical floor framing in Massachusetts Bay First Period buildings had corner and chimney posts supporting the plates and girts of the box frame. Within this frame, bridging and binding beams, commonly called "summer beams," spanned each major room. In the Massachusetts Bay Colony, the most typical placement of the summer beams was longitudinal on the first floor with transverse summer tie beams above the second story. Over two-thirds of the
houses included in this nomination are constructed in this "normal" manner, like that shown in the drawing of the White-Ellery House (Fig. 5).

The summer beam's major function is to hold floor joists that support the board flooring of the room or attic space above. When the summer acts as a binding or tie beam above the second story, it prevents outward movement of the upper part of the front and rear walls, thus performing a structural function as part of the roof frame. Floor joists exhibit an evolutionary pattern begun in England during the late 16th and early 17th century. The earliest, typologically, are those that are wider across the bottom than they are high. Such flatwise joists appear in the Fairbanks House in Dedham (NHL) and in a reused location in the Giddings-Burnham House in Ipswich (#36).

The older type of joist joint is the tusk tenon, which has a beveled shoulder and matching mortise in the beam. Examples of this type in the thematic area occur in the earlier (ca. 1658) half of the Deane Winthrop House in Winthrop (#85) and in a reused beam in the cellar of the Hopestill Bent Tavern in Wayland (#112), with use continued conservatively in new construction in the Abraham Browne House in Watertown (#104). All other houses in the nomination in which the evidence could be seen employed the open (or "butt") cog joint, which generally began to replace the earlier tusk tenon by about 1665 in Massachusetts.

Cummings has identified a pattern of widening in the spacing of joists over the course of the First Period, charting a broad evolutionary development that can now be supplemented with information from many of the later houses identified in this nomination. A list showing spacing of floor joists and construction dates for nominated buildings follows:

Newman Fiske-Dodge House, Wenham (#12) ca. 1658[?] 18";
Zaccheus Gould House (first part), Topsfield (#64) ca. 1670 18 1/2";
Lambert House, Rowley (#39) ca. 1699 19 1/2";
Woodberry-Quarrels House, Hamilton (#15) ca. 1690 20";
Hazen-Kimball-Aldrich House, Georgetown (#55) ca. 1710 20";
Giddings-Burnham House, Ipswich (#36) ca. 1680-90 20 1/2";
Emerson House, Haverhill (#50) early 18th 20 1/2";
Zaccheus Gould House (II) Topsfield (#64) ca. 1700 20 1/2";
White-Ellery House, Gloucester (#26) ca. 1710 20 1/2";
Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62) ca. 1690s 21";
March House, West Newbury (#45) ca. 1695 21";
Goodale House Ipswich (#30) ca. 1700 21";
Goldsmith-Pickering House, Wenham (#8) ca. 1700 21";
Paine-Dodge House, Ipswich (#37) ca. 1703 21";
White-Appleton House, Danvers (#76) pre-1720 21";
Jas. Putnam House, Danvers (#78) ca. 1715 21";
Dustin House, Haverhill (#51) ca. 1700+ 21 1/2";

(continued)
While these measurements confirm Cummings' hypothesis for the increasing distance between joists throughout the First Period (up until 1725), First Period framing in the second quarter of the 18th century differs considerably. The progression of increasingly wider joist spacing does not appear to continue into the later period of transitional houses, nor is it seen in those with remnant First Period features built during the Second Period, for example:

Addington Gardner House, Sherborn (#106) ca. 1730 19";
Christopher Page House, Bedford (#96) ca. 1730 21".

Positioning of Summer Beams. The most common positioning of summer beams in Massachusetts Bay is longitudinal (parallel to the roof ridge) at the first floor ceiling, and transverse tie beams (i.e. perpendicular to the roof ridge), at the second. A small group of a dozen houses have second-floor longitudinal summer beams instead of tie beams. This use of the summer as a bridging (instead of binding) member at the second story can be found in at least one very early building in eastern Massachusetts, the Blake House in Dorchester (ca. 1650, NR). Longitudinal second-story summers are very common in Connecticut Colonial architecture, and Cummings suggests that their occurrence in Massachusetts Bay First Period houses may correlate with houses of less expensive construction. All but one of those identified by this nomination are in Middlesex County. (See Map V.)

While this positioning might be thought to be determined by the choice of one of the three major domestic roof-framing systems, the following list of the houses with longitudinal second-floor summer beams includes examples of houses with each of the three First Period roof types:
There is a strong correspondence of this predominantly Middlesex County positioning, however, with the principal rafter roof systems, as well as with the use of fieldstone chimney stacks, thus suggesting a distinct set of regional characteristics. (Among the houses with stone stacks are the rebuilt Brewer House [#112], the Brown-Stow House [#115], and the Robbins House [#99], all in western Middlesex County.)

Crossed Summer Beams. The property in the present nomination with the most complex First Period ceiling framing system is the Ross Tavern (#38) in Ipswich (see Fig. 8), which has T-shaped summer beams on the first story to support an overhang on three sides of the house.

First-Story Transverse Summer Beam. Most first-story summer beams are bridging units running in a longitudinal direction from the end-to-chimney-girt. A small number of houses, however, have transverse summer beams on the first floor. If first-story transverse summers connect upright supporting posts, they function as binding beams. The first-story transverse summer is almost exclusively an Essex county phenomenon. Cummings identified 90 examples, of which 58 are located in Salem or its derivative communities and 17 in other Essex County towns north of Salem. Structurally, they are associated with decorated story posts, which support their ends and add to the decorative quality of the exposed frame. More importantly, the pattern has earlier English regional origins in the timber-framing traditions of the western part of England, which was also the area where transverse summer beams lingered the longest. It is thus no coincidence that they should appear in great concentration in the Salem area, which had a high concentration of settlers from the western counties of Dorchester, Dorset, and Somerset.

Houses with transverse first-story summers in the thematic area include the following:

Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop (#87), ca. 1650-1675; Hazardiah Smith House, Salem (#2), ca. 1686;
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National Park Service  
National Register of Historic Places  
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Thomas Fuller House, Middleton (#75), ca. 1687;  
Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62), ca. 1690;  
Joseph Gould House, Topsfield (#63), ca. 1710;  
Isaac Goodale House, Ipswich (#30), ca. 1700;  
Samuel Corning House, Beverly (#7), ca. 1700;  
Fowler House, Danvers (#77), ca. 1700;  
Thorndike House, Beverly (#1), ca. 1702;  
Dea. Putnam House, Middleton (#74), ca. 1705/1720;  
Woodbury-Quarrels House, Hamilton (#15), ca. 1710 addition;  
James Putnam, Jr. House, Danvers (#78), ca. 1715;  
Prince-Osborn House, Danvers (#79), ca. 1715 addition;  
Connant-Chipman House, Beverly (#4), ca. 1715;  
50 Essex St., Beverly (#3), ca. 1716;  
922 Dale St., No. Andover (#65), ca. 1700-1720;  
"Humphreys"/Burrill House, Swampscott (#84), ca. 1700+;  
White-Preston House, Danvers (#76), pre-1720;  
William Foster House, Andover (#71), ca. 1720;  
John Osgood House, No. Andover (#66) ca. 1720;  
John Perkins House, Wenham (#13) ca. 1725;  
Adams-Clark House, Georgetown (#54), ca. 1725.

Paired Transverse Variants. Also confined to the general Salem area of Essex County are several houses with two parallel summer beams, often taller than they are wide in section, and positioned transversely, either on both stories or in the second story. (See Map VI) In the latter case, they do not act as tie beams beneath the rafters. They include:

Woodbury House, Beverly (#5), ca. 1696, paired at both floors;  
Harris Farm, Marblehead (#83), ca. 1720-1730, both floors;  
Hart House, Lynnfield (#86), 1695-1720, both floors;  
William Livermore House, Beverly (#6), ca. 1700, both floors;  
Humphreys-Burrill House, Swampscott (#84), ca. 1700, 2nd floor only;  
George Giddings House, Essex (#20), 1690s, second floor only.

Supporting Posts with Molded Post Heads. A feature associated with the transverse first-floor summer is the use of decorative supporting posts described as "molded" for the additional carving that adorns the projecting upper section. (See Map VI) The only house without transverse summers in which this feature was found was "Old Farm" in Wenham (#10). This building was restored and enlarged by the early restoration architect, Joseph Everett Chandler. (The chamfer stop on the "Old Farm" summer is also unique and may be the product of this restoration.) Molded post heads are found in the following nominated buildings:

Capt. Joseph Gould House, Topsfield (#63), ca. 1710;  
Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62), ca. 1680-1690;

(continued)
Molded post heads also appear on a single chimney post at the Rev. John Tufts House in West Newbury (#44) and a prick post supporting the gable end of a longitudinal summer beam in the ca. 1700 core of the Sawyer House in Boxford (#59).

THE EXPOSED AND DECORATED TIMBER FRAME

Dwellings Built 1660s to ca. 1700. The decorative embellishment of the posts is one aspect of First Period finish work. The purposeful exposure and decoration of the structural frame is the major visual characteristic of First Period architecture. This decoration of structural carpentry is what differentiates the First Period from the otherwise similar structural system of "Second Period" or Georgian architecture. Major framing members of First Period timber-framed houses were smoothed with planes; those of the later period(s) were roughly adzed but otherwise left unfinished.

Evidence of exposure of framing materials to light and smoke is a key element in identifying First Period frames. While the selection of which members were to be exposed and decorated changed over time (leaving, in some cases, only the summer beam in selected rooms exposed by the 1720s), the decorated frame remained for nearly a century both a basic organizing principle and a vehicle for demonstrating a craftsman's technical virtuosity.

