

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
	152

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

Photo number _____

Town REHOBOTH

Address 77 Bay State Road

Historic Name Colonel Thomas Carpenter III
House

Use: Present residence

Original residence

DESCRIPTION:

Date c1755; possibly earlier

Source architectural detail; MLM, p 62-65

Style vernacular Georgian

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric shingles

Outbuildings wagon shed, shop, large end
opening basement barn -- 19th c.

Major alterations (with dates) _____

none known

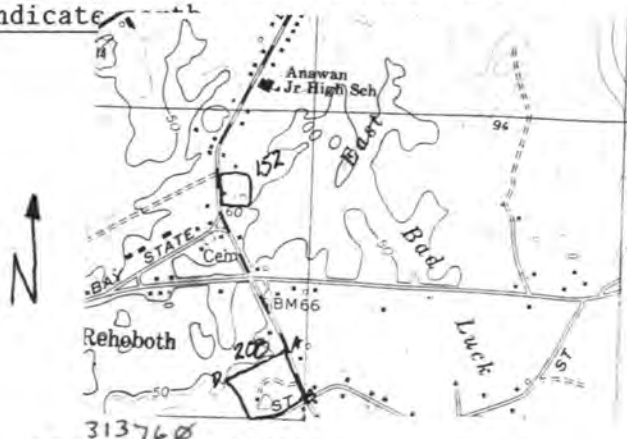
Moved no Date _____

Approx. acreage 4

Setting 50 feet from road, gable end to
road ; rural context on main
north-south artery

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



UTM: 19/~~37~~3720/4634730

Recorded by Leslie C. Abernathy III

Organization Rehoboth Historical Commission

Date April 1976; revised 1981

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The Colonel Thomas Carpenter III House is an outstanding and highly unusual example of early to mid 18th century building design which departs significantly from typical architecture of the period in Massachusetts. It is a large 2½ story central chimney plan structure, notable for its gable on hip roof and set back second story with a narrow pent roof between the first and second stories on all elevations. Some have suggested the form may represent a type of garrison structure, although neither tradition nor documentation are known to support this. The possibility of two or more

(Continued)

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

Colonel Thomas Carpenter III (1733-1807) established his homestead in this house with one hundred sixty-four acres here on his farther, Deacon Thomas Carpenter's, farm ca. 1750. Colonel Thomas Carpenter, a distinguished patriot, is the most renowned member of that illustrious early Rehoboth family. Prior to the Revolution, he was already one of the town's wealthiest citizens. He was able to purchase one hundred thirty-six acres of former pastoral school lands in 1761 and a total of seven pews in the new (second) meetinghouse during the 1770s. He was also a surveyor and may have designed and/or built many of Rehoboth's houses in the late 18th century. The "Old Yellow Meeting House" (built 1773; torn down ca. 1840) was probably his design as documentation exists showing that he submitted a plan and was later paid approximately one-quarter of the building costs. During the Revolution, Colonel Thomas Carpenter's regiment of local men fought as far away as New York. His reputation and influence were such that in 1787, when the selectmen discussed taking charge of the local munitions supply, the townspeople were asked to consider "what further instructions they will give the selectmen concerning the town stock at Colonel Thomas Carpenters if he refuses to give it up" (Snape 1976:116). After his death in 1807, the house remained in the Carpenter family until at least 1830.

As a singular architectural example associated with one of Rehoboth's most illustrious and well-documented Revolutionary period citizens, the Colonel Thomas Carpenter III House meets criteria B and C of the National Register of Historic Places individually.

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

Snape, Sue Ellen. Mighty Liberty Men, 1976, pp. 60-66, 97-101, 115-117.

Walling, H. F. Map of Rehoboth, 1850.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

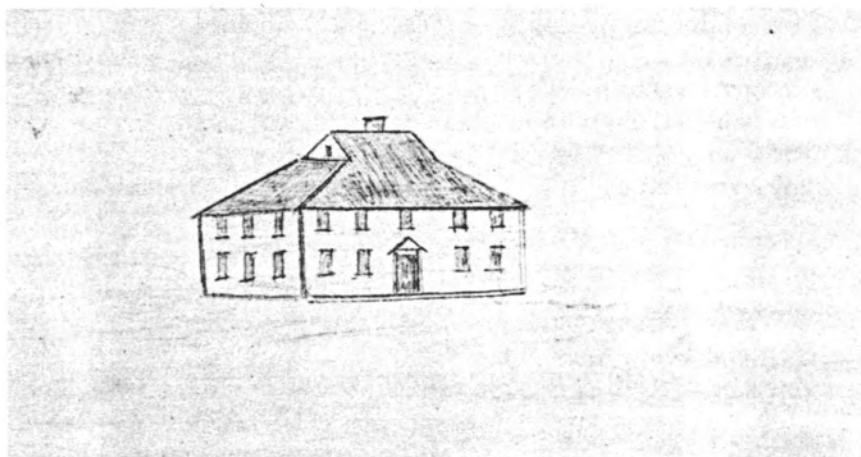
Community: Rehoboth	Form No: 152
Property Name: Colonel Thomas Carpenter III House	

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

Architectural Significance (Continued)

construction stages is implied by asymmetrical fenestration. On the interior, the former kitchen has been altered but retains its fireplace. The two major downstairs rooms are in original condition, and have fine panelling, interior shutters and cased posts and beams. Several large 19th and 20th century outbuildings are standing on the property, east of the house; beyond them stretch open fields.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom



Col. Tho^s Carpenter, then Peter Carpenter

Colonel Thomas Carpenter's house on Bay State Road.

