

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For HCRS use only

received JAN 29 1980
date entered MAR 25 1980

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Nathan Fisher House

and/or common same

2. Location

E of Shrewsbury in MA 9

street & number Turnpike Road (Route 9) not for publication

city, town *Shrewsbury* Westborough *vic* vicinity of congressional district Third

state Massachusetts code 025 county Worcester code 027

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied (partially)	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Office of Administration and Finance

street & number State House

city, town Boston vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Registry of Deeds, Worcester County Courthouse

street & number 2 Main Street, Room #2

city, town Worcester state Mass. 01608

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic Assets
title of the Commonwealth #1

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date November, 1978 federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town 294 Washington Street, Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

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

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Nathan Fisher House stands on the north side of the Boston-Worcester Turnpike (Route 9), east of its junction with Park Street. It is a two-storey Federal style house of timber-frame construction. The building has a rectangular plan with an ell added to its northeast corner during the twentieth century. The structure rests on a foundation of hammered granite (eastern 2/3 of structure) and rock-faced granite (western 1/3 of structure). The building's exterior is covered with clapboarding and trimmed with narrow corner boards and a moulded cornice; the roof is a hip with monitor and is covered with sheet asphalt. Three interior chimneys rise from positions in between front and rear rooms.

With the exception of three-pane lights in the monitor and six windows of original 12/12 sash on the north wall, the house's windows all contain 6/6 sash (an apparent mid-nineteenth century alteration) set in moulded frames. A change in foundation immediately east of the facade's west entry, from hammered granite (eastward) to rock-faced granite (westward) and the apparent splicing of the water table, clapboards and cornice above this change in the foundation suggest that the western third of the house was added, perhaps shortly after the completion of the original structure, or during the 1830's.

South Wall: The Fisher House's facade faced south and is visible from Route 9. It is asymmetrically arranged, reflecting the interior's division into two units. The larger eastern unit possesses the facade's major entry, two evenly spaced windows which flank each side of the entry and five windows immediately above, at the second story. The smaller western unit contains a second entry, two closely spaced windows west of the entry and three closely spaced windows immediately above, at the second story. The major entry is approached from a granite step and contains a door of six sunken panels, moulded stiles, three-pane side lights and an elliptical fanlight. Flanking the entry are narrow pilasters which support an entablature and moulded cornice. The facade's west entry is also approached from a granite step and consists of a door of six sunken panels and semi-elliptical fanlight. This doorway is set between panelled pilasters which rise to a moulded cap. The south wall of the monitor has two windows, symmetrically placed; all facade windows have louvred shutters (some deteriorated beyond repair).

Boundary Justification: The house occupies the southernmost parcel of the Lyman School property, which is owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This parcel contains eleven acres and is shown as Lot #26 on the Westborough Assessors' Map #33. As this lot contains another structure and open land which seem, at present, to have no direct bearing on the Fisher House's significance, this nomination includes a smaller area, corresponding approximately to land now used as the house's yard and bounded as follows: east and west by lines running parallel to the structure's end walls at a distance of 50' from each end wall; north and south by Oak Street and Turnpike Road, respectively.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1820-1826

Builder/Architect Builder unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

In 1820, Fisher purchased the land on which the house stands and is thought to have constructed the major section of the building (east) around 1822 when he married Susanne Lothrop. Local histories state that by 1826 Fisher and his brother-in-law, Joseph Lothrop, had opened the town's first store in a section of Fisher's house, which had been added for that purpose, presumably the western one third of the structure. Soon after, Fisher and Lothrop constructed on the property a thread factory in which steam power was used for the first time in Westborough.

In 1884, the Fisher House and neighboring houses were bought by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to be used as part of the Lyman School, a reform school which was being moved from its original location on Lyman Street, Westborough, to a new site several hundred yards northwest of the Fisher House. From the 1880's, the Fisher House was used as a staff residence and land in the area was farmed by the school's students. Mid-twentieth century changes in curriculum have eliminated the farming program; the elimination of a resident staff and student body has left many buildings on the school property vacant. At present, only a portion of the Fisher House is occupied.