In First Period domestic and public buildings, the projecting edges of the principal ceiling supports (bridging, binding, and tie beams, generically called the "summer beam"), as well as the edges of end and chimney girts, plates, and posts were usually planed and carved with a chamfer. Where two timbers intersected, it was customary to arrest the chamfer with a decorative "stop" incised or cut into the end of the chamfer in one of many decorative patterns. James Kyprianos has developed a typology organized around several types of chamfers and the level of complexity of their stops. His list expands the half dozen examples described by Cummings in 1979 and sets the stage for future comparative study.21 (See Fig. 10-11 and Maps VII, VIII, and IX.)

The two most common chamfers, found on the summer beam, were the beveled (or (continued)
"plain" or "flat" chamfer (Type B) and the quarter-round chamfer (Type C). These could be combined with several types of stops. Listed below are examples of chamfer and stop types (based on the Kyprianos list) found in the thematic area. (Stop types illustrated, but not listed here, are found in buildings already on the National Register.)

**Type B:** beveled (plain, flat) chamfer on summer collar and cove stop (unillustrated)
- Thos. Fuller House, Middleton (#75), ca. 1687
- Conant-Chipman House, Beverly (#4), ca. 1695
- Woodbury House, Beverly (#5), ca. 1696
- Davis House, Haverhill (#47), ca. 1696
- Woodbury House, Beverly (#5), ca. 1696
- Carlton-Frie House, No. Andover (#68), ca. 1690
- Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62), ca. 1680-90

**Type C:** quarter-round on summer and/or other major timbers
- Brown House, Hamilton (#14), 1662-1673
- Goldsmith-Pickering House, Wenham (#8), ca. 1700
- Sawyer House, Boxford (#59), ca. 1700-1725
- Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop (#87), ca. 1650
- Samuel Giddings House, Essex (#20), ca. 1678
- Giddings-Burnham House, Ipswich (#38), ca. 1680-1690
- Ross Tavern, Ipswich (#38), late 17th c.
- George Giddings House, Essex (#18), late 17th
- White-Ellery House, Gloucester (#26), ca. 1703+

**Type D:** quarter-round chamfer with fillet(s) on summer collar and lambs tongue
- James Noyes House, Newbury (#41), ca. 1650-1699
- Hosmer House, Concord (#101), ca. 1700-1725

Type F-2, a beveled chamfer with fillets with raised cove stop, found on the chimney girt, is unique to one house. Although it may be original, the house, the ca. 1689+ "Old Farm" in Wenham (#10), was restored in the early twentieth century by Joseph Everett Chandler; thus the chamfer may be a product of a restoration craftsman.

While the decoration on major framing timbers represents the most common surviving First Period elaboration, it was only one element of the post-medieval aesthetic. Immigrant carpenters, joiners, and turners who came to New England brought with them not only a thorough knowledge of the

(continued)
stylistic treatment of houses, but also the complete sets of tools they needed to realize those ideals in three-dimensional form. Cummings has demonstrated that the continuing influx of craftsmen from England introduced Massachusetts Bay builders to newer English methods.22

Shadow Molding. Sheathed walls and doors were decorated with shadow moldings created by planes that were run along the outer face of a board at its juncture with another. This relatively rare interior finish is well-recorded by Cummings.23 (See Fig. 12.) At the Browne House in Watertown, shadow molding appears along the edges of the original horizontal sheathing. Examples of houses displaying shadow molding include:

- Deane Winthrop House, Winthrop (#87), ca. 1650/75;
- Newman-Fiske-Dodge House, Wenham (#12), ca. 1658[?];
- Brown House, Hamilton (#14), ca. 1662-73;
- Stanley-Lake House, Topsfield (#62), ca. 1703+;
- Paine-Dodge House, Ipswich (#37), ca. 1703+;
- Browne House, Watertown (#104), ca. 1694-1701.

Surviving doors or door surrounds in seventeenth-century houses are uncommon. An older reused door was found in the Giddings-Burnham House in Ipswich (#36) and is now in the collections of the Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (see Fig. 13). A shadow-molded door survives in the cellar of the ca. 1700 Goldsmith-Pickering-Low House in Wenham (#8), and an original door opening with segmental arch survives in the late 17th century Herrick House in Gloucester (#22). Other decorative elements of the interior include a rare ogee brace at the ca. 1700 Goldsmith-Pickering-Low House in Wenham (#8).

First Period stairs are also unlikely to survive. Those documented among the nominated properties are in the Benaiah Titcomb House (moved to Essex from Newburyport, built after 1700 [#19]), and the Newman-Fiske-Dodge House at 162 Cherry Street in Wenham (#12).

The Decorated Frame House ca. 1700-1730. After 1700, the quarter-round chamfer disappeared and a narrow flat chamfer became common, especially in older settled areas of Essex County. A less common variation was the diminutive cyma molding executed along the edge of and at the surface of beams in only four houses in Essex County (three of which are in the present nomination; the so-called "Witch House" in Salem was previously listed in the National Register). Both types of later chamfering were reductive, simple finishes that were terminated, if at all, by the least elaborate stops. Most, but not all, the late houses with this form of finish are in Essex County:

Type A. flat/bevel chamfer on summer stop I: taper stop

(continued)
"Old Farm," Wenham (#10), 1690-1700 addition
Thorndike House, Beverly (#1), 1702
Hammond House, Newton (#105), 1700-1720
Friend House, Wenham (#9), 1700-1725
Perkins House, Wenham (#13), 1725

stop 2: raised cove stop
Rea-Putnam-Fowler House, Danvers (#77), ca. 1700
Phineas Upham House, Melrose (#88), after 1703

stop 4: lambs tongue stop
Abraham Browne House, Watertown (#104), 1694-1701
H. Smith House, Beverly (#2), ca. 1686?
Lambert House, Rowley (#39), ca. 1699
Benaiah Titcomb House, Essex (#19), ca. 1700-1709
Wm. Livermore House, Beverly (#6), ca. 1700
Samuel Corning House, Beverly (#7), ca. 1700
Dustin House, Haverhill (#51), ca. 1700
Samuel March House, W. Newbury (#45), ca. 1700 addition
Pillsbury-Witham House, Georgetown (#56), ca. 1700+
Proctor House, Peabody (#80), ca. 1700 addition
Samuel Giddings House, Essex (#20), ca. 1702+
Abraham Adams House, Byfield, Newbury (#40), ca. 1705
Benjamin Coker House, Newburyport (#42), ca. 1706
Davis-Freeman House, Gloucester (#23), ca. 1709-1712
Woodbury-Quarrels House addition, Hamilton (#15) ca. 1710
Hazen-Kimball-Aldrich House, Georgetown (#55), ca. 1710
Chase House, West Newbury (#46), ca. 1715
George Hopkinson House, Groveland (#52), ca. 1716
Thomas Hammond House, Newton (#105), ca. 1700-1720
Rev. Daniel Putnam House, N. Reading (#92), ca. 1720
Solomon Kimball House, Wenham (#11), ca. 1700-1725
Hardy House, Groveland (#53), ca. 1725
Smith House, Ipswich (#32), ca. 1725
House, Labor in Vain Rd., Ipswich (#31), ca. 1720-1730
Gott House, Rockport (#29), ca. 1702-1703

Type G2, cyma chamfer on summer or bridging beam with no stop
Haskell House, Gloucester (#21), ca. 1720;
"Old Garrison," Rockport (#28), ca. 1703+;
Samuel Chase House, West Newbury (#46), ca. 1715.

Quirked-beaded chamfered frames: Beginning no earlier than the 1690s, the wider-beveled and quarter-round chamfers began to be supplanted by a "quirked" or wide rounded bead running from end to end of the timber's edge without a terminating stop. Perhaps because of their later date of settlement at a time when this element of First Period decoration was in fashion, quirked-beaded frames are particularly prevalent in Middlesex County and the western towns of
It is unclear whether one variant, type F-1, which is a wide quirked bead with lamb's tongue stop found at the Benaiah Titcomb House (#19) (ca. 1700-1709) in Essex (formerly Newburyport), is original or part of Norman Isham's early 20th century restoration.

In the second decade of the eighteenth century, shadow molding of sheathing for the fireplace wall or doors gave way to applied moldings, which were often used to create simulated panels. This is true in the Davis Freeman House in Gloucester (#23), the doors of the James Putnam House in Danvers of ca. 1715 (#78), and the White-Ellery House in Gloucester (see Fig. 13).

The stairs at the Davis-Freeman House (#23), the White-Ellery House (#26), and the Prince-Osborn House in Danvers of ca. 1715 (#79) are also excellent examples of transitional staircases of this later period. The Hapgood House in Stow of ca. 1726 (#113) represents the transitional developments of the First Period/Second Period style.

First Period Framing/Decoration in Second Period Houses. Beginning in the early decades of the eighteenth century, framing members were left roughly adzed and encased by boxing which was often decorated with a quirk bead similar to that used on the exposed frame of late First Period buildings. In the Second Period, the aesthetic of an exposed and decorated structure was gradually supplanted by one that concealed the frame. Walls and ceilings were plastered, and the liberal use of feather-edged and raised-field paneling further obscured the structure. For a time, both First and Second Period features were often combined in a building. Frequently, the new boxed beams of the classical or "Georgian" aesthetic existed in some rooms, while others

(continued)
were built with an exposed and decorated frame. Houses deemed by the survey criteria as "transitional" contain quirked-beaded or flat chamfer decoration on summer beams in at least one room, even if other rooms were built simultaneously with their frame hidden beneath decorative boxing.

One of the best examples of this phenomenon is the ca. 1700-1702 addition to the William Murray House in Salem (#82). Here, the second-story ties were exposed with flat chamfers and taper stops; the first-story summer, however, was only partially chamfered, as if the decision to case the beam was made during construction. Other examples of this combination include:

Joseph Fuller House, Middleton (#74), ca. 1714-1720;
Abbot-Stinson House, Andover (#72), ca. 1720-1726;
Christopher Page House, Bedford (#96), ca. 1740;
Gott House, Rockport (#29), ca. 1702-1730;
Timothy Johnson House, North Andover (#67), ca. 1720.

