

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
K	320

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

Town Taunton
Address 3 Plain St.
Historic Name Francis D. Williams House
Present Owner: A. & M. Biondi

Use: Present Apartments
Original Residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1830

Source Style

Style Greek Revival

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Common Bond Brick

Outbuildings Concrete block garage,
20th C. (non-contrib.)

Major alterations (with dates) 2 story
brick and frame lateral addition
19th century.

Moved No Date _____

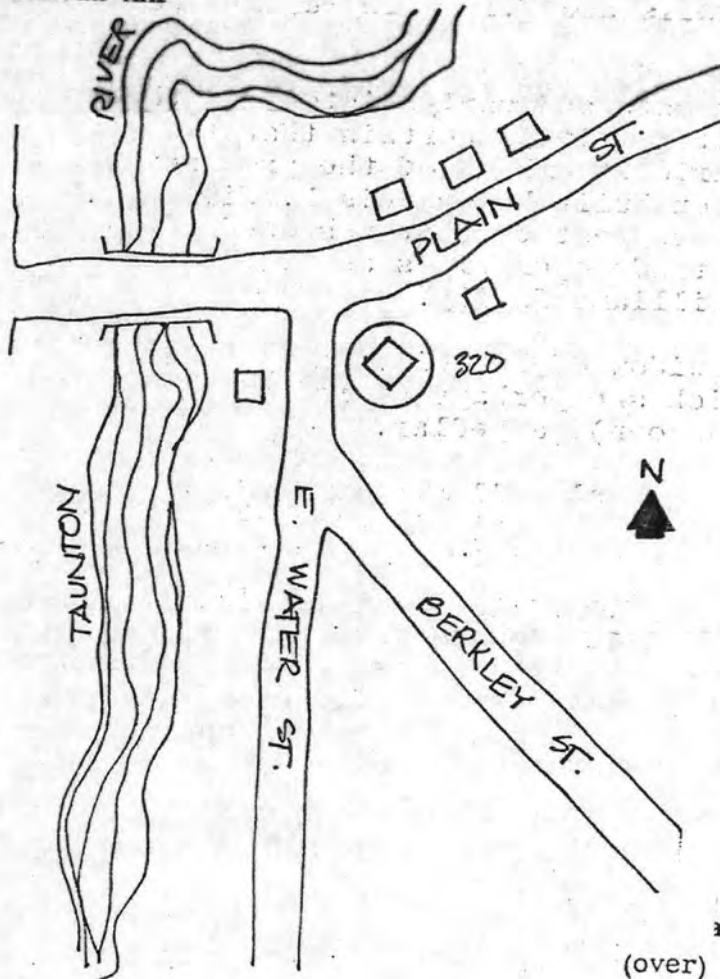
Approx. acreage Less than one

Setting Set back approx. 30' from
street at residential intersection.

Recorded by: T.W.
Organization: T.C.H.S.
Date: 8/29/79

UTM: 19/326655/4638950

SKETCH MAP



(over)

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

The broad-gabled, central hall structure is 2½ stories, of brick construction, and has central entrances on both Berkeley and Plain St. facades. Doors are trimmed with fluted boards and corner blocks, have louvered transoms and sidelights, and granite lintels. Granite is also used to trim 2/2 sash windows throughout the structure. A period ell extends to the east.

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

Like the nearby "Stone House" at 15-17 Plain St., this structure is an outstanding landmark in Weir Village, prominently sited on the corner of Plain and Berkeley Streets. Built of brick in the Greek Revival style, it is exceptional for its imposing scale, fine period details and virtually unaltered condition.

While an exact construction date and early history of the building are unclear, it is certain that the structure was associated with various members of the prominent Williams family, and may have been built by Francis D. Williams. Its size and riverfront location suggest that it was used as a boarding facility for coastal trade operatives as well as serving as a residence for the Williams family.

By 1857, Corilla Williams, widow of Francis, is known to have inhabited the building, which she perhaps shared with Charles A. Williams (relation unknown), a peddler.

Possessing integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association, the Francis D. Williams House meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places as the only surviving example of a large scale residential structure constructed of brick in the Greek Revival style in Taunton and for its historical associations with the maritime tradition of Weir Village in the 19th century.

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

Dunbar, 1950

Beers, 1871

Walker, 1881

Boundaries conform to current lot lines.