The Nathan Fisher House possesses integrity of location, design, materials and workmanship as well as historical associations with the early development of Westborough. Located in the original eighteenth century town center, its fine Federal detail is representative of this area's major period of significance. Although Westborough was established as a town in 1717, there was little stimulus for growth until the opening of the Boston-Worcester Turnpike (Route 9) in 1810. The installation of the Boston-Albany Railroad in 1834, however, curtailed development in this area and shifted the town center southward. The Fisher House remains as an important example of this early period of prosperity.

The Fisher House is important in a regional sense, showing the impact which the Boston-Worcester Turnpike had on the communities which it traversed. It is one of the few buildings remaining along its length which remain to indicate the wealth which the turnpike brought.

9. Major Bibliographical References

DeForest & Bates. The History of Westborough. Westborough, Mass.: Town of Westborough, 1891.
Fisher, Nahum. Map of the Town of Westborough, Massachusetts. 1830.
Forbes. The Hundredth Town. 1889.
Commerative Booklet of Westborough. 1967. (250th Anniversary of founding).

10. Geographical Data

UTM NOT VERIFIED

Acreage of nominated property LESS THAN ONE ACRE

Quadrangle name Shrewsbury

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	9	2	8	3	5	5	0	4	6	8	4	4	5	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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Verbal boundary description and justification

Building located on larger lot shown as lot #26 on Westborough Assessors' Map #33; only part of lot #26 included in this nomination. See map and boundary justification.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

B. R. Pfeiffer and Constance Keller, Westborough Historical Commission.

name/title Candance Jenkins, National Register Coordinator

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission

date November, 1979

street & number 294 Washington St.,

telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston,

state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Patricia W. Sedowski

1/4/80

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for *Bruce Van Duzend*
Keeper of the National Register

