

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

JAN 24 1990

FORM NO.

76

29:31 main view of house

29:30 front post at summer tie beam stops at floor, left-hand chamber

29:29 left-hand chamber. Front post at summer tie beam

29:28 Front corner post, right-hand chamber

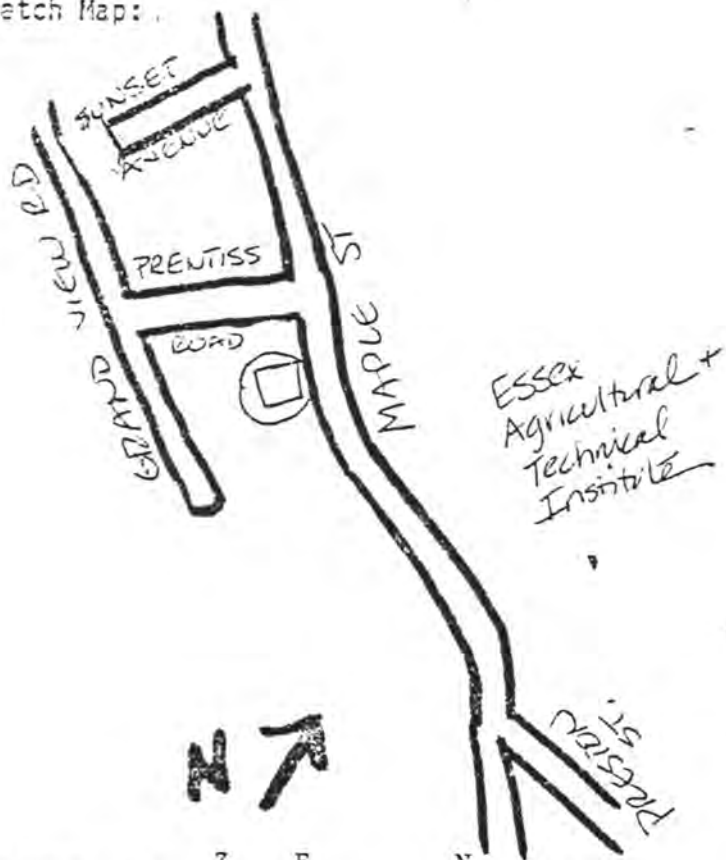
29:27 rear corner post, original left-hand room

Town Danvers 007Address 592 Maple StreetHistoric Name White-Preston HouseUse: Present ResidentialOriginal Residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1722Source Documentary researchStyle First Period core/Late Greek Revival
vernacular exteriorArchitect NoneExterior Wall Fabric ClapboardsOutbuildings Barn /garage - 19th c.Major Alterations (with dates) Converted to
double pile, symmetrical gable house,
ca. 1850Condition GoodMoved No Date Acreage 1.61 acresSetting Surrounded by several acres of open
land. adjacent to Essex Agricultural and
Technical Institute, on suburban residential
street of mostly 20th century housesRecorded by Anne GradyOrganization Boston UniversityDate February, 1986

Sketch Map:

UTM REFERENCE 19 / 337-500 / 4717-110USGS QUADRANGLE SalemSCALE 1:25,000

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: DANVERS	Form No: 76
Property Name: White Preston House	

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The White-Preston House has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship in some of its First Period frame. The replacement of many timbers, the loss of the roof framing and the central chimney diminish the significance of the structure.

Previous research places the construction date of the house c. 1722, which is consistent with the construction and chamfer style of the left hand rooms. Perhaps Samuel White incorporated the frame of an earlier building as the right hand rooms and the chimney bay. The great similarity of the post in the left hand chamber to the posts of the James Putnam, Jr., House in Danvers may indicate that the same carpenter constructed both houses.

Further investigation may reveal important information about First Period construction as well as regional trends in construction. Thus the property is eligible for the National Register for Criterion D.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The White-Preston House is a two and one half story clapboarded building, 5 bays wide and two rooms deep, with a narrow two story bay and a one story flat roofed sun porch appended to the left hand side. The front half of the house is comprised of the original single cell building on the right and the rooms added still in the First Period to the left of the chimney bay to give the house a nearly symmetrical plan. The house achieved its present form (except for the sun porch built c. 1917) in the mid-19th century when a second file of rooms was built at the rear (or possibly an original lean-to was enlarged upward). At that time the front wall was extended upward to give the building more vertical proportions. The roof was rebuilt with broad eaves and returns, and the building was given its late Greek revival vernacular appearance. The two chimneys which pierce the ridge of the gable roof serve fireplaces at the rear of the front rooms. The central chimney of the original building was removed earlier, allowing the construction of a straight-run staircase.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

Parts of the First Period frame of the original building and its addition are visible in the front rooms. In the right hand room, on the earlier side, most of the framing including the transverse summer beam was replaced during a mid 20th century restoration. The joists, 20 to 21 inches on centers, are original, however. In the right hand chamber, the deeply jowled corner post and the front girt have a suggestion of a flat chamfer. These two timbers provide the only visible evidence of the First Period nature of the right hand frame. All other timbers are either hidden, mutilated, or replaced.