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

For NPS use only

received MAY 21 1984
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 9 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Taunton Multiple Resource Area
State Bristol County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

81. Williams, Abiathar King, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

82. Williams, Enoch, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

83. Williams, Francis D., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

84. Williams, N. S., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

85. Willis, Joseph, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

86. Winslow Congregational Church

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

87. Winthrop Street Baptist
ChurchEntered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/5/84

Attest

88. Lawrence, William, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/10/85

Attest

89. Neck of Land

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 7/10/85

Attest

90. Taunton State Hospital

Keeper

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Williams, Francis D., House (Taunton MRA)
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. MAY 21 1984
Fed. Reg. Date: 2.5.85
Date Due: 6-21-84 / 7-5-84
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 7-5-84
☐ 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	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	☐ 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: _____



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Williams, Francis D., Base
Taunton MRA, Ma

MAY 1980

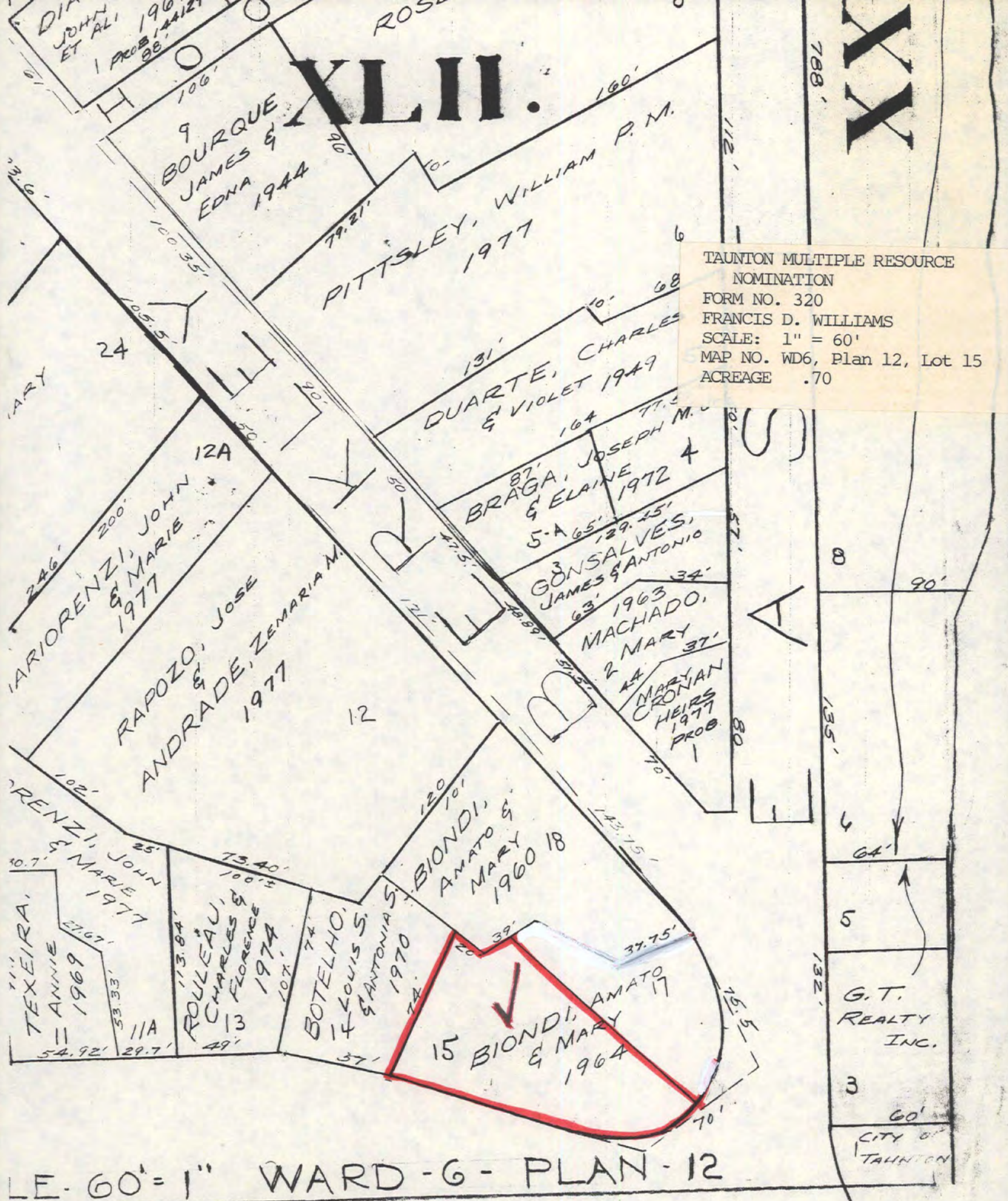


by Berkey

MAY 1980



by Berkey



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000297