

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

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

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

For HCRS use only

received MAR 31 1980

date entered MAY 7 1980

1. Name

historic Coronet John Farnum House

and/or common Same

2. Location

street & number Mendon Street not for publication

city, town Uxbridge vicinity of congressional district

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

4. Owner of Property

name Town of Uxbridge

street & number Town Hall, Main Street

city, town Uxbridge vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Courthouse

street & number 2 Main Street

city, town Worcester state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic
Assets of the Commonwealth

has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1979 federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state Massachusetts

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

The Cornet Farnum House is located on the west side of Mendon Street (Route 16) east of Uxbridge Center and the Mumford River. The house occupies a lot of 11,468 square feet. North, east and south of the house are residential areas, while land immediately adjoining the property is used for parking for the Bernat Yarn Company. West of the house is an industrial area which contains the Bernat Company's factory.

The Farnum House is a one and one-half story timber frame structure of rectangular floor plan with a massive central chimney constructed of brick set on a stone base. The building rests on a fieldstone foundation and is enclosed by a gambrel roof, which is covered with wood shingles. The house's exterior is covered by clapboards and has plain cornerboards, boxed eaves and narrow mouldings beneath the eaves and at the verges of the gable ends. All windows are set in unmoulded frames; first story windows have 9/9 sash, second story windows have 6/6 sash. On the lower slope of the north side of the roof is a rectangular hatch.

SOUTH WALL: The south wall contains the house's major facade consisting of a center entrance flanked on both sides by two windows, symmetrically placed. The entrance is framed by two narrow pilasters which project slightly from the wall and rise to the eaves. Within the pilasters is a moulded surround which frames a door of four rectangular, raised panels, surmounted by two square lights of "bull's eye" glass. It is likely that this entry arrangement dates from the late eighteenth or early nineteenth century.

WEST WALL: The west wall contains one of the house's two gable ends. There are two windows at the first story and three at the second, all symmetrically arranged about the wall's center.

SOUTH WALL: The south wall is the same length as the major facade; however, it is asymmetrically arranged. Moving east from its west end is a single window, a doorway with a plain surround and moulded cap (the door, itself, is identical to that of the facade), two windows closely spaced (located behind the central chimney), and a single window located near the wall's west corner.

EAST WALL: The east wall is nearly identical to the west end-wall, except that its three second story windows are asymmetrically placed. Between the two first story windows of the east wall is an historical palcque.

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates c. 1710–1727 **Builder/Architect** unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Cornet John Farnum House possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship. Additionally, it has important association with the formation of Uxbridge and is a particularly well preserved example of a popular house type of the early to mid eighteenth century. Although similar buildings existed in surrounding towns, few examples of the type remain. It's most important features are its rectangular floor plan, central chimney, one and one-half story height and gambrel roof.

It was built between 1710 when Cornet Farnum was granted 46 acres on the east side of the Mumford River and 1727 when Uxbridge's first town meeting was held there. Farnum, who was born in Andover in 1672, moved to Mendon (of which Uxbridge was originally a part) c.1701 when he was taxed sixteen shillings and five cords of wood. He acquired the land on which the house now stands between 1701 and 1710.

Upon the formation of Uxbridge in 1727, the Farnum House served as the site of the first two town meetings, on July 25 and August 25, 1727. As Uxbridge's incorporation was provisional, requiring that the inhabitants "within the space of two years erect and finish a suitable House for Public Worship and procure & settle a learned Orthodox Minister of good conversation and make provision for his comfortable support", the first town meeting voted "to Sett ye Meeting House on ye Southside of the Drabble Tail Brook". In addition, the town meeting elected Robert Taft, Jr., Ebenezer Read, Woodland Thompson and Joseph White to be selectmen, Edmund Rawson to be town clerk and Solomon Wood to be town treasurer. By the time of the second town meeting, the proposed meeting-house site had been found to be "inconvenient" and a new site "within the Fence of Ebenezer Read's pasture on a place which they had viewed for and judged convenient for that purpose" was selected. Later, in 1728, the town accepted Farnum's offer to use another portion of his land, near the river, as the site of the town pound.

