

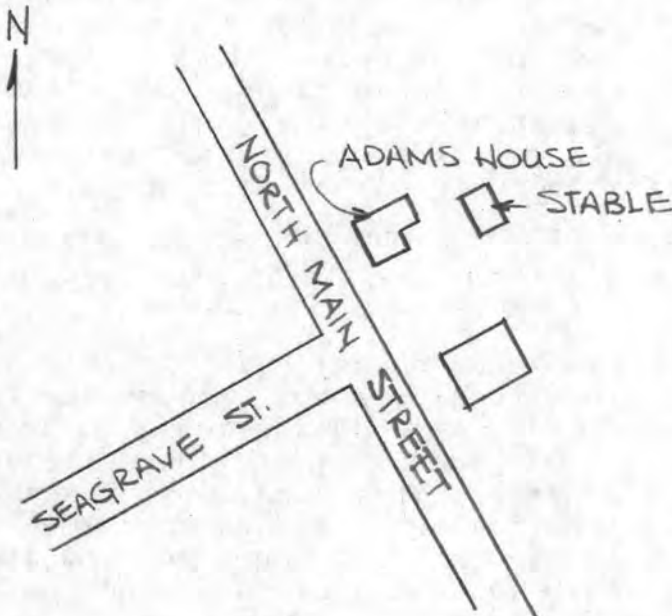
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

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

Roll 10 frame 4A

SKETCH MAP

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



Recorded by B.R. Pfeiffer

Organization Uxbridge Historical Commission

Date May 1981

Town Uxbridge

Address 81 North Main Street

Historic Name Benjamin Adams House

Use: Original residence

Present same

Ownership: ☒ Private individual
Private organization _____

Public _____

Original owner Benjamin Adams

DESCRIPTION:

Date pre-1792; ca. 1800-1815 (decorative details)

Source exterior & secondary sources

Style Federalist

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric aluminum

Outbuildings stable

Major alterations (with dates) 2/2 sash & aluminum siding installed (20th C.)

side porch added (ca. 1900-1920)

Moved no Date N/A

Approx. acreage 1.86 acres

Setting in residential district of frame houses of 19th & 20th centuries

UTM: 19 282100 4661830
Quad Ux

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Although altered by aluminum siding and replacement sash, the Benjamin Adams House preserves several excellent elements of its original Federalist design. The house is a two-storey, timber-frame structure set on a foundation of hammered granite. The facade (west) is symmetrical and contains at its center a fine Federalist doorway consisting of a panelled door (mid-19th century surrounded by sidelights and an elliptical fanlight. Set in front of the entry is an open porch supported by paired engaged columns (east) and paired fluted columns (west); these columns support a cornice and half-hip roof. Extending the length of the facade is a cornice decorated with mutules.

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

In addition to its high quality Federalist trim, the Adams House possesses historical associations with Benjamin Adams, Uxbridge's second lawyer. Born in Mendon in 1764, Adams graduated from Brown University in the 1780's and came to Uxbridge to study law with Nathan Tyler, the town's only lawyer. Upon completion of his studies, Adams was admitted to the bar and moved to Hopkinton where he practiced law for one year. Following the death of Nathan Tyler (1790's), Adams returned to Uxbridge and assumed Tyler's practice. Subsequently Adams served as Uxbridge's representative to the General Court (1809-1813) and as the representative to the U. S. Congress for Worcester South (reported variously as 1820-1822 and 1815-1823). At least one source (Chapin) credits Adam's defeat for re-election to Congress to a strong speech he delivered in favor of tariff protection for American manufacturers. Chapin claims that this pro-tariff position aroused the opposition of the "commercial interests of Boston" and of Daniel Webster who worked for Adam's defeat in 1822-1823. In 1825, Adams was one of the founders of the Blackstone Bank.

By the mid-1850's, the Adams House had been sold to a member of the Gunn family, probably George Gunn, a manufacturer of men's suits and also the father of Horace E. Gunn, a pharmacist, who owned the house in 1898.

The Benjamin Adams House possesses integrity of location, design, setting and workmanship, as well as historical associations with Benjamin Adams, a locally prominent attorney and representative to the United States Congress during the Federalist period.

