

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

OVB

28



geographical features. Indicate all buildings
between inventoried property and nearest
intersection(s).

Indicate north

See attached assessors' map

Barnstable (Osterville-N & W Bays)

12 Bay Street

Joseph Robbins House

Present homestead

Original homestead

DIPTION

c. 1820-1830

Registry of Deeds

Federal/Greek Revival

itect unknown

rior Wall Fabric shingle

Outbuildings barn; not original to house

Major Alterations (with dates)

none

Condition good

Moved yes Date 1938

Acreage .19 117/37

Setting residential

UTM REFERENCE 19/384350/4609280

USGS QUADRANGLE Cotuit, MA

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Barbara Crosby

Organization Barnstable Historical Comm.

Date 1986

Photo #97-68-B28

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Joseph Robbins House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a rare Federal period, domestic survivor in the Osterville village center area, for associations with its original artist owner (including examples of his graining work), and as a good vernacular building from the Federal period. It thus meets criteria A, B and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

The Joseph Robbins House is a full five bay Cape with center entry and chimney, enclosed by a gable roof. The entry has a multi-pane transom in conformance with the Federal period style, while the relatively high position of the roof reflects the later Greek Revival style. Windows are simple enframed and contain 6/6 sash. A narrow frieze is located beneath the cornice.

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

Joseph Robbins (1807-1888) was a skilled house painter who was versed in the fine art of "graining"; some of the doors in this house exhibit his technique. He was also noted for having painted the figurehead for the U.S.S. Constitution. The house later belonged to Capt. Joseph Adams, coastal master.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Atlases. 1858, 1830, 1907.
First Directory of Barnstable, Yarmouth and Dennis. 1895.
Oral history: Charles Daniel via E. E. Clark.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Robbins, Joseph, House (Barnstable MRA)
Barnstable County
MASSACHUSETTS

Substantive Review

JAN 27 1987

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

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 2/26/87 - 3/13/87
Action: ☐ ACCEPT
☒ RETURN 3-13-87
☐ REJECT _____
Federal Agency: _____

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☒ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*see general review
Comments for MRA.*

Recom./Criteria Letuan
Reviewer Savage
Discipline Arch. Hist.
Date 3/13/87
_____ 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	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	
	☐ unaltered	
	☐ altered	

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 Patrick Andrus Date 3/13/87 Phone: _____

FORM B - BUILDINGAREAFORM NO.

OVB

28

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Town Barnstable (Osterville-N & W Bays)Address 12 Bay StreetHistoric Name Joseph Robbins House

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and
white) Indicate address of
property on back of photo.
Staple to left side of form.

Use: Present homesteadOriginal homestead

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1820-1830Source Registry of DeedsStyle Federal/Greek RevivalArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric shingleOutbuildings barn; not original to house

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

noneCondition goodMoved yes Date 1938Acreage .19 117/37Setting residential

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location
in relation to nearest cross streets and/or
geographical features. Indicate all buildings
between inventoried property and nearest
intersection(s).
Indicate north

see attached assessors' map

UTM REFERENCE 19/384350/4609280USGS QUADRANGLE Cotuit, MASCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Barbara CrosbyOrganization Barnstable Historical Comm.Date 1986

Photo #97-68-B28

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Joseph Robbins House possesses integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a rare Federal period, domestic survivor in the Osterville village center area, for associations with its original artist owner (including examples of his graining work), and as a good vernacular building from the Federal period. It thus meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

see also paragraph II under historical significance

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

The Joseph Robbins House is a full five bay Cape with center entry and chimney, enclosed by a gable roof. The entry has a multi-pane transom in conformance with the Federal period style, while the relatively high position of the roof reflects the later Greek Revival style. Windows are simple enframed and contain 6/6 sash. A narrow frieze is located beneath the cornice.

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

Joseph Robbins (1807-1888) was a skilled house painter who was versed in the fine art of "graining"; some of the doors in this house exhibit his technique. He was also noted for having painted the figurehead for the U.S.S. Constitution. The house later belonged to Capt. Joseph Adams, coastal master.

Joseph Robbins appears as the owner of this house on both the 1858 and 1880 County Atlases. During that time period the house was located on the south side of Main Street in the heart of the village center just west of its intersection with Wianno Ave.(approx. parcel 102). By the time the 1907 County Atlas was published, it had been incorporated into the adjacent estate of J.H. Crocker. In 1938 the house was moved to the north side of BAY Street on a parcel directly west of the village center and in close proximity to its original site. The move is illustrative of the mid-20th century trend which has eliminated the majority of historic buildings in Osterville Center as well as almost all but commercial uses. Most of those 19th century buildings have been demolished or altered beyond recognition. The Robbins House is a rare survivor, demonstrating the 19th century character of the village center, and its 20th century destruction. It meets criteria A and C, and its period of significance is c1820-1900. Because the life of this artisan painter, like others associated with folk arts, is not well documented, criterion B has been deleted although it probably applies

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Barnstable County Atlases. 1858, 1830, 1907.
First Directory of Barnstable, Yarmouth and Dennis. 1895.
Oral history: Charles Daniel via E. E. Clark.

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Barnstable MRA
State Barnstable Co., MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

71. Methodist Church

Entered in the
National Register for

Keeper

Attest

Shelton Byers 3-13-87

72. Osterville Baptist Church

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Patrick Andrews 9/18/87
Beth L. Savage 9/18/8773. Osterville Community
Church

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

74. Phinney, William and Jane,
HouseEntered in the
National Register for

Keeper

Attest

Shelton Byers 3-13-87

75. Rhodehouse, Nelson, House

Entered in the
National Register for

Keeper

Attest

Shelton Byers 3-13-87

76. Richardson, John, House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Patrick Andrews 9/18/87
Beth L. Savage 9/18/87

77. Robbins, Joseph, House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Patrick Andrews 11/10/87
Beth L. Savage 11/10/87

78. Round House

Entered in the
National Register for

Keeper

Attest

Shelton Byers 3-13-8779. Sampson's Folly--Josiah
Sampson House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Patrick Andrews 9/18/87
Beth L. Savage 9/18/87

80. Santuit Post Office

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

Patrick Andrews 11/10/87
Beth L. Savage 11/10/87

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Robbins, Joseph, House (Barnstable MRA)
Barnstable County
MASSACHUSETTS

~~Substantive~~ Review

Working No. 1127/87

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/7/89

Date Due: 11/12/87

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 11-10-87

☐ RETURN

☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☒ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Rare early surviving example of
federal cottage indicative of
Osterville's early settlement
period. Initial return issues have
been addressed.*

Recom./Criteria Accept Add

Reviewer Savage

Discipline Architectural History

Date 11/10/87

____ 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 | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ 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

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: _____



Barnstable, MA MRA

Joseph Robbins Hse OVRB28

12 Bay St. 1977

facing north



Barnstable, MA MRA
Joseph Robbins House
12 Bay St., Osterville
Assessors' Map; Scale: 1"=100'



