

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
NW CAMB.	NWC IIC4

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number 1110-29A

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



ASSESSOR #233-189

1. Town Cambridge

Address 152 Vassal Lane

Name Wyeth-Smith House

Present use residential

Present owner John P. & Agnes M. Sanderson

3. Description:

Date 1820

Source deed records

Style Federal

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric asbestos shingles

Outbuildings (describe) -----

Other features classic late Federal/

Greek Revival entrance-- well-preserved
good period detail.

doorway remodelled 1830s
Altered Yes- shingles Date unknown

added
Moved Yes Date 1893

5. Lot size:

One acre or less XX Over one acre

Approximate frontage 55 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

7 feet

6. Recorded by Arthur Krim

Organization Cambridge Historical Comm.

Date 1972

UTM-LEXINGTON
19/323900/4694320

7. Original owner (if known) Jacob Wyeth

Original use residential

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> | Conservation | <input type="checkbox"/> | Recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Agricultural | <input type="checkbox"/> | Education | <input type="checkbox"/> | Religion | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Architectural | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Exploration/
settlement | <input type="checkbox"/> | Science/
invention | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| The Arts | <input type="checkbox"/> | Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> | Social/
humanitarian | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> | Military | <input type="checkbox"/> | Transportation | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Communication | <input type="checkbox"/> | Political | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Community development | <input type="checkbox"/> | | | | |

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

The Wyeth-Smith House is the finest early nineteenth century two-room, center-hall farmhouse surviving in Cambridge. Built in 1820 as a tenanthouse by Jacob Wyeth on land he had purchased from his father to erect the Fresh Pond Hotel, it was immediately leased to Ebenezer Smith. The house was moved to Vassal Lane in 1893 from its original location at the junction of Fresh Pond Parkway and Huron Avenue as development pressures forced it to be relocated.

The compact massing, the low-pitched roof and the tight eaves express the essential qualities of the Federal style. The Greek Revival doorway dates from a remodelling in the late 1830s. Except for the artificial siding, the house has survived intact. Its historical associations with the Wyeth family, prominent landholders in Northwest Cambridge who were responsible for initiating the ice industry in Fresh Pond, make it an integral part of the history of Northwest Cambridge and a significant landmark which should not be overlooked.

NOV 14 1980

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form



Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 16 of 17

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Cambridge Multiple Resource Area

State MA

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
151. Day, Anna, House <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
152. Kingsley, Chester, House <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
153. Watson, Abraham, House <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
154. Wyeth Brickyard Superintendent's House <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
155. Greek Revival Cottage <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
156. ✓ St. James Episcopal Church <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>Thomas Lee Boyd 6.30.83</u>
Attest	_____
157. Kidder-Sargent-McCrehan House <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
158. Henderson Carriage Repository <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
159. Soule, Lawrence, House <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____
160. Wyeth-Smith House <i>Substantive Review</i> ✓ Keeper	<u>William H. Bracham 4.13.82</u>
Attest	_____

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Wyeth-Smith House (Cambridge
Multiple Resource Area)
State, County: MA - Middlesex
Federal Agency: _____

Working No. 11-14-80-2862
Fed. Reg. Date: _____
Date Due: 4-17-82
Action: ACCEPT 4/13/82
 RETURN _____
 REJECT _____

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

photos 1
maps _____

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

*Strong local family associations - also
significant ~~as~~ for its type.*

Recom./Criteria C
Reviewer Braun
Discipline 4.5.82
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 deteriorated good ruins fair unexposed
Check one unaltered altered
Check one original site moved data

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

for NPS use only

8. Significance

Period _____ Area 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

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UMT 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 _____

Site _____ date _____

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



1110-29A

NOV 14 1980

Cambridge MA, Ma

0480

Wright-Smith House

152 Vassal Lane

1110-29A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000275