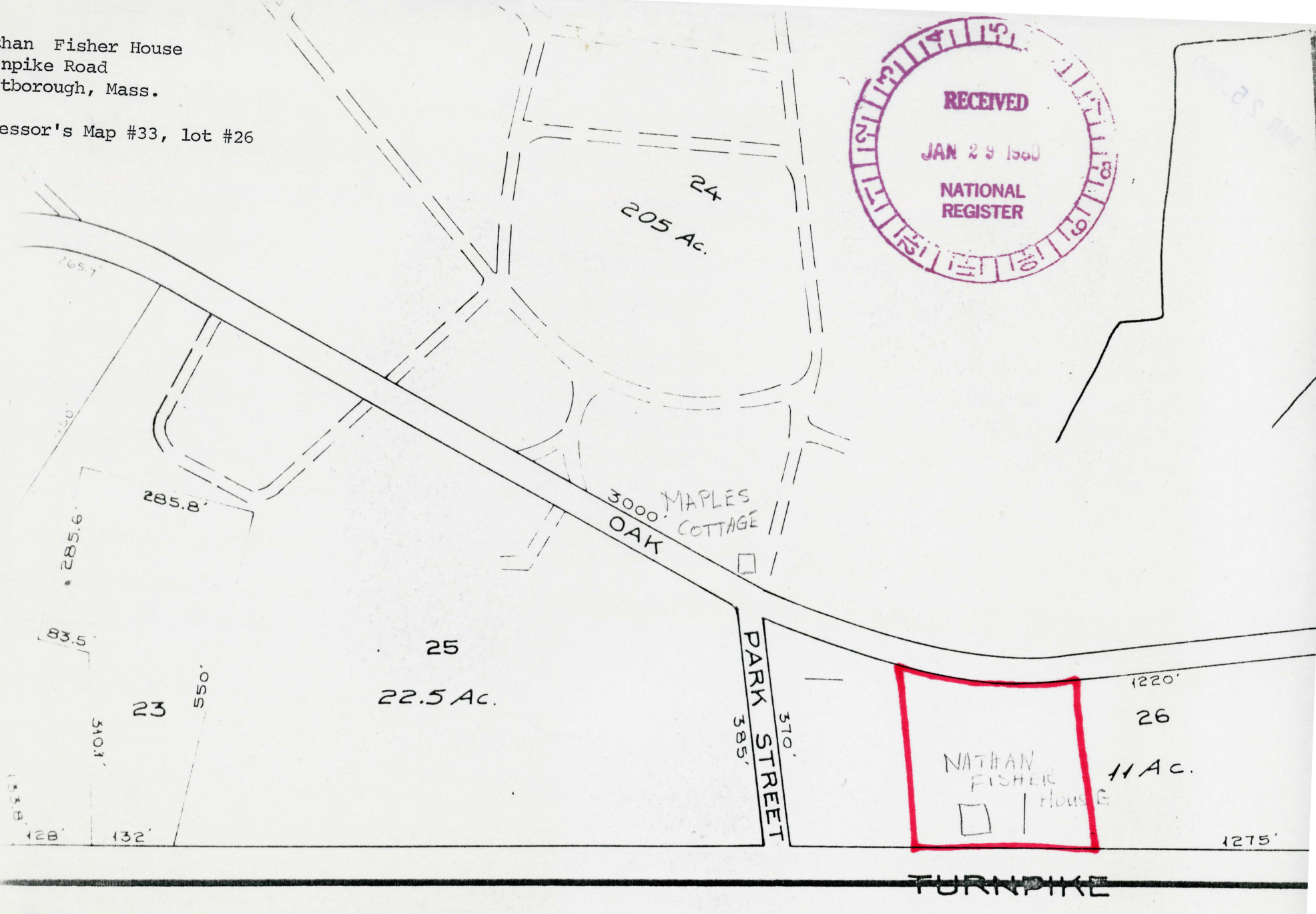
date 3/25/80

Attest: *Patrick Andrews*
Chief of Registration

date 3/24/80

Nathan Fisher House
Turnpike Road
Westborough, Mass.

Assessor's Map #33, lot #26

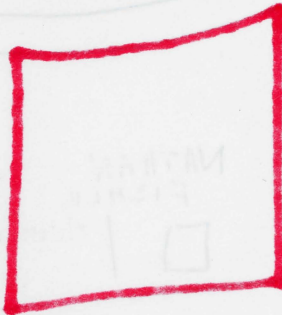


IND - B

APR 25 1980



Trunkline Road House
Westborough, Mass.
Landscape's Map #33, lot #32



PARK STREET
210'

OAK
3000
MILES
COLLEGE

IND-R



Nathan Fisher House
Westborough, Mass.