After Farnum's death (ca. 1750) the property was gradually reduced in size; nearby along the river bank a grist mill, gun factory and woolen mills were established in the nineteenth century. In 1926, the Farnum House was purchased and restored by the Uxbridge Worsted Company, which used the home briefly for company employees before selling it to be used as a private house. In 1962, the property was acquired by Emile Bernat & Sons Co., which sold part of the land and the house to the Town of Uxbridge in 1968. Under the supervision of the Uxbridge Historical Commission, the Farnum House is undergoing gradual restoration and conversion to a museum. Since acquisition by the town, the house's roof and chimney have been extensively repaired, electrical wiring, heating and security systems have been added and the first floor has been replastered and partially furnished. In 1977, the house was opened to the public in commemoration of the town's 250th anniversary. Restoration and furnishing of the house's second story is now being planned.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED MAR 31 1980

DATE ENTERED

MAY 7 1980

CONTINUATION SHEET

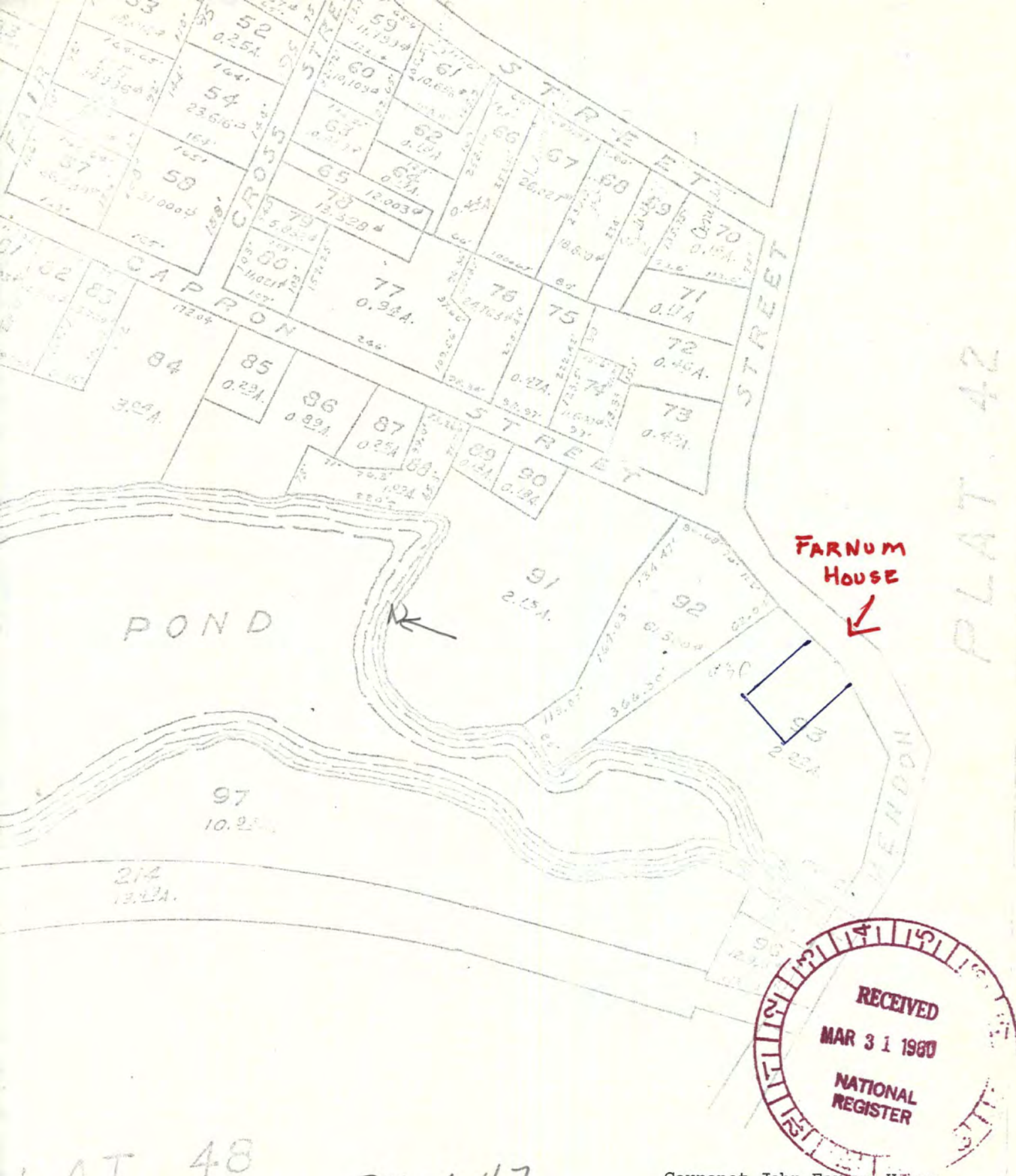
ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 10

Significance Continued

Occupied since the early eighteenth century, the Cornet Farnum property may contain cultural materials and features capable of adding to present knowledge of social and economic patterns and site configurations in rural regions during the Early Historic Period.