ATTRIBUTION OF BUILDINGS TO INDIVIDUAL CARPENTERS/"SCHOOLS"

The attribution of specific structures to known carpenters on the basis of stylistic or structural framing characteristics and documentary evidence of the carpenter is possible in a few cases. Thus, in Ipswich, we can assign three houses to the owner-carpenter of one house on the basis of similarities between his own house and others in the immediate vicinity, including:

Giddings-Burnham House, Ipswich (#36), ca. 1680-1690;
Thomas Low House, Ipswich (#33), ca. 1700;
James Burnham House, Ipswich (#34), 1677-1703.

The important stairway at the Benaiah Titcomb House (#19) in Essex may be the work of Benaiah's son, Edmund Titcomb, who was a known turner. On the basis of nearly identical molded post-heads in two Topsfield houses, we can assign both the ca. 1670 Zaccheus Gould House (#64) and the Stephen Foster House (#60), built ca. 1700 to one unknown carpenter.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESCRIPTION

The potential for significant prehistoric sites to be located on the properties listed in this nomination is high. First Period houses are often situated at locations exhibiting the same characteristics favored by native people in selecting sites. These include close proximity to wetlands, preference for well-drained soils (especially on south-facing slopes), and protection from prevailing winds and storms. In addition, the documentary record indicates that First Period houses and settlements were actually located in locales where natives had cleared dense forests either for agricultural or settlement purposes.

(continued)
The potential for locating significant historic period survivals in and around associated First Period houses is also great. First Period houses (and their associated farmstead complexes) were constructed within well-defined regional and temporal patterns (see St. George, 1982). While it is beyond the scope of this nomination to examine these patterns, the archaeological record associated with each property in the nomination will provide essential information for documenting them. This will include: evidence on the construction of the house and its physical modifications over time (complementing the detailed interior analysis already completed); evolution of the house as a part of a farmstead complex including the location of barns, sheds, and other outbuildings as well as fences, privies, and wells; and documentation of the changing social, cultural, and economic activities conducted in and around the house(s) through examination of midden deposits, trash features, and privies. It should be noted that in many instances, the archaeological record is the sole remaining source of information on these aspects of First Period houses and the individual, family, and community histories they represent.

(continued)


7. Cummings, Framed Houses, p. 113.


(continued)

16. Similar struts appear, for example, in the log Gilman Garrison House, Exeter, N.H., ca. 1710. (?).


18. Cummings, Framed Houses, Table 6, pp. 240-241.


22. Cummings, Framed Houses, pp. 112-115.

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts Thematic Resource Area contains 113 properties in Essex and Middlesex Counties that together comprise one of the most significant historic resources in New England. As a whole, this group of buildings, considered with the approximately two hundred buildings currently listed in the National Register (see Appendix I for previously listed First Period properties), is an extraordinary reflection of life during the first century of European settlement in the New World. Timber frame construction, a simple plan, and decorative treatment of structural members characterize buildings of this period. Taken together, the nominated properties form a significant pattern of building technology and decorative embellishment that has potential to yield important information in the future both about First Period building practices and early colonial lifeways. The nominated properties retain integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and feeling. Many retain integrity of setting and all but a few that were moved retain integrity of location. (See individual forms.) Because the significance of nominated moved buildings and religious structures that are included lies in their architectural value, they are still eligible for the National Register. The nominated properties are an exceptional group whose significance extends statewide. The nominated properties thus fulfill Criteria C and D and Exceptions B and A of the National Register of Historic Places at the state level.

The period of significance for this thematic nomination is ca. 1630 to 1740, the period during which structures utilizing First Period construction techniques were built. Although most of the nominated properties were built by the 1720s, several were of later construction; largely in more remote areas, characteristic First Period timber frame construction and decorative treatment continued into the late 1730s. After 1740, builders had generally adopted the newer style of the Georgian or Second Period, characterized by the enlarged 2 1/2-story, center- or twin-chimney, center entrance or hall plan, cased structural members, and paneled fireplace wall sheathing.

[See continuation sheet]
In his landmark studies, "Massachusetts and its First Period Buildings" (1979) and The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay, 1625–1725 (1979), architectural historian Abbott Lowell Cummings demonstrates that eastern Massachusetts contains the greatest concentration of First Period structures in the nation. Cummings studied physical evidence of more than 100 First Period buildings to establish patterns of construction and decorative finish. He determined links between building practices in Massachusetts Bay and earlier English prototypes, demonstrating the New World carpenters' and housewrights' adaptation of construction techniques to a new environment. Cummings' methods and analysis form the basis for the present nomination. Using Cummings' scholarship as a guide, a team of students at Boston University investigated properties in Essex, Middlesex, and Suffolk Counties, and in so doing, further substantiated Cummings' hypothesis. The thematic study identified more than 50 additional structures not investigated by earlier scholars.

Because of the nature of the thematic survey from which this nomination is drawn (i.e., based primarily on intensive evaluation of physical evidence), the historical significance of individual properties is not addressed. For instance, many of the properties are components of historic farmsteads. Undoubtedly, these properties are significant because of the architecture of the primary dwelling, and as a reflection of agricultural practices during the earliest period of New England settlement. But other aspects of such properties are significant as well, and merit further study. This would also include topics such as the development of ancillary farm buildings and buildings associated with later periods of architectural and historical development. For the purposes of this thematic study, the architectural evidence of First Period buildings is of primary interest. Thus the surrounding farm buildings of nominated properties do not contribute to the significance of this nomination. (The exceptions are two barns known to have been built prior to 1720 and retaining evidence of First Period construction.) In all, there are 115 contributing buildings in the nomination and 112 noncontributing.

Criterion C

This thematic group of properties fulfills Criterion C, demonstrating the distinctive features of First Period building by type, period, and method of construction. The group enhances our understanding of the range of building types, especially domestic plan-types, characteristic of the first century of Anglo-American settlement in eastern Massachusetts. It further embodies the distinct timber frame and other framing methods (such as plank and log framing as well as brick construction) of the First Period "style." The group illustrates patterns of construction and decorative finish common to this class of historic buildings, as well as their variation and individuality. As a thematic group, the collection of First Period dwellings illustrates patterns reflecting both an evolution over time and, by the first quarter of
the eighteenth century, the transition in the vernacular from the First Period to Georgian concepts of architecture.

In the course of his study, Cummings documented more than 100 buildings and analyzed much of the information about the earliest period of New England settlement gathered by earlier antiquarians, historians, and architects. The present study of First Period buildings supports Cummings' hypothesis that there are close links between English post-medieval domestic buildings in which the New World settlers were raised, and those that they and their descendants built in America. Many of the early settlers of the Massachusetts Bay Colony came from East Anglia; a smaller, but highly significant group emigrated from the southwestern counties of England. An examination of humble dwellings and ways of life in these regions of England provides important clues to the origin of the house plan similar to that found in Massachusetts. Examples of the most common two-room, central-chimney plan can be found in both early seventeenth century East Anglia and in First Period Massachusetts Bay dwellings. This plan, in fact, has survived for 350 years and today is still found in the Cape Cod house and other "colonial" designs.

English precedents can be identified for First Period frame construction, roof design, and, to a large extent, the use of materials and decorative features. For instance, in Essex and Suffolk, England, a distinct lack of stone meant that the timber frame prevailed. The same type of construction occurred in New England, but for different reasons. In most regions of Essex and Middlesex Counties, Massachusetts, a scarcity of lime for mortar, too, made timber the preferred building material. Trends have been identified for decorative treatments as well, although in this case, many of these trends are regional as well as having English precedents. The evidence of one carpenter in certain areas and the connection with a specific region in England has been traced, as have the changes that evolved as carpenters and housewrights adapted to different conditions. 1

As part of the thematic study of First Period buildings, several Boston University graduate students explored these connections further. They studied the distribution and eventual disappearance of carved and molded finish decoration applied to the structural framing members. The results amplified already known information on specific Middlesex and Essex County patterns and their transformation over time (Kyprianos, 1986). The team also investigated the strategies by which clients and carpenters attempted to integrate new architectural ideas into traditional design and building practices (Brophy, 1986).

The thematic survey identified more than fifty structures not hitherto studied and broadened the information base for this type of work. The great majority of the buildings studied dated from the late 17th century and first three decades of the 18th century, significantly later than the period studied most
thoroughly previously, and carried important implications for the research issues of building and design practices.

The identification of specific patterns of countywide building preferences and, especially, the large number of later First Period houses is important for increasing the understanding of craftsmanship in late seventeenth and early eighteenth century New England. For example, the use of a transverse summer beam supported by a post with a decorated carved shoulder, rather than the longitudinal summer beam is a feature that was concentrated in Essex County in and around Salem. An example in the present nomination is the Stanley-Lake House (#62) in Topsfield. This was a regional building trend apparently transported from the West Country of England; many of the early carpenters in the Salem area can be traced to the West Country.

Cummings has suggested that in later decades of the eighteenth century there occurred a "revival" of heavier timber construction. Preliminary evidence of those houses identified as "transitional" in this nomination suggests that such is the case, and the evidence calls into question the reliability of using certain construction features (e.g., joist spacing) for the purpose of dating later buildings. On the other hand, it confirms the relationship of other features, such as the appearance of quirked beading and reduced width of flat chamfers to a later First Period or transitional date.

In summary, the thematic group of First Period buildings is important for its representation of the development of house plans, the timber-frame construction techniques, and the decorations applied to structural members. The precedents for this style and form can often be traced to English prototypes, specifically to regions of England (East Anglia and the West Counties) from which early New England carpenters and housewrights migrated.

Criterion D

The thematic group of properties also meets criterion D. Its components have yielded information about the design and construction of First Period buildings. In addition, the properties are likely to yield information about patterns of construction and their relationship(s) to the beliefs and life patterns of the eastern Massachusetts Anglo-American culture in the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries. Most of the nominated properties contain distinctive evidence of First Period construction methods and decoration. In some, however, much of the structural framing has been hidden by later exterior or interior finishes (which may hold their own significance as well). This demonstrated potential to yield further architectural information is added reason for significance for many of the First Period properties included in this nomination.

