

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO. 300
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

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.

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date July, 1985

Williamstown Quadrangle  
UTM reference: 18/649620/4729000

(Staple additional sheets here)

Town North Adams MRA

Address 1072 State Road

Historic Name William B. Sherman Farm

Use: Present residence

Original residence

DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1820-1830

Source Deeds

Style Greek Revival

Architect N/A

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings Garage (20th century)

Major alterations (with dates) North

porch added, ca. 1870-1875

Moved No Date N/A

Approx. acreage less than one acre

Setting The house is located on a wooded lot fronting the State Road. Once part of a large farm, the land has since been subdivided for residential development.

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

The house is architecturally distinctive as a Greek Revival farmhouse which was later embellished with a striking Italianate-style veranda. The original house is five bays wide with Doric corner pilasters supporting an entablature with a full pediment in each gable end. The sash have original six over six lights. Sometime around 1870 (possibly earlier), the house was remodeled with the addition of the present large veranda. This consists of four posts linked by broad arcading. In the spandrels of the arches is an unusual filigree design. The floor-length windows and double doors off the veranda are part of the same remodeling.

**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 is historically important as part of the William B. Sherman dairy farm. It is one of a very few surviving unaltered farmhouses in North Adams. William B. Sherman was a native of Rhode Island, where he was born in 1759. In 1780 he married and settled in Williamstown, Mass., where he built a house and established a grocery store. The present house stands on farmland purchased by Sherman in 1813.

At some undetermined date, possibly around 1830, Sherman erected this house. The land on which it stands was originally part of Williamstown. (It did not become part of North Adams until 1900.) Sherman and his son Eber developed the land as a dairy farm, raising sheep as well. Eber constructed a large Greek Revival-style residence for himself a few hundred yards to the east of his father's home. The Eber Sherman house was apparently built around 1843, the year he purchased his father's farm. (The Eber Sherman House, 1010 State Road, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.) William Sherman, who retained life tenancy to his home, died three years later in 1846.

Eber Sherman II sold the entire farm to Augusta Hull in 1862. Hull then divided the property, selling the Eber Sherman House to Henry Chapman in 1871 and the William Sherman House to J. Y. Lewis in 1873. It may have been around that time that the house was remodeled with the large veranda and floor-length windows.

(see below)

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

Record of Deeds, Adams, MA

Eber Sherman House, 1010 State Road, No. Adams, MA National Register nomination form, 1982

Historical Significance cont'd:

After Lewis' death, his heirs sold the farm to Allen D. Phelps in 1885. The Phelps family continued to manage the property as a farm well in the the twentieth century. Since World War II, however, the surrounding farmland has been sold off for commercial and residential development, and for the North Adams Airport. The building today sits on a lot of less than one acre.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received 9/12/85  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 2

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name North Adams MRA  
State Bershire County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Hathaway Tenement

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers* 10/25/85

Attest

12. Johnson School

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers* 10/25/85

Attest

13. Johnson Manufacturing  
Company

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers* 10/25/85

Attest

14. Norad Mill

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers* 10/25/85

Attest

15. Sherman, William B.,  
Farm

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers* 10/25/85

Attest

16. Sykes House

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers* 10/25/85

Attest

17. Wells House

Entered in the  
National Register

*for* Keeper

*Delores Byers* 10/25/85

Attest

18. Phelps House

*S. Review*

Keeper

Attest

19.

Keeper

Attest

20.

Keeper

Attest

85003479

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Sherman, William B., Farm (North Adams MRA)  
Bershire County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. SEP 12 1985  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87  
Date Due: 10/10/85 - 10/27/85  
Action:  ACCEPT 10-25-85  
 RETURN  
 REJECT  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the  
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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- 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

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**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

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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_  
Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_  
UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

Verbal boundary description and justification \_\_\_\_\_

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**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 \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

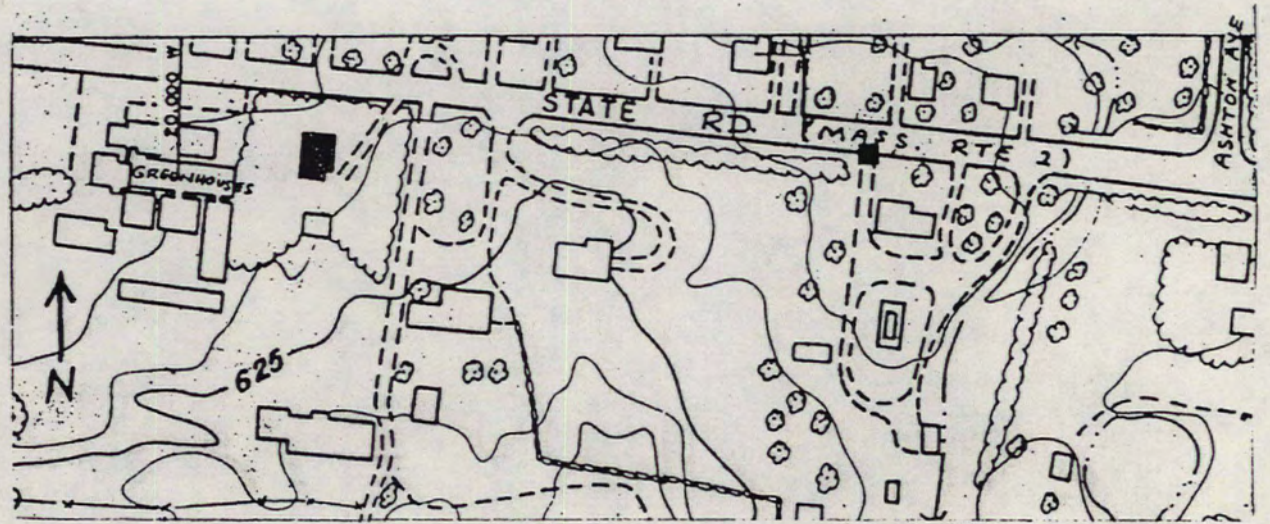
Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