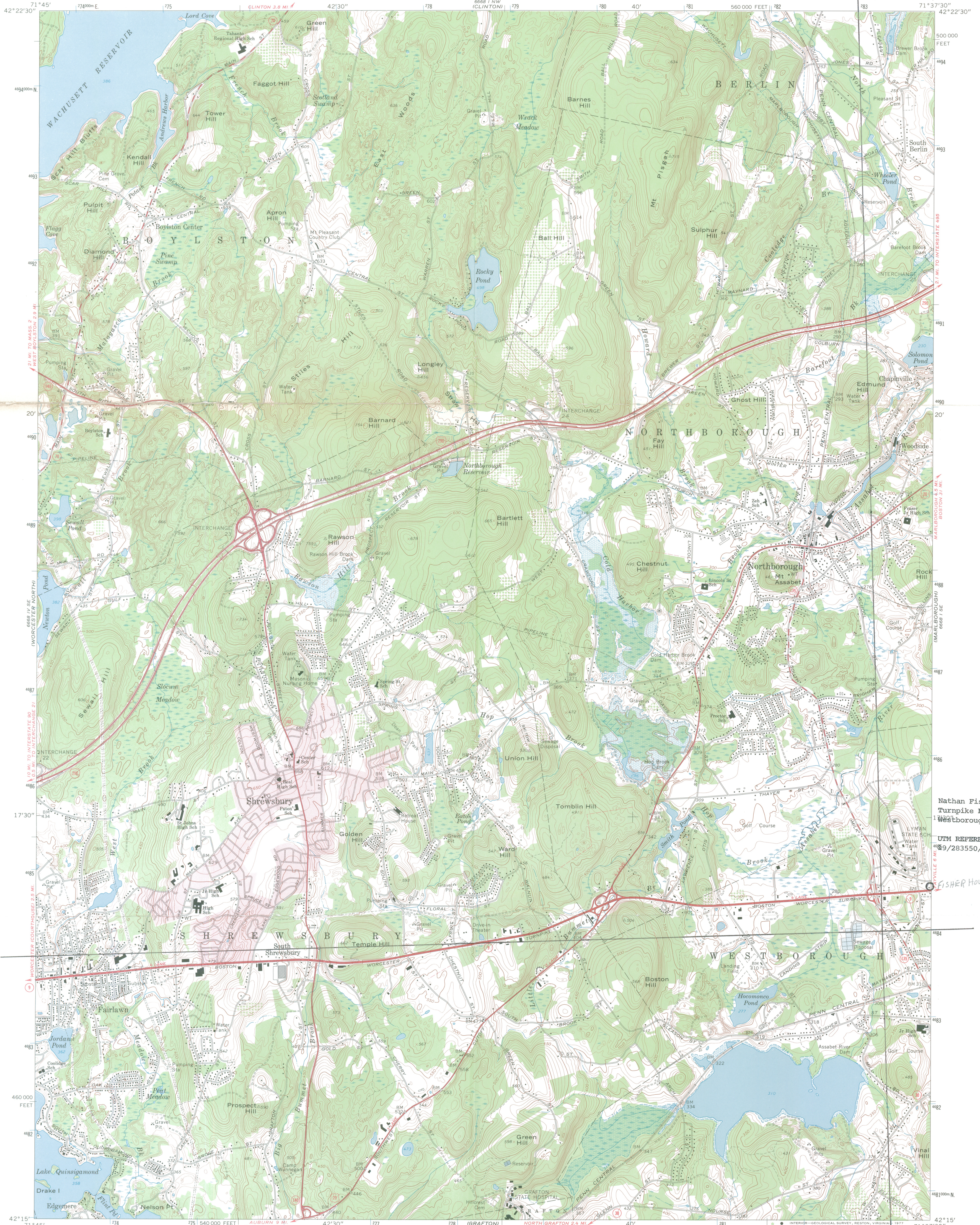
Worcester Co.

Brian Pfeiffer 1978
147 Brattle Street
Cambridge, Mass.

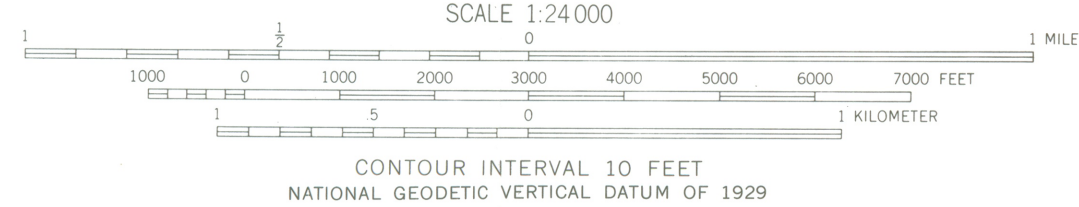
Photo #1 *of 1*
facade, facing north

MAR 25 1980

JAN 29 1980



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1941. Revised from aerial photographs taken 1966. Field checked 1969
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks, zone 19, shown in blue
Fine red dashed lines indicate selected fence and field lines where generally visible on aerial photographs. This information is unchecked
Red tint indicates area in which only landmark buildings are shown
Areas covered by dashed light-blue pattern are subject to controlled inundation



ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Primary highway, all weather, hard surface	Light-duty road, all weather, improved surface
Secondary highway, all weather, hard surface	Unimproved road, fair or dry weather

○ Interstate Route ○ U. S. Route ○ State Route

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

SHREWSBURY, MASS.
N4215—W7137.5/7.5
1969
AMS 6668 1 SW—SERIES V814

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION

PROPERTY NAME: Fisher, Nathan, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 1/07/13 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/23/13
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 80001679

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2-25-13 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Additional Documentation Approved