The importance of analysis of masked or hidden features was borne out in the (continued)
Abraham Browne House (#104) in Watertown long ago. The removal of lath and plaster led to the discovery of an intact First Period window that had been covered over and in fact protected by Second Period paneling. It is the only extant First Period window and frame known in Massachusetts Bay.

This thematic nomination and its intensive evaluation of physical evidence demonstrates the complexity of historical information hidden within the core of buildings which may have been altered and changed over time. There is an important public and planning purpose to protecting a class of historic resources that can only be identified in this manner. Thematic nomination of the increased number of First Period and related transitional buildings to the National Register is needed to protect the future information which may be yielded by this class of structure, and to help protect the number of structures whose presence helps define the patterns of construction already identified.

This above-ground archaeological potential can help shed light on a range of questions regarding construction practices, including the connection with English antecedents, as well as aspects of social and domestic life. Why did specific changes in style take place? How did the transition from First Period to Second Period come about? Which structural members were boxed first and why? What types of domestic practices, such as cooking and heating, would be revealed by the removal of plaster ceilings? What do paint finishes and other wall treatments reveal about resources and aesthetics in the First Period as well as the transition to later period and styles of construction?

Any prehistoric sites found at locations of First Period houses offer the potential for an analysis of prehistoric settlement and subsistence patterns in those areas. Most locales are either underreported and lacking in prehistoric sites or, in cases where sites are present, few have been systematically studied and lack substantive or interpretative information. Prehistoric sites also offer the potential to extend land use patterns of First Period house locations back in prehistory, sometimes thousands of years. This information can prove invaluable in understanding past and present environmental change particularly, as it effected changes in the economic and social history of individuals who inhabited the house.

Historic archaeological remains associated with First Period houses have the potential for providing detailed information on the changing social, cultural and economic patterns that characterized the lives of individual in early settlements throughout eastern Massachusetts. Archaeological survivals of earlier structures and structural change of existing residences and outbuildings can reflect social change of families who resided in the homes and outlying communities. Similar survivals can also reflect economic changes in families, communities or even the region as a whole. Occupational related features can also provide data in the areas noted above as well as information

(continued)
on the lifeways of individual who inhabited First Period homes. Archaeological features can also help document construction dates for homes and initial settlement in communities for which few First Period examples survive.

It should again be noted that, though less obvious, the research potential for these properties lies as much below ground as it does above. Just as the buildings have evolved over time, the households and farmsteads that they housed also grew and changed. Given that many of these properties are still in rural settings that appear not to have been greatly altered, the likelihood that a significant archaeological record survives is extremely high. Clearly, further documentation is needed even in order to assess the significance of the archaeological potential; such a project would likely produce its own nomination. The point to be emphasized here is that each property in this nomination is probably significant for archaeology independent of other considerations. As a result, any subsurface disturbance, whether repairs to existing foundations or new construction, should not be undertaken without some professional archaeological assessment.

FUTURE RESEARCH

Additional research for each property would uncover significant information that could reach beyond physical evidence. This suggests a number of research topics that could impart information on such topics as life styles and socioeconomic patterns of settlement and development in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.

There are other properties in Essex and Middlesex Counties that can be added to this thematic nomination as access is provided and the physical evidence is verified. Two geographic areas that should yield important information are Norfolk County and those towns of Worcester County that were once part of Middlesex County. It is known, for example, that a group of houses in Sutton evidence continued First Period construction methods into the eighteenth century. The study of First Period properties in Plymouth County and the Connecticut Valley would also augment the thematic nomination.

The setting of the properties included in this thematic nomination, while discussed in some cases on individual forms, has not been analyzed systematically and is not considered a contributing element of the nomination. However, the study of First Period buildings as a group and individually will shed light on overall social patterns, as well as on local patterns of development. The way in which First Period houses were sited, the location of ancillary buildings, the size of original parcels (more than 100 acres as part of a land grant or small lots of less than one acre for village dwellings), and the use of surrounding, related land are all topics for future
research that can enhance our understanding of these early life patterns.

The so-called Second and Third Period additions to these properties have been noted on individual forms, but not analyzed for what they may reveal about changing familial, social, and economic patterns throughout the eighteenth and early nineteenth century. Most of the nominated properties could be considered significant architecturally and developmentally for their Second Period and later changes, as well as for their original construction. Again, this investigation would be of interest for information yielded about the local context for individual properties as well as for clusters of First Period buildings.

The issue of evolution from First Period to Second Period plan, methods of construction, and decorative treatment, (i.e., the replacement of seventeenth century or "post-medieval" vernacular practices with high-style Georgian design) has not been widely studied. Investigation of these topics will also yield information about changing social and economic patterns, as well as changing aesthetics.

A significant number of the properties of the thematic group are in part the products of earlier eras of research into colonial architectural history; these structures therefore reflect interpretations of noted restoration architects and restorers. It was in the course of these earlier restorations, in fact, that many of the buildings yielded the historical information that they provide today. Together with the publication of the findings of such restorations, these buildings display key information upon which present-day understanding of First Period architecture is based. They also stand as a testament to preservation practices during the twentieth century. One sees in them, for instance, the progression from historical imitation and reproduction through the practice of using architectural material from other sites, to the more recent "nonrestorative" approach leaving alterations in place to articulate the evolution of a building. Many former farmhouses were rescued from total deterioration by city dwellers who wanted a place in the country. The nature of the restorations and the new use of space sheds light on the function of these properties for the early twentieth century owners. In Wenham, the Old Farm is an example of a property, for instance, that was "restored" in the early 1900s by well-known architect and designer Joseph Chandler.

More research into the documentary record of First Period houses, especially in regard to actual construction dates, is needed to verify a more complex stylistic chronology and to better determine the functional organization of houses. It is important to do so because these buildings can help refine larger issues of demographic and social history (Burke, 1975). For example, the continued location of the parental bedstead on the first floor of a majority of houses built well into the eighteenth century might suggest that
the social structure of the New England (or Massachusetts) family may have remained firmly patriarchal far later than most scholars have previously thought (St. George, 1982).

Many of these issues have already been researched for single-building and district National Register nominations, by local historical commissions and societies, and by scholars of architecture and preservation. Some of the properties included in this nomination are within towns that have taken advantage of the Multiple Resource Area nomination format (e.g. Ipswich); thus, local context is available. Other early properties have been the subject of research papers by graduate students and interested owners. The synthesis of all the additional information available would substantiate and augment the information already evaluated for the purposes of this thematic nomination.

METHODOLOGY

Personnel

The survey was conducted by the American & New England Studies (AMNESP) and Preservation Studies Programs of Boston University with the help of a Survey and Planning grant from the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Richard M. Candee, Director of the Preservation Studies Program and a specialist in vernacular architecture of the First Period, was Principal Investigator. Robert B. St. George, former Assistant Professor in American Studies and History, is a specialist in folklife and material culture who has written widely on the vernacular architecture of the Colonial period. They participated in training the survey team, analysis of survey evidence, and contributed much of their own published and unpublished research to the study. Abbott Lowell Cummings, Charles Montgomery, Professor of American Decorative Arts at Yale University and a member of the AMNESP Program Committee at Boston University (where he taught First Period Architecture for several years while preparing his major studies in the subject for publication), made available his personal research files and lists of First Period houses he had studied over the past thirty years.

Anne Grady, a graduate of the Preservation Studies Program and then a student in the AMNESP doctoral program, was the principal field surveyor. In the Summer of 1985, she worked with Nora Pat Small, an AMNESP doctoral student who covered several Middlesex County towns. During the academic year 1985/86, Ms. Grady shared the survey field work with James Kyprianos, a graduate student in the Preservation Studies Program. In addition, graduate students in AM780 (Problems in Historic Preservation) contributed to the survey effort by investigating houses in twenty-one towns. These field investigators were students in several allied Boston University programs:

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The survey forms were edited by Anne Brophy, Anne Grady, and Richard Candee to clarify descriptions, specify the level of integrity, and test statements of significance against the National Register criteria. Graduate student Anthony Veerkamp and AMNESP Administrative Assistant Anne Defelice typed and filed edited forms onto an IBM PC using MultiMate word processing program and abstracted the major First Period features onto a database using the Powerbase program. Kathryn Cavanaugh typed the first page of each survey form, adding site sketches and descriptions of the photographs. Eliza McClennon, cartographer for the Boston University Geography Department, prepared the map of the three-county area with consecutive number locations of the properties.

Due to the four-year time lapse between the initial survey and submission of a nomination to the National Park Service, each property was revisited in the Fall of 1989 to check for alterations to the building (no major alterations were discovered; see individual forms) and to record its setting, to count the number of outbuildings, and to obtain assessors' maps. No interior inspections were conducted at this time. This phase of the nomination process was conducted by preservation consultants Gretchen Schuler and Anne Forbes.

Context Development

The survey team compiled a list of 300+ buildings in Essex, Suffolk, Middlesex, and Norfolk Counties drawn from a broad literature search, from Dr. Cummings' files of houses he had studied, and others that had been brought to his attention since the 1979 publication of Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay, 1625-1725. In addition, the Massachusetts Historical Commission furnished copies of the state inventory B-forms for those houses that had been surveyed by local historical commissions. The Commission staff also wrote each local historical commission in the survey area requesting that they help Boston University locate purported First Period buildings in their town, assist in gaining access to interiors for study, and suggest other houses of traditional early date to supplement the original list. The survey benefited from records of earlier site visits by qualified observers and research by independent scholars, including Abbott Lowell Cummings, Robert Trent, Robert Booth, Frank Demers, John Cole, Gretchen Schuler, and Steven Roper.