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In the left hand room, all framing is concealed behind plaster except in the passageway to the rear. Here the end girt and rear plate display inch wide flat chamfers and triangular stops. The decoration of the slightly flared post in this corner was obliterated when the side of the beam was cut off.

In the left hand chamber, the prick post has the same distinctive profile as was noted on the posts in the James Putnam, Jr., house in Danvers. The post flares outward, but then continues straight upward. The inch wide flat chamfers on the post terminate in triangular stops at the top and bottom of the beam.

In the attic only the tie beams of the original frame are present. Stud mortises in the left "chimney" tie beam are the chief evidence, in addition to the differing shape of the posts on the two sides of the house, that the right hand portion of the house was originally a single cell structure. In the cellar, unhewn logs form the framing on both sides but do not span the chimney bay, suggesting the presence of a central chimney originally.

LATER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

The front rooms, except for the righthand room which was restored c. 1960, exhibit simple early 19th century finishes. The staircase, with turned balusters and ample turned newel post was installed c. 1850.

A late 19th century barn, the last to survive of a series of outbuildings shown in period photographs, accentuates the early setting of the property as an agricultural site.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR

State _____

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

81. White--Preston House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

82. Whittemore House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

83. Woodberry--Quarrels House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

84. Woodbury, Peter, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

85. Bacon, Stephen, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

86. Bickford, John, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

87. Brewer, Moses, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

88. Brown--Stow House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

89. Browne, Abraham, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

90. Buck, Ephraim, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY White--Preston House
NAME:

MULTIPLE First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

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

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000204

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

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

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3/9/90 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

___ count ___ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___ historic ___ current

DESCRIPTION

___ architectural classification
___ materials
___ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___ acreage ___ verbal boundary description
___ UTMs ___ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___ sketch maps ___ USGS maps ___ photographs ___ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



592 Locust Street, Danvers

Danvers

White - Preston House

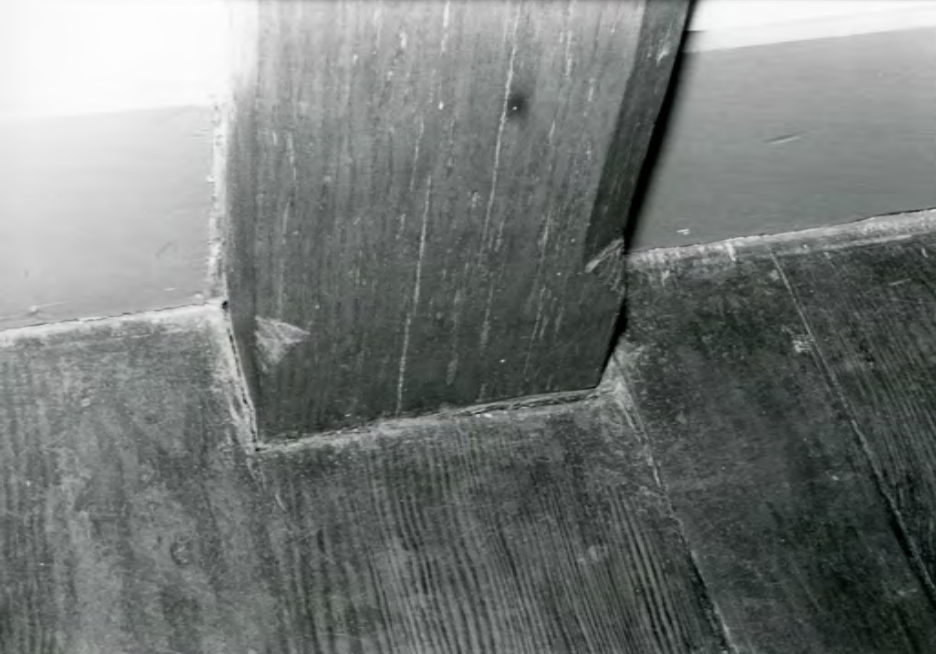
592 Maple Street

Main View of House

1985

1st Period Buildings of E. Ma., TR

29:31



Danvers
White - Preston House
592 Maple Street
Front part at summer he became
1985

1st Period Buildings of E. May TR

29:30



Danvers
Whitz - Preston House
592 Maple Street
Left-hand chamber
1985

Is + Pond Buildings of E. Ma., TR

29:29



Danvers
White - Preston House
592 Maple St
Front Corner post -
right-hand chamber
1985²

1st period Buildings of E. May, JR

29:28



Danvers
White - Preston House
592 Maple Street
Near corner post, original
left hand room
1985

29:27

1st period Buildings E. Ma, TR

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281