

NOV 20 1985

3

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
	23

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

See attached map.

Town Sherborn

Address 25 Farm Road

Historic Name Rev. Edmund Dowse House

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1838

Source Dowse Family Genealogy

Style Greek Revival/Italianate

Architect N/A

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings Barn (mid 19th century)

Major alterations (with dates) porch,
two-story bay, and 1½-story five-bay
ell added in late 19th century.

Moved No Date N/A

Approx. acreage Less than one acre.

Setting This building stands east of
railroad tracks, on a lot shaded by
mature trees. It is one of the more
substantial older homes on a part of Farm Rd.
lined primarily with small Cottages.

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date May 1985

(Staple additional sheets here)

UTM reference: 19 304840 4678780
scale 1:25,000 Medfield Quadrangle

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

Built in 1838, the home of Rev. Edmund Dowse was originally a three-bay Greek Revival-style building that subsequently received an Italianate surface treatment later in the 19th century. The building's main block is 2½ stories in height with a rectangular plan set on end to the road to the south. An entrance is located on its east facade. Corner boards frame the facades, and a narrow pediment encloses the end gable.

(Cont'd)

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

This house has significant historical associations with Rev. Edmund Dowse and his son, William Bradford Homer Dowse. It was built in 1838, the year Edmund Dowse became the pastor of the newly formed Evangelical Society, later Pilgrim Church. The Church's formation in 1830 was a critical event in Sherborn's 19th century development. Rev. Dowse was the Pilgrim Church's pastor for 67 years. Active in state and local politics, he was a member of the Massachusetts Senate, Chairman of the Sherborn School Committee for sixty-seven years, and Chairman of the State Senate for twenty-five. In addition, he was an Army Chaplain during the Civil War.

Rev. Dowse's only son, William Bradford Homer Dowse, was born in this house in 1852. He was a successful lawyer and businessman. A graduate of West Newton Classical High School and Harvard, he opened patent law offices in Boston and New York. His manufacturing interests included Reed & Barton and United Carr Fastener and others where he served as director both here and abroad. He was also a philanthropist: he funded the construction of the Dowse Memorial Library (built 1914), which presently houses the Town Offices, and the Memory Statue (1924), located in front of the Central Cemetery in the Sherborn Center Historic District. His sister, Deborah Perry Dowse Coolidge, lived in

(Cont'd)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Maps of 1857, 1875, 1889.

Research by Margaret Dowse Buntin

Dowse Family Genealogy

Anne C. Shaughnessy, The History of Sherborn, 1974.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:	Form No:
Sherborn	23
Property Name: Rev. Edmund Dowse House	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Cont'd)

An open, flat-roofed entry porch, with Italianate brackets and squared Doric columns, shelters the entry. It was added ca. 1870, as was a two-story polygonal bay with paired windows on the building's south side. Also added in the late 19th century was a 1½-story, gable-roofed ell, five bays long, extending to the north of the house. The building remains a good example of Italianate styling and detail.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Cont'd)

this house for many years until in 1914 she moved to a Georgian Revival-style house at 2 North Main Street (#80, Sherborn Center Historic District), built for her by her brother.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The Rev. Edmund Dowse House is a well-preserved example of Italianate-style architecture and is a building whose alterations reflect the sophistication of its owners, the first pastor of Sherborn's Evangelical Church and his son, a successful businessman. The building is located a short distance from the town center and from Rev. Dowse's Pilgrim Church, and its construction in 1838 came at the height of Sherborn's early 19th century construction boom. The house retains integrity of setting, design, materials, location, workmanship, and feeling, and fulfills criterion C, B, and A of the National Register of Historic Places.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 11/20/85

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 3

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Sherborn Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Cleale, Joseph, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

12. Dowse, Rev. Edmund, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

13. Fleming, Thomas, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

14. Goulding, Eleazer, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

15. Holbrook, Charles, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/8616. Leland, Deacon, William,
HouseEntered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

17. Lewis, Charles D., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

18. Morse, Daniel, III, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

19. Morse-Tay-Leland-Hawes House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

20. Sanger, Asa, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 1/3/86

86000499

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Dowse, Rev. Edmund, House (Sherborn MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. NOV 20 1985
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87
Date Due: 12/19/85 - 4/4/86
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 1-3-86
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

National Register

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

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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
----------	---------------------------------	----------------------	-------------

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ original site
		☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

8. Significance

Period Areas of Significance—Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (*in one paragraph*)

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

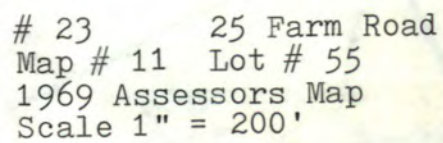
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Dawse, Rev. Edmund House

Sherborn MRA, Ma



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000293

✓
52
BF
25 Farm Road
Sherborn, MA 01770
February 25, 1985

Sarah Zimmerman
Director of Preservation Planning
Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston St.
Boston, MA 02116

RECEIVED

MAR 1 1985

Dear Ms. Zimmerman,

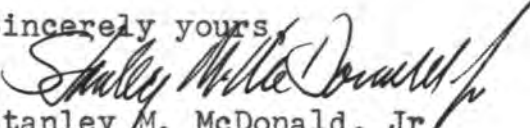
I am writing in response to notification that my property, at the above address, will be considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

MASS. HIST. COMM.

In view of my continuing commitment to maintaining the property in a manner consistent with its original character and historical significance, I am gratified at the prospect of this nomination and am happy to offer my cooperation.

For your interest, I have enclosed a biographical sketch of Edmund Dowse, to whom the house owes its principal historic associations.

Sincerely yours,


Stanley M. McDonald, Jr.