Areas Excluded from Survey

As it became clear that there were far more houses with structures that would prove to be First Period than had been estimated, the survey contract was amended to exclude Norfolk County. Also excluded were towns for which there was no literature of First Period structures, no existing B-forms of buildings
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dated traditionally to pre-1725, or no local historical society or commission contact person who could add otherwise unknown sites to the survey list. Occasionally, a decision was made not to study one or more buildings in a town on the basis of telephone conversations with the local historical commission or other qualified individuals who had clear information about specific properties. Where this was so, and it could be reasonably concluded that no evidence for First Period construction existed, no site survey was conducted.

The Boston Landmarks Commission and Cambridge Historical Commission staffs confirmed that all First Period buildings in those two cities were already listed on the National Register, and that there were no other examples remaining to be surveyed. Several cities and towns undertaking large multiple resource nominations confirmed that the nomination in process included all known First Period candidates; others sought the surveyors' advice in confirmation of those nominations. In general, the towns excluded from the survey were those of later eighteenth century settlement with no known pre-1730 First Period structures, or where subsequent development is known or believed to have replaced all First Period construction entirely, as in the industrial cities of Lowell and Lawrence.

Necessity of Interior Access

In order to establish the patterns of structural carpentry and building traditions as they evolved in eastern Massachusetts, this project required more detailed interior investigation than is normally possible for other architectural surveys. Because of the nature of a resource defined by the interior exposed frame that has undergone centuries of alterations and additions, intensive survey was needed to determine the floor plan, structural characteristics, condition, and the presence of First Period building materials. The greatest number of buildings discovered in this survey now survive as the early cores of houses or other buildings that have taken on a later exterior appearance. In such a building, the frame, roof, chimney, or other decorative elements may be hidden by later additions and changes; and it may have been remodeled or restored by earlier scholars or architects. Only by studying the interior physical evidence can the period or method of construction be confirmed.

There are many difficulties in achieving visual confirmation of First Period construction in Massachusetts buildings to which the assignment of early dates has been based solely on documentary evidence. Some have frames now completely hidden beneath later interior finish, and until this covering can be removed or otherwise studied, a house containing a First Period frame cannot be documented visually, and are therefore excluded from this study. Other buildings have had all later finish removed in zealous restoration or later remodeling. These restored or over-restored structures often provide the best examples of original exposed-frame construction features, although (continued)
interpretation of the decorative evidence is often made difficult by the work of adroit restorers. Finally, there are numerous properties where the owner or tenant could or would not provide access. Despite seemingly clear exterior evidence (for example, an overhanging second story), such houses have not been included in the survey or subsequent nomination.

Issues of Comprehensiveness

As long as First Period structural framing is hidden beneath later (sometimes significant) boxing, paneling, and other interior trim, it is possible that architectural alteration and restoration may reveal other First Period buildings in Essex, Middlesex, or Suffolk County. However, of the 113 properties in this nomination, more than fifty had been studied by Cummings previously, including several that had been treated extensively in The Framed House of Massachusetts Bay, 1625-1725 and "Massachusetts & Its First Period Houses: A Statistical Survey."

In his 1979 statistical survey, Cummings evaluated the documentary and physical evidence of First Period buildings in Massachusetts that formed the basis of his larger monograph. He estimated that there were 257 extant First Period houses in the state: 10 built before 1660 ("6 have been firmly documented and only two might conceivably be any later"); 61 built between 1660 and 1700 (exclusive of those fragments of rooms removed to museums); "83 as yet undocumented houses," which "can be accepted on the basis of style" as having been built just before or just after 1700; and, 103 that "survive from the period 1701 to 1725 of which a few at least may conceivably be... somewhat later than 1725."4

This thematic survey can now add a handful of houses to Cummings' compilation of those thought to be built shortly before or after 1700. Also, there are a considerable number that date to the first quarter of the 18th century, and several others with later dates that are truly "First Period" due to stylistic and construction evidence. Approximately 60 structures are not included in this thematic nomination because of their later construction dates, a lack of exposed early core, or insufficient evidence of First Period material. Also, there were a number of buildings into which surveyors could not gain access. They all deserve further research efforts.

Testing and Evaluation

Field Evaluation. With the assistance of local historical commissions that chose to participate in the survey, field surveyors made appointments with property owners, viewed and photographed the buildings' constructional features, and gathered only readily available historical documentation. While attempts were made to study all purported First Period houses in a town during one or two days, the need to gain access forced surveyors to accommodate the

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owners' schedules. On-site sketch floor plans were made with notations of
construction and stylistic evidence, interior and exterior photographs were
taken of major First Period and other significant features, and initial
evaluation or dating was done. For students with less field experience,
subsequent evaluation of drawings and photographs with Candee, St. George,
Grady, and Cummings during class or in weekly meetings allowed further
refinement of the evidence and its significance. Sarah Zimmerman of the
Massachusetts Historical Commission staff assisted in student training and met
with the survey team on several occasions to help refine the format, language,
and content of the resulting survey forms.

Classification. Field notes, photographs, and sketch plans were edited for
accuracy in building descriptions and statements of significance. Where the
First Period evidence proved to be only reused materials or a "fragment" of an
earlier frame (defined as a room without an existing chimney bay), the
structure was removed from further thematic consideration. While several of
the houses had been moved from their historic settings, the thematic focus on
patterns of building form and construction dictated that these should receive
consideration against the other tests of integrity and National Register
criteria C and D.

Additional Research

Two Preservation Studies Program graduate students in Dr. St. George's course
on material culture, Anne Brophy and James Kyprianos, completed term papers
that drew from and analyzed the contents of the survey files. Brophy studied
the planning process of carpenters and owners transforming houses in New
England from First Period central chimney forms to "transitional" vernacular
houses accommodating new Georgian models. Kyprianos developed a typology of
chamfers and chamfer stops (see Figs. 12-13), which has since been expanded
for inclusion in this nomination. Anne Grady and Robert St. George assisted
Principal Investigator Richard Candee in the formulation of the nomination.

Issues of Integrity in First Period Buildings

While several First Period structures have been restored to an exterior
appearance that is in keeping with general historical evidence of
post-medieval architectural features, none retain all their original materials
and few retain their original form in its entirety. As an architecture of
addition and expansion, the timber frame is easily adapted to changing
architectural fashions. As a result, many First Period buildings no longer
retain even an outward appearance consistent with the period of their
construction.

This class of historic resources is, by the nature of architectural survival,
difficult to assess on the basis of exterior form and architectural detail.

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The greatest number of examples are to be found in the core of what are today later eighteenth, nineteenth, and even early twentieth century modified houses. Only one original First Period window frame is known to remain (#104), and that survives only through having been walled up at the time of a later addition. Original, or at least early eighteenth century, clapboards survive on only portions of two houses in this survey. While the majority of buildings still have clapboard exteriors, some have been covered with other sidings. Windows are entirely additions or replacements of succeeding generations.

As the purpose of this thematic study was to identify the significance of First Period material, other periods of construction were merely noted. The analysis of integrity was applied only to the First Period features of a building. Is there an intact First Period frame? Is there physical evidence that permits assumptions about the survival of major portions of the frame where only key parts may actually be seen? Where elements are covered by later materials, sometimes significant in their own right, do documentary sources and surviving physical evidence strongly suggest that the structure is likely to yield further information about construction methods and building practices of First Period carpentry or masonry?

Different types of building materials and structural elements deteriorate at different rates. Thus, chimney stacks are replaced at a relatively higher rate than roofs. Even the chimney stacks and fireplaces of many First Period museum houses are reproductions or eighteenth century replacements. Roof frames, too, may have been altered or removed. Timber-framed carpentry allowed the house frame and roof frame to be conceived and constructed in various ways. This means that the survival of a box frame without its roof may still retain a significant amount of historical information about that structural system.

Due to alterations and later period overlay construction, many individual properties of this nomination have been treated as above-ground archaeological remains. Buildings restored to their First Period appearance, as well as those inadvertently shorn of later finish, can be seen as being much like a fully tested archaeological site. Those with major framing elements partially boxed, with portions of key features (such as summer beams, chimneys, or roof frames) intact and exposed, are like test pits into the core of the First Period frame. Determination that plan, walling, and floor system and/or roofing system is extant and relatively intact for scholarly investigation was the threshold of integrity for this thematic class of resources.

Buildings Moved from their Original Sites

Buildings that have been removed from their original historic context are normally excluded from the National Register. Among the 113 properties (continued)
recommended for thematic inclusion are seventeen that have been moved from their original location. They are of two types. The first group consists of buildings moved within the First Period, forming one house out of one or more earlier house frames and thereby preserving earlier evidence of a building as part of the new house type. Thus, these buildings share historic context for the date of relocation and reuse. Among them are:

Ross Tavern, Ipswich (#38), moved 1734 & 1736;
"Humphreys"/Burrill House, Swampscott (#84);
Col. John Osgood House, North Andover (#66);
50 Essex Street, Beverly (#3).

Others were moved or incorporated into other houses over the next century, such as the Hopestill Bent Tavern in Wayland, moved ca. 1800. Houses moved during the twentieth century, usually for the purpose of preservation and restoration, include both the Ross Tavern in Ipswich and the so-called "Humphreys"/Burrill House in Swampscott (both composed of previously moved cores) and:

Boardman-Howard House
(#57) moved from Saugus to Boxford;
Benahah Titcomb House
(#19) moved from Newburyport to Essex;
Moses Brewer House
(#112) moved from Wayland to Sudbury;
Isaac Goodale House
(#30) moved from Peabody to Ipswich;
White-Ellery House
(#26) moved within Gloucester;
Emerson House
(#50) moved within Haverhill;
Benjamin Coker House
(#42) moved within Newburyport;
Prince-Osborn House
(#79) moved within Danvers.

All retain significant architectural evidence of First Period construction and can contribute to our understanding of First Period building patterns by the retention of unique decorative features or evidence of structural framing.