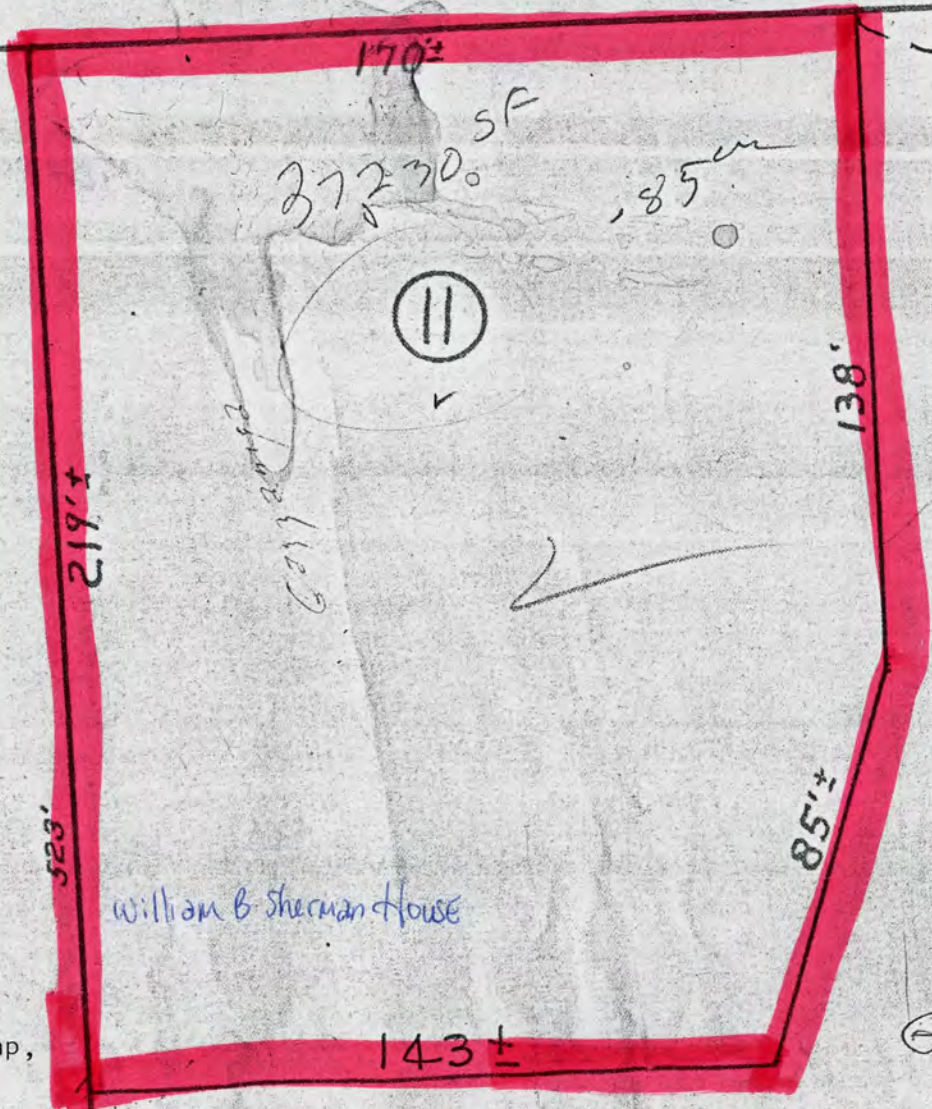


William B. Sherman House  
1072 State Road  
North Adams, <sup>MA</sup> Mass.  
North elevation.  
Photo by R.Reed, 1981.  
Negative at NAHC

William B. Sherman Farm - Sketch Map  
1072 State Road  
North Adams, Mass.  
North Adams MRA



A D



16.8

William B Sherman House

George Malnati

North Adams Assessors' Map, ca. 1915 1"=40'

William B. Sherman Farm  
1072 State Road  
North Adams MRA