The Adams House meets criteria A, B and C of the NRHP.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps & Atlases: 1855, 1857, 1870, 1898
 Uxbridge 250th Anniversary Commemorative Book, 1979: p. 55
 Chapin 1881: 48-49
 Jewett 1879 II: 436

OWNER: Peter and Anne Gaurillen
 81 North Main Street
 Uxbridge, MA 01569

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

For NPS use only

received 8/20/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1075

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Adams, Benjamin, House

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

2. Albee, E., House

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

3. Aldrich, Daniel, Cottage and
SawmillEntered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

4. Aldrich, J., House

Substantive Review

f
Keeper

Bruce Van Duzee 1/2/84

Attest

5. Aldrich, W., House

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

6. Aldrich, S., House

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

7. Bank Building

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

8. Brown, E., House

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

9. Butler Block

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

10. Carpenter, George, House

Entered in the
National Registerfor
Keeper

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Adams, Benjamin, House (Uxbridge MRA)
Worcester County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. AUG 26 1983
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 _____
Federal Agency: _____

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

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: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Town: Uxbridge *MRA, Ma*

Form #48-113

Benjamin Adams House

Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area

Benjamin Adams House

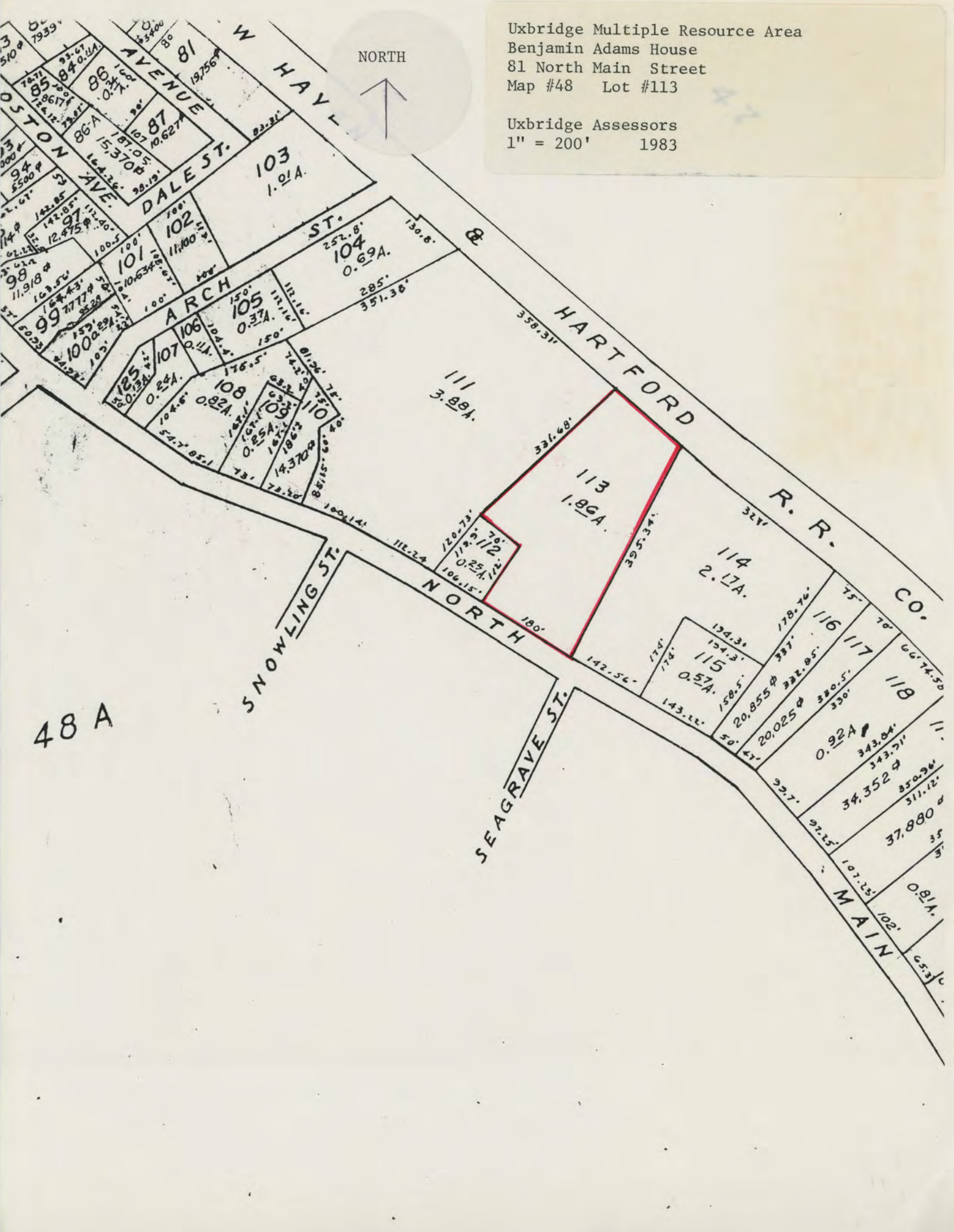
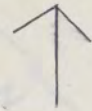
81 North Main Street

Map #48 Lot #113

Uxbridge Assessors

1" = 200' 1983

NORTH



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000299