Due to the limited period of significance for the present nomination and the general absence of a local historic context, the 18th and 19th century outbuildings associated with many First Period residences are not considered contributing to the present nomination, and the context in which the buildings exist was only described but not analyzed.
First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts
Thematic Resource Nomination

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END NOTES: Section 8, SIGNIFICANCE


3. Cummings, Framed Houses,
9. Major Bibliographical References

Previous documentation on file (NPS):
☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
☐ previously listed in the National Register
☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings
  Survey # __________________________
☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering
  Record # __________________________

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of property ______________________ 273 acres

UTM References

A Zone ___________ Easting ___________ Northing ___________

B Zone ___________ Easting ___________ Northing ___________

C Zone ___________ Easting ___________ Northing ___________

D Zone ___________ Easting ___________ Northing ___________

See individual survey forms

Verbal Boundary Description

See Assessors' Maps with individual survey forms.

Boundary Justification

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Gretchen G. Schuler/Ann M. Forbes-editors, Betsy Friedberg, MHC
organization Massachusetts Historical Commission
street & number 80 Boylston Street
City of town Boston
state MA
telephone 617-727-8470

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet

See continuation sheet
MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES


(continued)


Appendix I

FIRST PERIOD MASSACHUSETTS BUILDINGS

Listed by 1986 or in process of Listing on the National Register of Historic Places

The following includes National Register properties known to be of First Period construction. There may be other properties not included in this Appendix that have an early construction date but have not yet been identified and verified as having elements of an exposed interior frame.

Key

HOUSE NAMES = Buildings listed individually on the National Register

DISTRICTS & MULTIPLE RESOURCES = First Period Buildings listed on the National Register. Those followed by "(ALC)" have previously been identified as First Period by Cummings; other sources similarly indicated.

* Added since 1986.

Acton
FAULKNER HOMESTEAD c. 1710 (NR 12/16/71)
5 High Street

Andover
BENJAMIN ABBOTT HOUSE after 1700 (NR 2/24/75)
7 Andover Street

HOLT FARM (NR 6/10/82)
89 Prospect Road

ANDOVER MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION (NR 6/10/82)
5 Argilla Road
88 Lowell Street
116 Osgood Street
67 Salem Street
Arlington
RUSSEL HOUSE C. 1740 (NR 10/9/74)
7 Jason Street ALC: not First Period but exposed ceiling frame and sponge painting.

NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICTS include:
164 Old Mystic Street;
21 Appleton Street;
393 Massachusetts Avenue;
54 Massachusetts Avenue

Bedford
NATHANIEL PAGE HOUSE (NR 3/29/78)
89 Page Road

Beverly
JOHN BALCH HOUSE (NR 2/23/73)
448 Cabot Street

REV. JOHN HALE HOUSE (NR 10/9/74)
39 Hale Street

Billerica
SAMUEL MANNING MANCE (NR 8/11/82)

BILLERICA TOWN COMMON HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 8/14/73) Samuel Hill House, 187 Concord Road (ALC)

Boston
EBENEZER CLOUGH HOUSE (NHL with North Church 10/15/66)
21 Unity Street

OLD CORNER BOOKSTORE (NR 4/11/73)
Northwest corner Washington and School Streets

PIERCE-HICHBORN HOUSE (NHL 11/24/68)
29 North Square
PAUL REVERE HOUSE (NHL 10/15/88)
19 North Square

BLAKE HOUSE (NR 5/1/74)
735 Columbia Road, Dorchester

CLAPP HOUSE (NR 5/2/74)
199 or 195 Boston Street, Dorchester

PIERCE HOUSE (NR 4/26/74)
24 Oakton Avenue

UNION OYSTER HOUSE (NR 4/26/73 with Blackstone Block)
41 Union Street

Boxford
BOXFORD VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR DISTRICT 4/11/73)
Stiles-Readington House, Main Street (ALC: probably pre-1700)
Palmer House, Main Street
Thomas Perley House
Moses Dorman House, Topsfield Road

Brookline
BROOKLINE MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION (NR 10/17/85)
20 White Place (Moved from Boylston Street) (ALC: pre-1700)
Boylston House ell, 617 Boylston Street (ALC: fragment)

Cambridge
COOPER-FROST-AUSTIN HOUSE c. 1689 (NR 9/22/72)
21 Linnean Street

HOOPER-LEE-NICHOLS HOUSE (NR 6/15/79)
158 Brattle Street (Two First Period Houses, one moved)

CAMBRIDGE MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA (NR 4/13/82)
Henry Vassall House
94 Brattle Street
Chelmsford
OLD GARRISON HOUSE (NR 5/8/73)
105 Garrison Road

Chelsea
GOVERNOR CARY BELLINGHAM HOUSE (NR 9/6/74)
34 Parker Street (Detwiller claims reused First Period materials)

Concord
NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 9/13/77):
Perkins-Sutton House
Concord Antiques (ex. East Street, Ipswich) (ALC) Buttrick House
Reuben Brown House
Stowe House
Hunt-Hosmer Barn

PARKMAN TAVERN (NR 6/19/79)
20 Powder Mill Road

"WAYSIDE" / Caleb Ball House (NR 1/11/80)
455 Lexington Street (ALC: early 18th century)

ORCHARD HOUSE (NR 10/15/66)
399 Lexington Road

Danvers
DARLING-PRICE HOUSE (NR 1/31/75)
177 Hobart Street

HIRAM HOOK HOUSE (NR 1/31/75)
171 Hobart Street

NATHANIEL INGERSOL HOUSE (NR 1/31/75)
199 Hobart Street

REBECCA NURSE HOUSE (NR 1/31/75)
149 Pine (ALC: probably after 1700)
2. Endicott House (ex-138 Endicott Street; re-erected on Nurse House site)
REA-PROCTOR HOUSE (NR 6/2/82)
180 Conant Street

GENERAL ISRAEL PUTNAM HOUSE (NR 4/30/76)
431 Main Street

SALEM VILLAGE HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 1/31/75)
John Holton House, 27 Center Street (ALC: late First Period)
Samuel Holton House, Holten and Center Streets (ALC: before 1700)
Hutchinson-Kimball House, 84 Forest Street (ALC)
Joseph Hutchinson House, 19 Center Street

Essex

DAVID BURNHAM HOUSE (NR 7/30/83)
150 Eastern Avenue (ALC: 1685-1695)

Hamilton

HAMILTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 4/13/73)
Whipple-Mathews House, Bay Road (ALC: 1680-1683)

Holliston

THOMAS HOLLISTON HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 10/30/89)
*Foster-Newton-Cutler House, 617 Washington Street

Ipswich

JOHN WHipple HOUSE (NR 10/15/66)
53 South Main Street (ALC: c. 1655)

NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICTS / MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREAS:
Stephen Boardman House, 53 Turkey Shore Road (ALC: 1710-1720)
9 County Street (ALC: after 1700)
Colonel John Appleton House, 2 North Main Street (ALC: after 1700)
Wilson-Appleton House, 4 South Main Street (ALC: after 1672)
Blake House, 17 High Street (ALC: after 1700)
Burley-Perkins House, 10 Green Street (ALC: probably pre-1700)
Waldo Caldwell House, 33 High Street (ALC: 1709+)
Dennis House, 7 County Road (ALC: after 1700)
Polly Dole House, 24-26 East Street (ALC: reused First Period materials)
Jacob Foster, Jr. House, 6 Water Street (ALC: post 1700)
Foster-Edward House, 42-44 Summer Street (ALC: post 1700)
Hovey House, 30 East Street (ALC: post 1700)
Hovey-Kinsman House, 11 Summer Street (ALC: post 1700)
Kendrick House, 5 Hovey Street (ALC: probably pre-1700)
Knowlton House, 25 Summer Street (ALC: post 1700)
Lakeman House, 72 East Street (ALC: post 1700)
Joseph Lord House, 27 High Street (ALC: post 1700)
Lummus-Law House, 45 High Street (ALC: post 1712)
Captain Mathew Perkins House, 8 East Street (ALC: post 1700)
Pulsifer House, Water Street (ALC: post 1700)
Jonathon Pulsifer House, 15 Summer Street (ALC: post 1700)
Smith-Caldwell House, 26 High Street (ALC: 1675-1700)
Willcomb House, 13 High Street (ALC: post 1700)
Willcomb-Hovey House, 39 Summer Street (ALC: post 1700)
William Howard House, 41 Turkey Shore Road (ALC: late 17th century+)
Austin Lord House, 97-99 High Street (ALC: pre-1653)
104 High Street (ALC: probably First Period)
106 High Street (ALC: files but probably not First Period)
30 High Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period)
16 North Main Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period)
12 Water Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period)
56 North Main Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period)
7 Poplar Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period)
3 Summer Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period)
23 High Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period)
82-83 High Street (ALC: can't decide if First Period, if First Period=late)
Samuel York House, 36 Water Street
John Appleton House, Market and Central Streets, 1707-1711
62 East Street (ALC: reused summer in 18th century house)
plus 23 others on National Register given First Period dates; not checked

Lexington
BUCKMAN TAVERN (NHL 10/15/76)
1 Bedford Street (ALC: 1713)

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK (NHL 10/15/66+)
Whittemore-Muzzey (Smith) House (ALC)
SANDERSON HOUSE - MONROE TAVERN HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 4/26/76)
Monroe Tavern

Lincoln
DANIEL BROOKS HOUSE (NR 10/25/73)
Brooks Road (ALC)

MINUTE MAN NATIONAL HISTORIC PARK (NHL 10/15/66)
Samuel Hartwell House, Virginia Road (HABS, early 18th century)

Marblehead
SAINT MICHAEL’S CHURCH (NR 6/18/73)
26 Pleasant Street

MARBLEHEAD NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NHL 1/10/84)
31 Circle Street (ALC: probably before 1700)
4 Gingerbread Hill (ALC: probably before 1700)
31 High Street (ALC)
11 Hooper Street (ALC: R. Detwiller has seen ALC has not)
8-10 Stacey Street (ALC)
John Allen House, 200 Washington Street (ALC)
Ambrose Gale House, 17 Franklin Street (ALC: c. 1663)
Ambrose Gale, JR. House, 10 Orne Street (ALC)
Samuel Gale House, 3 Elm Street (ALC)
Norden House, 15 Glover Street (ALC: 1680–1687)
Peach House, 9 Harding Lane (ALC)
Moll Pitcher Birthplace, 42 Orne Street (Detwiller)
Parker-Orne House, 47 Orne Street (ALC: c. 1711)
William Waters House, Washinton Street and Market Square (Trent: c. 1695)
Peter Jayne House, 37 Mugford Street (HABS, early 18th Century)
Edmund Dimont House, 58 Orne Street (Trent: "early")
59 Orne Street (Trent: cove cornice?)
20 Middle Street (1717)
4 Union Street (ALC: after 1719, single cells)
95 Elm Street (1715)
22 Franklin Street (1662 or 1750?)