Boundary Justification

Boundaries were selected to include only the land owned by the Town of Uxbridge and immediately surrounding the Farnum House. The remainder of lot #47-93 is owned by the Bernat Yarn Company, and used as a parking lot.



PLAT 42

RECEIVED
 MAR 31 1980
 NATIONAL REGISTER

LAT 48

Map 47

Cornonet John Farnum House
 Mendon Street
 Uxbridge, Mass.
 Assessor's Map #47, lot #93 (part)

MAY 7 1980

Property Farmington, Coronet John House

ref no 90001682

State MA - Worcester Working Number 3-31-80 1038

TECHNICAL

CONTROL

Photos 2
Maps 3

This house is eligible for architecture as a well-preserved example of early 18th cent. vernacular domestic architecture and for hist. as the site of the first two town meetings of Uxbridge. Built c. 1710-1727 the building is 1 1/2 story timber frame structure with a large central chimney, a gambrel roof. The bldg. is now owned by the town and serves as a museum.

HISTORIAN

accept
Patrick Andrew
5/6/80

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____
Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

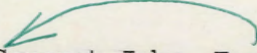
KEEPER

National Register Write-up _____
Federal Register Entry 2.3.81

Send-back _____
Re-submit _____

Entered MAY 7 1980




Coronet John, Farnum House
Mendon Street
Uxbridge, Mass.

MAR 31 1980

Worcester Co.

Brian R. Pfeiffer 1978
Uxbridge Historical Commission

Photo #1 of 2
North elevation taken from a position
facing southwest

MAY 7 1980



Coronet John, Farnum House
Mendon Street
Uxbridge, Mass.

Worcester Co. MAR 31 1980

Brian Pfeiffer 1978
Uxbridge Historical Commission

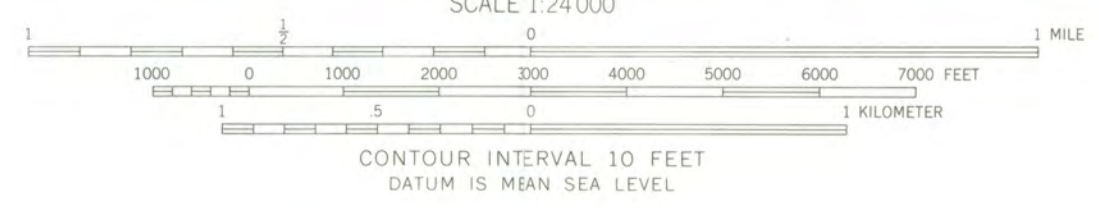
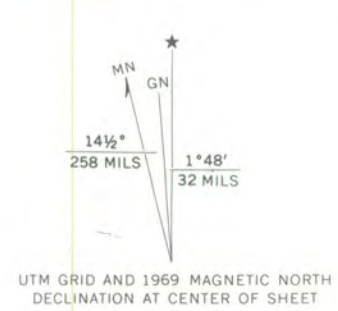
Photo #2 of 2
South and East elevations taken from a
position facing northwest

MAY 7 1980



Coronet John Farnum House
Mendon Street
Uxbridge, Mass.
UTM REFERENCES:
19/282610/4661440

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1942-1943. Revised from
aerial photographs taken 1967. Field checked 1969
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and Rhode Island coordinate system
100-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue



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
State Route	

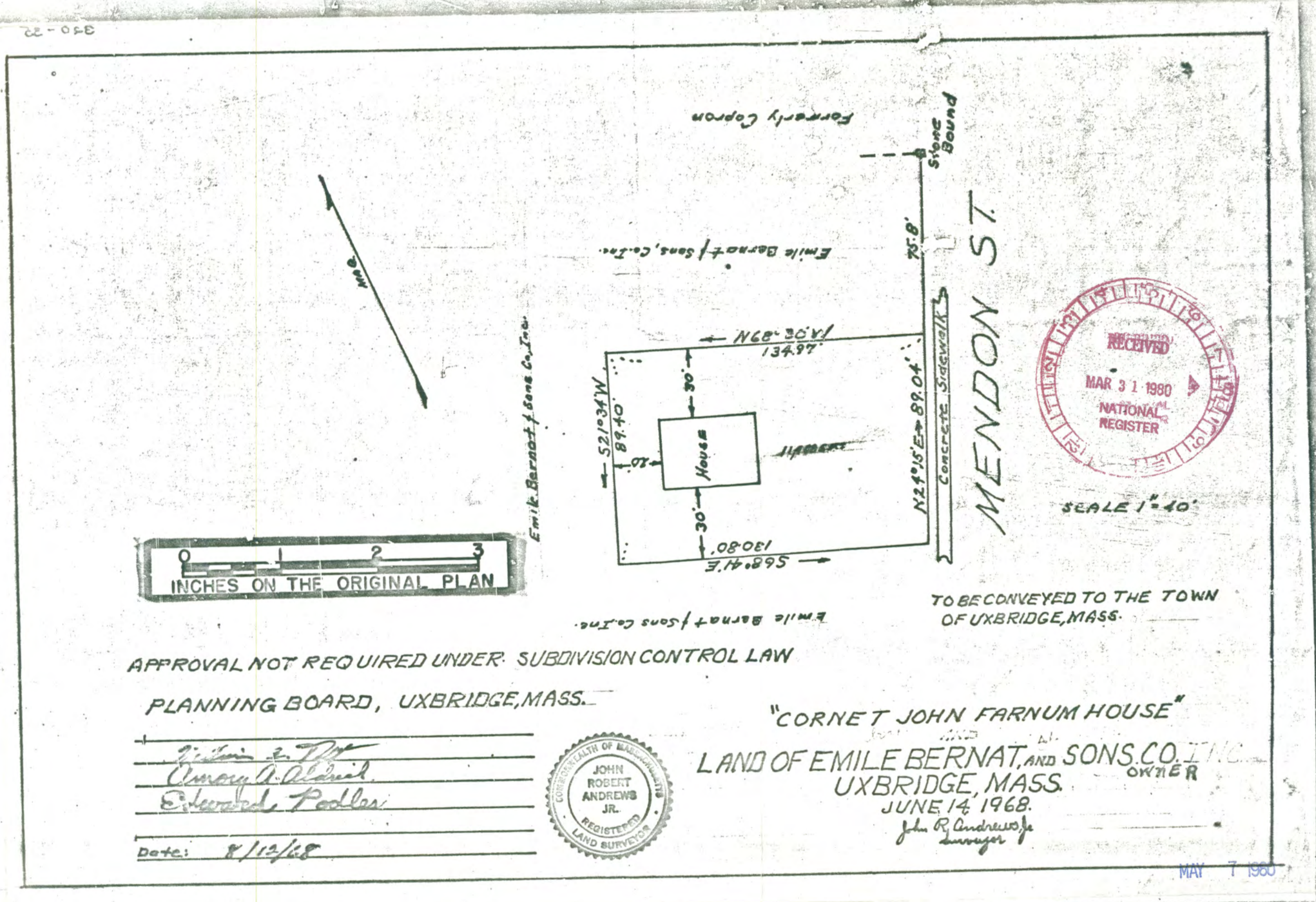
UXBRIDGE, MASS.—R.
N4200—W7137.5/7.5



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D. C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

Worcester, ss. A true copy of
 plan filed with Worcester District
 Registry of Deeds
 PLAN BOOK 320 PLAN 35
 Attest:
Anthony Kighlotta
 Register

PLAN 35



0 1 2 3
 INCHES ON THE ORIGINAL PLAN

RECEIVED
 MAR 31 1980
 NATIONAL REGISTER

SCALE 1"=40'

TO BE CONVEYED TO THE TOWN
 OF UXBRIDGE, MASS.

APPROVAL NOT REQUIRED UNDER SUBDIVISION CONTROL LAW

PLANNING BOARD, UXBRIDGE, MASS.

William J. DeWitt
Amory A. Alford
Edward Podles
 Date: 8/12/68



"CORNET JOHN FARNUM HOUSE"
 LAND OF EMILE BERNAT, AND SONS CO., INC. OWNER
 UXBRIDGE, MASS.
 JUNE 14, 1968.
John R. Andrews Jr.
 Surveyor

MAY 7 1960

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered MAY 7 1980

Name

Location

Farnum, Coronet John, House

Uxbridge
Worcester County

Allen, William Russell, House

Pittsfield
Berkshire County

Also Notified

Honorable Paul Tsongas

Honorable Edward M. Kennedy
Honorable Joseph D. Early
Honorable Silvio O. Conte

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

NR

Byers/bjr 5/15/80

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