

Area	Form no.
	36-3A

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Town Uxbridge

Address Richardson Street

Historic Name George Taft House

Use: Original residence

Present residence

Ownership:  Private individual  
 Private organization

Public \_\_\_\_\_

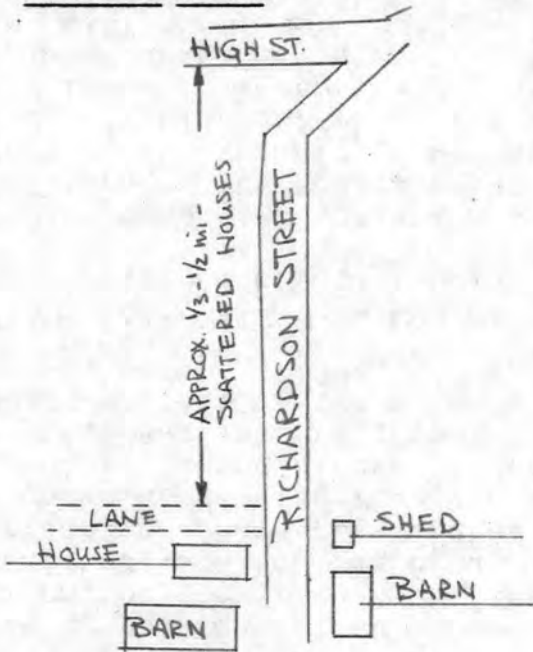
Original owner George W. Taft

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

Roll 5 frame 23

SKETCH MAP

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1810

Source exterior

Style Federalist

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric asphalt shingle

Outbuildings barns & sheds (nineteenth century)

Major alterations (with dates) 6/6 sash (19th C), front door and siding (early 20th C); chimney partially capped

Moved no Date N/A

Approx. acreage 1.12 acres

Setting rural: fields and some scattered (modern) houses

Recorded by B.R. Pfeiffer

Organization Uxbridge Historical Commission

Date May 1981

UTM: Quad Ux 19 281690 4659720

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

The George Taft House is an excellent local example of vernacular architecture of the Federalist period. The house has a rectangular plan with a central chimney and is a two-storey timber-frame building set on a hammered granite foundation and enclosed by a pitched roof. The facade (north) is symmetrical, having at its center an entry framed by pilasters supporting a broken entablature with lozenges and a pediment; the pediment is broken by a semicircular transom with a tracery of lancet arches. Windows are set in simple Greek Revival style frames (ca. 1850); extended across the facade is a deep moulded cornice with a return at the gable.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

The Taft House possesses historical significance both for its preservation of much of its Federalist design and for its associations with the extensive Taft family which dominated the eighteenth-century settlement of Uxbridge. The land on which the George W. Taft House stands was probably part of the farm which Joseph Taft, one of the town's first settlers (Form #35-42) gave to his son Moses on May 11, 1744. While the present G.W. Taft House may contain portions of the house built by Moses Taft, it seems more likely that the Moses Taft House stood nearer the center of the property, several hundred yards westward on the unpaved lane which passes in front of the G.W. Taft House; if so, then the G.W. Taft House was probably built in the early nineteenth century to serve as the home of one of Moses Taft's sons or grandsons. In the mid-nineteenth century, the house was associated with George W. Taft (one of several George Washington Tafts born in Uxbridge) who operated the farm and also served as Uxbridge's representative to the General Court.

The George Taft House possesses integrity of location, design, setting and workmanship, as well as historical associations with the early settlement of this section of Uxbridge by the Taft Family and with the area's agrarian development through the mid-nineteenth century.

The George Taft House meets criteria A and C of the NRHP.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps & Atlases: 1830, 1855, 1870, 1898  
 Proceedings at the Meeting of the Taft Family at Uxbridge, Mass.,  
 August 12, 1874. Uxbridge: Spencer Bros., 1874 p.p. 51-52

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Uxbridge	Form No: -36-3A- <sup>15</sup>
Property Name: George Taft House	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

To the rear of the house (south) is a nineteenth-century barn with vertical board siding; across the street from the house (east) are several sheds and small barns of apparent mid-nineteenth<sup>Century</sup> construction, although the smallest of these sheds has a raised panel door (pre-1820) suggesting that it may have been built of salvaged materials.

OWNER:

Stanley and Chester Stefanick  
Richardson St.  
Uxbridge, MA 01569

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

**United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service**

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

For NPS use only  
received 5/26/83  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 5 of 5

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area  
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review		Date/Signature
41.	Whipple, A., House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
42.	Williams, N., House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
43.	Taft, Aaron, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
<sup>241</sup> 44.	Taft, Bazaleel, Jr., House and Law Office Substantive Review	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>accept Patrick Andrews 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
45.	Taft, Hon. Bazaleel, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
46.	Taft Brothers Block Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
47.	Taft, George, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
48.	Taft, Moses, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
49.	Taft, Samuel, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____
<sup>247</sup> 50.	Taft, Zadock, House Entered in the National Register	<i>for</i> Keeper <u>Melora Byers 10/7/83</u> Attest _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Taft, George, House (Uxbridge MRA)  
Worcester County  
MASSACHUSETTS

AUG 26 1983

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

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

Entered in the \_\_\_\_\_  
National Register \_\_\_\_\_

Substantive Review:  sample  request  appeal  NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria \_\_\_\_\_  
Reviewer \_\_\_\_\_  
Discipline \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: \_\_\_\_\_ technical corrections cited below  
\_\_\_\_\_ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible?  yes  no

7. Description

Condition  excellent  good  fair  deteriorated  ruins  unexposed

Check one  unaltered  altered

Check one  original site  moved date \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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**8. Significance**

Period \_\_\_\_\_ Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Statement of Significance *(in one paragraph)*

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

(A H A - 5500XU) 1005 1000 1000  
1000 1000 1000  
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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_ national      \_\_\_\_ state      \_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature \_\_\_\_\_

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_





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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000299