Sketch from Blanding, W. "Reminiscences", 1848.
Published in Snape, S.E. Mighty Liberty Men, 1976, p.116.

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

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 4

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Rehoboth Multiple Resource Area
State Massachusetts

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Brown House

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

12. Briggs Tavern

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

13. Carpenter Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

14. Carpenter, Christopher,
House (60 Carpenter St.)Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

15. Carpenter House
(89 Carpenter St.)Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

16. Carpenter, Col. Thomas, III,
HouseEntered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

17. { Cushing, Caleb, Farm

Combined

Keeper

Attest

18. { Cushing House and FARM

CALEB,

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

19. Drown, Nathaniel, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

20. Elm Cottage/Blanding Farm

National Register

for Keeper

Attest

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Carpenter, Col. Thomas, III, House (Rehoboth
MRA)
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 4/25/83Fed. Reg. Date: 2.7.84Date Due: 5/24/83 - 6/9/83Action: ☒ ACCEPT 6/6/83Entered 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. Name2. Location3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property5. Location of Legal Description6. Representation in Existing Surveyshas this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no7. 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 _____ 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 _____

UNIT 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: 202 272-3504

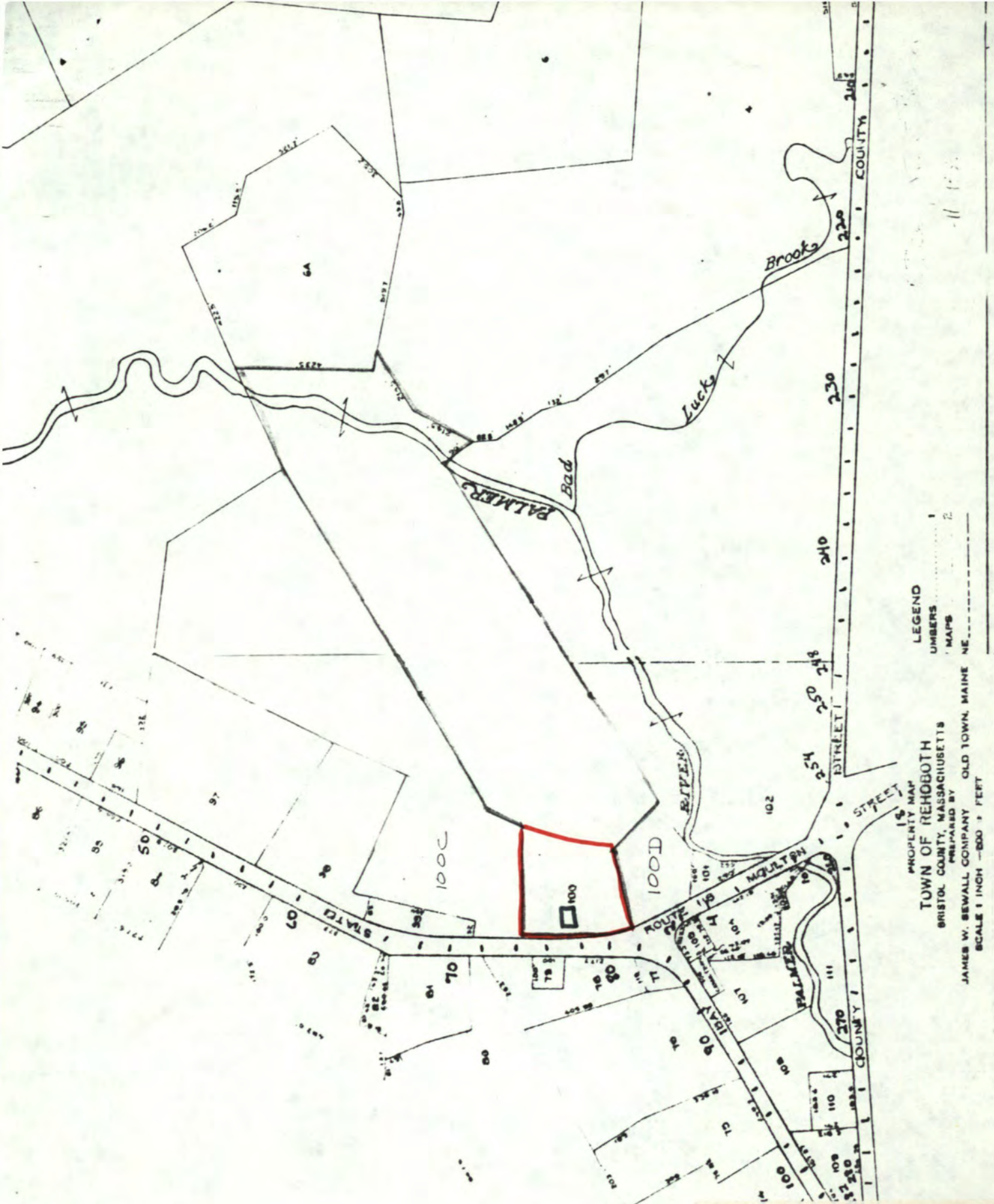
Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



36:9

RAHS # 152

Cropper, Col. Thomas, TH, Hesse
Rehebert MRA, Ma



77 Bay State Road
Colonel Thomas Carpenter House
(Form 152) Town of Rehoboth
Property Map 1978
scale 1"=200'

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000292