Marlborough
CAPTAIN PETER RICE HOUSE (NR 4/9/80)
377 Elm Street
Medford
PETER TUFTS HOUSE (NHL 11/24/68)
350 Riverside Avenue (ALC)

USHER-ROYALL HOUSE (NR 10/14/66)
15 George Street (ALC: brick wall remnants only)

JONATHAN WADE HOUSE (NR 6/18/75)
253 High Street (ALC: pre-1700)

Newbury
TRISTRAM COFFIN HOUSE (NR 5/24/76)
16 High Road (ALC: c. 1654)

SPENCER-PIERCE-LITTLE HOUSE (NHL 11/24/68)
end, Little's Lane (ALC: probably pre-1700)

NEWBURY HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 5/24/76)
Swett-Ilsely House, 4-6 High Road (ALC: c. 1670+)
Peter Toppan House, 5 High Road (ALC: First Period, re-roofed)
Abraham Toppan House, 11 High Street
Henry Sewall House, 30 High Street
Atkinson Little House, 5 Hanover Street

Newburyport
NEWBURYPORT HISTORIC DISTRICT (nominated 1984)
17 Elm Street (ALC: after 1700)
2 Neptune Street (ALC: after 1700)
Cottle House, 156 Water Street (ALC: after 1700)
Pillsbury House, High Street (ALC: part burned 1889)
20 Toppan Lane (c. 1670?)
Hale-Weed House, 53 High Street (c. 1675-1700)
174-176 Water Street (c. 1700)
215 Merrimack Street (c. 1700-1750)
265 Water Street (c. 1710)
Newton
MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION (NR 9/4/86)
Kingsbury House, 137 Suffolk Road
John Woodward House, 50 Farlee Street (ALC: Not First Period; stair c. 1725)
Thomas Hastings House, 215 Brookline Street

North Andover
PARSON BARNARD HOUSE (NR 9/6/74)
179 Osgood Street (ALC: 1715)

Peabody
NATHANIEL FELTON HOUSE (NR 4/1/82)
47 Felton Street (ALC: one of two house are First Period, after 1700)

Reading
PARKER TAVERN (NR 8/19/75)
103 Washington Street (ALC: c. 1725, but First Period)

READING MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA (NR 7/19/84)
Eaton-Prescott House, 284 Summer Avenue
Jonathan Parker House, 99 Pearl Street (pre-1714)
Joseph Parker House, 420 Franklin Street (c. 1725)
Richard Nichols House, 483 Franklin Street
529 Franklin Street
Samuel Bancroft House, 232 West Street

Revere
MASONIC TEMPLE (NR after 1984)
corner Eustic and Beach Streets (c. 1710 Meeting House)

Rockport
"THE CASTLE" / WHEELER HOUSE (NR 9/1/78)
Castle Lane at corner of Granite Street (ALC)

Rowley
CHAPLIN-CLARK-WILLIAMS HOUSE (NR 5/10/79)
109 Haverhill Street (ALC: early 18th century)
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PLATT-BRADSTREET HOUSE (NR 9/27/80)
Main Street (ALC: early 18th century)

Salem
ESSEX INSTITUTE NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 6/22/72)
JOHN WARD HOUSE (Moved to Essex Institute) (ALC: 1684+) (NHL 2/8/78)

CHARTER STREET NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 3/10/75)
Samuel Pickman House, Charter Street (ALC: pre 1681)

GEDNEY & COX HOUSES (NR 10/1/74)
Gedney House, 21 High Street (ALC: c. 1665)

HOUSE OF SEVEN GABLES NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 5/8/73)
Becket House, now 54 Turner Street (ALC: probably pre-1700)
Hooper-Hathaway House, now 54 Turner Street (ALC: c. 1682)
Turner House (House of Seven Gables), 54 Turner Street (ALC: c. 1668)

SALEM COMMON NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 5/12/76)
Daniels House, 1 Daniels Street (ALC)
Narbonne House, 71 Essex Street (ALC: c. 1672)
69 Essex Street

CHESTNUT STREET NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 4/13/71;8/28/73;10/4/78)
Cook-Deland House, 14 Beckford (gable end to street) (ALC)
Corwin (Witch) House, 310 Essex Street (HABS: ALC: c. 1675)
John Pickering House, 18 Broad Street (ALC: 1660)
Dean Sprague Stearns House, 384 Essex Street

Saugus
APPLETON-TAYLOR-MARSHFIELD HOUSE (Saugus Ironworks NHL 10/15/66)
Off U.S. Route 1 (ALC: c. 1660)

"SCOTCH"-BOARDMAN HOUSE (NR 10/15/66)
17 Howard Street (ALC: c. 1687)
Sherborn
MULTIPLE RESOURCE NOMINATION (NR 1/3/86)
Morse-Barber House, 46 Forest Street ("1716")
210 Farm Road
32 Pleasant Street
70 Washington Street
266 Western Avenue
104 Woodland Street
100 South Main Street

Somerville
POWDER HOUSE (built c. 1710 as windmill) (NR 4/21/75)

Stoneham
JONATHAN GREEN HOUSE (NR 4/13/84)
63 Perkins Street

MILLARD-SOUTHERN-GREEN HOUSE (NR 4/13/84)
218 Green Street

Sudbury
WAYSIDE INN HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 4/23/71)
Old Boston Post Road
95 Peakham Drive

Topsfield
PARSON CAPEN HOUSE (NR 10/15/86)
1 Howlett Street / East Common (ALC: 1683)

Tyngsborough
COLONEL JONATHAN TYNG MANSION (NR 8/19/77)
80 Tyng Road (ALC: could never find reputed 17th century core)

Wakefield
WAKEFIELD MULTIPLE RESOURCE AREA (NR 7/6/89)
*Sweetser-Gould House, 19-21 Salem Street
Wenham
CLAFLIN-RICHARDS HOUSE (Captain Thomas Fiske House) (NR 4/3/73)
132 Main Street (ALC: c. 1700)

WENHAM HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 4/13/73)
G.E. Wallace House, 185 Main Street (ALC: unfiled?)
Albert Dodge House, 187 Main Street (ALC: saw curved braces)
Gott-Porter House, 153 Main Street (ALC: unfiled? "1697")

Weston
BOSTON POST ROAD NATIONAL REGISTER HISTORIC DISTRICT (NR 2/11/83)
Carter House, 751 Boston Post Road (ALC)

JOSEPH HARRINGTON HOUSE (NR 6/22/76)
555 Wellsley Road (ALC)

ABEL ALLAN HOUSE (Thomas Rand House) (NR 1/9/78)
1 Chestnut Street (ALC)

Woburn
COUNT RUMFORD BIRTHPLACE (NHL 6/15/75)
90 Elm Street (1710-1714)

LAOMMI BALDWIN HOUSE (NR 11/5/74)
2 Alford Street (WPA "1661" / probably 1800)
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**MASSACHUSETTS FIRST PERIOD THEMATIC NOMINATION**  
**PROPERTY INDEX**  

**KEY:**  
C - Contributing,  
NC - Noncontributing  

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<td>96 Central Street</td>
<td>Foster Homestead barn</td>
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<td>garage/wagon shed</td>
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<td>62 Osgood Street</td>
<td>Blanchard/Upton House barn</td>
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<td>5 houses</td>
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<td>Christopher Page House barn</td>
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<td>388 Pleasant Street</td>
<td>Abraham Hill House</td>
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<td>Hazadiah Smith House</td>
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<td>ca. 1716</td>
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<td>William Livermore House barn</td>
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**National Park Service**  
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<td>Phineas Foster House</td>
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<td>523 Curve Street</td>
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Essex

66 Choate Street  George Giddings House  1690's  C  18
barn  pre-1702  C  18
chicken coop  20th Cent.  NC
animal shelter/shed  20th Cent.  NC

143 John Wise Road  Samuel Giddings House  ca. 1678-1702+  C  20
barn  18th-19th Cent.  NC

189 John Wise Road  Benaiah Titcomb House  ca. 1700  C  19
shed/garage  20th Cent.  NC

Georgetown

225 East Main Street  Hazen-Kimball-Aldrich House  ca. 1710  C  55

170 Jewett Street  Pillsbury-Witham House  1700+  C  56
barn  18th-19th Cent.  NC

93 West Main Street  Adams-Clarke House  ca. 1725  C  54
garage  late 20th Cent.  NC

Gloucester

189 Concord Street  Herrick House  late 17th Cent.  C  22

302 Essex Street  Davis-Freeman House  ca. 1709-1712  C  23

12-14 Leonard Street  Harraden House  ca. 1660  C  27

11 Lincoln Street  Haskell House  ca. 1720  C  21
shed  20th Cent.  NC

179 Washington Street  Whittemore House  late 17th Cent.  C  24
shop  1700  17th Cent.  NC
garage  late 19th Cent.  NC

244 Washington Street  White-Ellery House  ca. 1710  C  26

144 Wheeler Street  Dyke-Wheeler House  ca. 1720  C  25
garage  20th Cent.  NC
shed  20th Cent.  NC
### Groveland

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<td>93 King Street</td>
<td>Joseph Hardy House, barn</td>
<td>ca. 1720-1729 late 19th Cent.</td>
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<td>362 Main Street</td>
<td>George Hopkinson House, garage, shed</td>
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### Hamilton