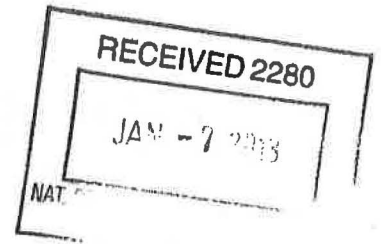
RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER E Beal DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

December 26, 2012

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Re: Address changes for properties listed on the NRHP

As we digitize our inventory of historic resources, we are discovering discrepancies in property addresses due to renumbering, changing the address to a side street that abuts the parcel, or assigning a precise addresses where none had existed. In some cases, property owners have notified us of an incorrect address. We are, therefore, writing to request technical corrections in the National Register records for the following:

Bedford (Middlesex County)

Page, Christopher House, First Period Buildings of E. Mass NRTRA/IND—new address is 2 Meyers Lane (formerly 50 Old Billerica Road)

Brewster (Barnstable County)

Old Higgins Farm Windmill, NRIND 6/10/1975—new address is 51 Drummer Boy Road (formerly, off Lower Road)

Brookline (Norfolk County)

Brookline Town Stable, Brookline MRA 10/17/1985—new address is 235 Cypress Street (formerly 237)

Orrock, Rev. John House, Brookline MRA/IND 10/17/1985—new address is 64 Winchester Street (formerly 68)

Haverhill (Essex County)

John Greenleaf Whittier Homestead, NRIND 7/30/1975—correct address is 305 Whittier Road (had been incorrectly reported as 105 Whittier Road)

Oak Bluffs (Dukes County)

Dr. Harrison A. Tucker Cottage, NRIND 10/22/1990—new address is 61 Ocean Avenue (formerly 61 Circuit Avenue)

Wellesley (Norfolk County)

Eaton Moulton Mill, NRIND 5/13/76—new address is 35 Walnut Street (formerly 37)

Westborough (Worcester County)

Fisher, Nathan A. House, NRIND 3/25/1980, NRDIS/MPS 7/25/1994—new address is 34 West Main Street (formerly Turnpike Road) 80001679

Maples Cottage, NRIND 3/25/1980, NRDIS/MPS 7/25/1994—new address is 155 Oak Street (formerly Oak Street) 80001681

Sincerely,



Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

National Register of Historic Places

Archivist note to the record

Correspondence

The Correspondence consists of communications from (and possibly to) the nominating authority, notes from the staff of the National Register of Historic Places, and/or other material the National Register of Historic Places received associated with the property.

Correspondence may also include information from other sources, drafts of the nomination, letters of support or objection, memorandums, and ephemera which document the efforts to recognize the property.

Property Fisher, Nathan House

ref no 8000

State Ma - Worcester Working Number 1-29-80 387

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 1
Maps 1/2

Built in 2 sections (1820-1826) this 2 story timber frame house is significant architecturally as an example of a large Federal style building. 1/2 of the house served as the town's first store. The house also represents the brief period of prosperity (1810-34) that came to the area with the opening of the Boston-Worcester Turnpike.
accept for architecture and commerce.

HISTORIAN

accept
Patrick Andrews
3/24/80

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2-3-81

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered MAR 25 1980

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MAINE

Date Entered **MAR 25 1980**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Fisher, Nathan, House	Shrewsbury vicinity Worcester County
Maples Cottage	Shrewsbury vicinity Worcester County
Lake Street Fire Station	Gardner Worcester County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Joseph D. Early
Honorable Robert F. Drinan

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mr. Earle G. Shettleworth, Jr.
Director, Maine Historic Preservation
Commission
242 State Street
Augusta, Maine 04333

NR Byers/bjr 3/31/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered MAR 25 1980

Name

Location

Correction

The following National Register entries should be listed under the state of Massachusetts instead of Maine.

Fisher, Nathan, House

Shrewsbury vicinity
Worcester County

Maples Cottage

Shrewsbury vicinity
Worcester County

Lake Street Fire Station

Gardner
Worcester County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Joseph D. Early
Honorable Robert F. Drinan

State Historic Preservation Officer
Mrs. Patricia L. Weslowski
Executive Director, Massachusetts
Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108

NR

Byers/bjr 5/14/80

For further information, please call the National Register at (202)343-6401.