

Area	Form no.
	35-42

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

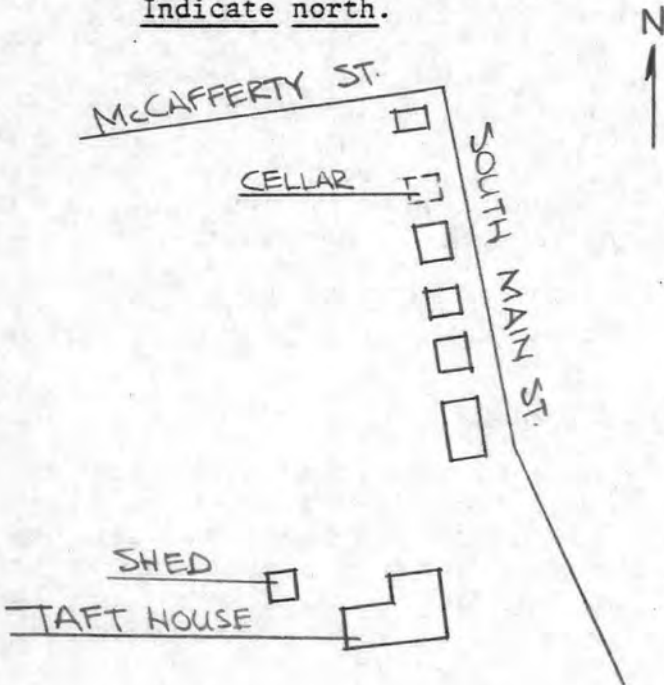
 PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
 Staple to left side of form
 Photo number _____

 Roll 5 frames 14-15

Town Uxbridge
 Address 112 South Main Street
 Historic Name Zadock Taft House
 Use: Original residence
 Present residence
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Zadock Taft (earliest known)

SKETCH MAP

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



DESCRIPTION:

Date possibly 18th century; ca.1845-18
 Source secondary sources; exterior
 Style Greek Revival
 Architect unknown
 Exterior wall fabric clapboard
 Outbuildings shed
 Major alterations (with dates) 2/2 sash & front porch (early 20th century)
 Moved no Date N/A
 Approx. acreage 26,676 sq. ft.
 Setting fields & woods (west); mixed residential & commercial development (east, north & south)
 UTM: Quad Ux 19 282740 4660730

Recorded by B.R.Pfeiffer
 Organization Uxbridge Historical Commission
 Date May 1981

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

Shown in its present form in a view at the border of the 1855 Map of Uxbridge, the Zadock Taft House is a two-storey timber-frame structure consisting of a rectangular-plan main house with twin interior chimneys and a 1½ storey rear ell (west). The main house is trimmed with cornice pilasters and has a symmetrical facade of five openings at each storey. The entry consists of a six-panel door, framed by sidelights and pilasters supporting a cornice. Window frames have slightly pedimented caps.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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

A good simple example of Greek Revival style architecture, the Zadock Taft House may possess historical associations with the settlement of Uxbridge in the early eighteenth century. Referred to in several sources as the home-stand of Joseph Taft (1680-1747), the former farm on which the Taft House stand may have been occupied by Joseph Taft as early as 1708 when he married Elizabeth Emerson. Later known as Captain, Joseph Taft served on the building committee for Uxbridge's first meetinghouse in 1728-1730. Taft was also known as the father of four sons, to each of whom he gave a farm in Uxbridge. Local sources are unclear about the sequence of ownership and the preservation or demolition of house(s) on this property after Joseph Taft's death.

In the nineteenth century, the property passed to Joseph Taft's great grandson, Zadock A., with whom the present house is most clearly associated. Little is known of Zadock Taft except that he served as a district trial justice during the 1870's and that he was involved in at least two manufacturing ventures. In 1865-1866, Zadock Taft bought the abandoned saw and grist mill of Leonard Taft at Happy Hollow (junction of Mill and Pond Streets). Having cleared away the existing buildings, Taft built a mill for the manufacture of cotton warps, although he soon abandoned this manufacture in favor of satinets. At approximately the same time, around 1866, Taft bought a one-half interest in the Rivulet Mill (Form #56-A) in which shoddy was made until ca. 1869 when the mill was rented to a yarn manufacturer. Taft sold his interest in the Rivulet Mill around 1882. Taft died between 1870 and 1898, after which the property, including neighboring buildings (Forms #35-40 and 35-39) passed to G. Z. Taft.

The Zadock Taft House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, workmanship and materials as well as historical associations with the early settlement of Uxbridge and the locally prominent Taft Family. The Taft House meets criteria A, B and C of the NRHP.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Clark, Richard Map of Uxbridge, Massachusetts. 1855 (view of "Residence of Zadock A. Taft" at border)
- Proceedings at the Meeting of the Taft Family at Uxbridge, Mass. August 12, 1874
Uxbridge: Spencer Bros., 1874 p.p. 49-51
- Chapin 1881: 170
Hurd 1888 I: 171-172
Jewett 1879 II: 434

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Uxbridge	Form No: 35-42
Property Name: Z. Taft House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Although all exterior decoration appears to date from ca. 1845-1855, elements of the house's proportions and fenestration as well as the representation of 8/8 or 12/12 sash in the 1855 view suggest that the building may pre-date 1845 and that it may merely have been remodelled in the Greek Revival style.

OWNER

John J. and Margaret I. Visbeck
P. O. Box 201
Uxbridge, MA 01569

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 5/26/83
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 5 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. Whipple, A., House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

42. Williams, N., House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

43. Taft, Aaron, House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

²⁴¹44. Taft, Bazaleel, Jr., House and Law Office Substantive Review

for Keeper accept Patrick Andrews 10/7/83

Attest

45. Taft, Hon. Bazaleel, House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

46. Taft Brothers Block Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

47. Taft, George, House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

48. Taft, Moses, House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

49. Taft, Samuel, House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

²⁴⁷50. Taft, Zadock, House Entered in the National Register

for Keeper Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Taft, Zadock, 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

Entered in the National Register RETURN _____

REJECT _____
Federal Agency: _____

- 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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> excellent <input type="checkbox"/> good <input type="checkbox"/> fair | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/> ruins <input type="checkbox"/> unexposed | <p>Check one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> unaltered <input type="checkbox"/> altered | <p>Check one</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> original site <input type="checkbox"/> 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

THE ARCHIVES
 WASHINGTON COUNTY
 HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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: _____



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000299