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<td>Emeline Patch House, carriage shed/garage</td>
<td>ca. 1725 early 20th Cent.</td>
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<td>1028 Bay Road</td>
<td>Austin Brown House</td>
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<td>76 Bridge Street</td>
<td>Brown House, garage</td>
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<td>180 Bridge Street</td>
<td>Woodberry-Quarrels House, barn</td>
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### Haverhill

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<td>595 East Broadway</td>
<td>Hastings-Morse House, barn, two sheds garage</td>
<td>1706 20th Cent.</td>
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<td>8 Groveland Street</td>
<td>Hazen-Spiller House, garage</td>
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<td>665 Hilldale Avenue</td>
<td>Dustin House</td>
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<td>Merrimack Road</td>
<td>Ephraim Davis House, barn, shed</td>
<td>1705 late 18th Cent.</td>
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<td>5-9 Pentucket Street</td>
<td>Emerson House</td>
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<td>Isaac Bullard House, garage</td>
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Ipswich

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<td>37 Argilla Road</td>
<td>Giddings-Burnham House garage</td>
<td>ca. 1680-1690 20th Cent.</td>
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<td>141 Argilla Road</td>
<td>Isaac Goodale House</td>
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<td>142 Argilla Road</td>
<td>Smith House</td>
<td>ca. 1725</td>
<td>C 32</td>
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<td>36 Heartbreak Road</td>
<td>Thomas Low House</td>
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<td>37 Heartbreak Road</td>
<td>Jas. Burnham House</td>
<td>1677-1703 19th Cent.</td>
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<td>49 Jeffrey's Neck Rd</td>
<td>Paine-Dodge House</td>
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<td>52 Jeffrey's Neck Rd</td>
<td>Ross Tavern</td>
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<td>Labor in Vain Road</td>
<td>House on Labor in Vain Road</td>
<td>ca. 1720-1730 C</td>
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<tr>
<td>403 Linebrook Road</td>
<td>Abraham Howe Barn</td>
<td>1700-1750 C</td>
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Lexington

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<td>John Mason House</td>
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Lynnfield

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<td>Hart House barn</td>
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<td>300 Main Street</td>
<td>Henfield House shed</td>
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Marblehead

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<td>Harris Farm</td>
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Melrose

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<td>Phineas Upham House shed</td>
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<td>Joseph Fuller House</td>
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<td>Deacon Edward Putnam House</td>
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<td>Old South Main Street</td>
<td>Lt. Thomas Fuller House</td>
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<td>Natick</td>
<td>Stephen Bacon House</td>
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<td>Newbury</td>
<td>James Noyes House</td>
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<td>C 40</td>
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<td>Benjamin Coker House</td>
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<td>Hammond House</td>
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<td>922 Dale Street</td>
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<td>140 Mill Road</td>
<td>Carlton-Frie House</td>
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<td>Col. John Osgood House</td>
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<td>18-20 Stevens Street</td>
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**North Reading**

- **27 Bow Street**
  - Daniel Putnam House
  - Schoolhouse: ca. 1720, C, 92
  - Barn: 1844, NC, 92

- **235 Elm Street**
  - John Bickford House
  - Barn: 1735, C, 93

**Peabody**

- **348 Lowell Street**
  - Proctor House
  - House: ca. 1700, C, 80

**Reading**

- **288 Grove Street**
  - Samuel Foster House
  - ca. 1700-1710, C, 91

**Rockport**

- **188 Granite Street**
  - Old Garrison House
  - Barn: ca. 1700+, C, 28
  - Two sheds: mid-19th Cent., NC, 28

- **Gott Avenue**
  - Gott House
  - Potting shed: 1702-1730, C, 29

**Rowley**

- **142 Main Street**
  - Lambert House
  - ca. 1699, C, 39

**Salem**

- **39 Essex Street**
  - William Murray House
  - 1688-1700+, C, 82

**Sherborn**

- **128 Hollis Street**
  - Gardner House
  - ca. 1730, C, 106

**Stow**

- **172 Harvard Road**
  - Brown-Stow House
  - Barn: ca. 1699-1711, C, 115
  - Shed: 20th Cent., NC, 115
  - Wagon shed/garage: 20th Cent., NC, 115

- **156 Taylor Road**
  - Tenney House
  - Garage: 1700-1725, C, 116
  - 20th Cent., NC, 116
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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts
Thematic Resource Nomination

Section number 9 Page 24

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<td>ca. 1638-1650</td>
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(end)
Fig. 1. Abraham Browne House, Watertown
[from Cummings, *Framed Houses*, p. 148]

Fig. 2. George Giddings House, Essex
[from Cummings, *Framed Houses*, p. 148]

Fig. 3. Whipple-Matthews House, Hamilton
[from Cummings, *Framed Houses*, p. 148]
Fig. 4. Timber Frame of Gedney House, Salem [from Cummings, Framed Houses, p.53]
Fig. 5. White-Ellery House
Gloucester, MA

[from Cummings, Framed Houses, p. 86]
Fig. 6. Map of Plank Framed Houses (* = added to Cummings' map
# = map number for properties in nomination)
[from Cummings, Framed Houses, p.90]
Fig. 7 Distribution of New England Log Buildings [after Candee]
Fig. 8. Ross Tavern, Ipswich, with facade gable
[from Cummings, Framed Houses, p. 148]

Fig. 9 Barn bent sequence of Stanley-Lake Barn, Topsfield.
Bents 1 through 5 proceed from southern to northern end. (from R.B. St. George)
Fig. 10. Typology of Chamfers and Chamfer Stops (J. Kyprianos)
FIG. 11

Fig. 11. Typology of Chamfers and Chamfer Stops (J. Kyprianos)
Fig. 12. Profiles of Molded Sheathing, [from Cummings, Framed Houses, p.176]
Giddings-Burnham house, Ipswich, Mass. Elevation of interior wainscot door, with detail of molding, probably before 1650.

White-Ellery house, Gloucester, Mass. Elevation of two-panel door leading to right-hand room, with detail of applied molding, ca. 1710.

Fig. 13. First Period and Transitional Doors [from Cummings, Framed Houses, p.186, 192]
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Thematic Group

Name: First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
State: 

Nomination/Type of Review

Cover

1. Abbot—Stinson House
2. Adams, Abraham, House
3. Adams—Clarke House
4. Beverly Grammar School
5. Blanchard—Upton House
6. Brown House
7. Brown, Austin, House
8. Burnham, James, House
10. Chase, Samuel, House

Date/Signature

Keeper
Attest

Keeper
Attest

Keeper
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<td>14. Davis, Ephraim, House</td>
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<td>15. Davis--Freeman House</td>
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National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name  First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
State

Nomination/Type of Review

41. Hastings--Morse House  Entered in the National Register  Date/Signature  Keeper
Attest

42. Hazen--Kimball--Aldrich House  Entered in the National Register  Keeper
Attest

43. Hazen--Spiller House  Entered in the National Register  Keeper
Attest

44. Henfield House  Substantive Review  Keeper
Attest

45. Herrick, Ella Proctor, House  Entered in the National Register  Keeper
Attest

46. Hopkinson, George, House  Entered in the National Register  Keeper
Attest

47. House at 922 Dale Street  Entered in the National Register  Keeper
Attest

48. House on Labor-in-Vain Road  Substantive Review  Keeper
Attest

49. Howe Barn

50. Humphreys, Sir John, House  Entered in the National Register  Keeper
Attest
United States Department of the Interior
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Multiple Resource Area
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Name  First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
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51. Johnson, Capt. Timothy  Entered in the
                                    National Register
                                    Date/Signature
                                    Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
                                    Attest
52. Kimball, Solomon, House  Entered in the
                                      National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
                                      Attest
53. Lake, Stanley, House  Entered in the
                                      National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
                                      Attest
54. Lambert, Thomas, House  Entered in the
                                      National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
                                      Attest
55. Larch Farm  Entered in the National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
                                      Attest
56. Livermore, William, House  Entered in the National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
                                      Attest
57. Low, Thomas, House  Entered in the National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
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58. March, Samuel, House  Entered in the National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
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59. Morse, Timothy, House  Entered in the National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
                                      Attest
60. Murray, William, House  Entered in the National Register
                                      Keeper John Bynum 3/9/90
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Multiple Resource Area
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Name First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR

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71. Putnam, Deacon Edward, Jr., House Entered in the National Register

72. Putnam, James, Jr., House Entered in the National Register

73. Ross Tavern Entered in the National Register

74. Sawyer House Entered in the National Register

75. Smith House Entered in the National Register

76. Smith, Hazadiah, House Entered in the National Register

77. Thorndike, Capt. John, House Entered in the National Register

78. Titcomb, Benaiah, House Entered in the National Register

79. Tufts, Rev. John, House Entered in the National Register

80. White--Ellery House Entered in the National Register

Date/Signature

Keeper Adlave Byuen 3/9/80

Attest

Keeper Adlave Byuen 3/9/80

Attest

Keeper Betty S. Seavey 3/9/80

Attest

Keeper Adlave Byuen 3/9/80

Attest

Keeper Adlave Byuen 3/9/80

Attest

Keeper Adlave Byuen 3/9/80

Attest

Keeper Adlave Byuen 3/9/80

Attest

Keeper Adlave Byuen 3/9/80

Attest
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**United States Department of the Interior**  
**National Park Service**
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**State**:  
**Nomination/Type of Review**:  
**Date/Signature**:  

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**National Register of Historic Places**  
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United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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

111. Walcott—Whitney House
   Entered in the National Register

112. Winthrop, Deane, House
   Entered in the National Register

Date/Signature

Keeper  Attest

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First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR

Date Listed

1. Old Garrison House

2. Henfield House

3/4/91

[Signature]

[Signature]

For Keeper