

FORM B - BUILDING

Area

41-L

Form no.

42-10

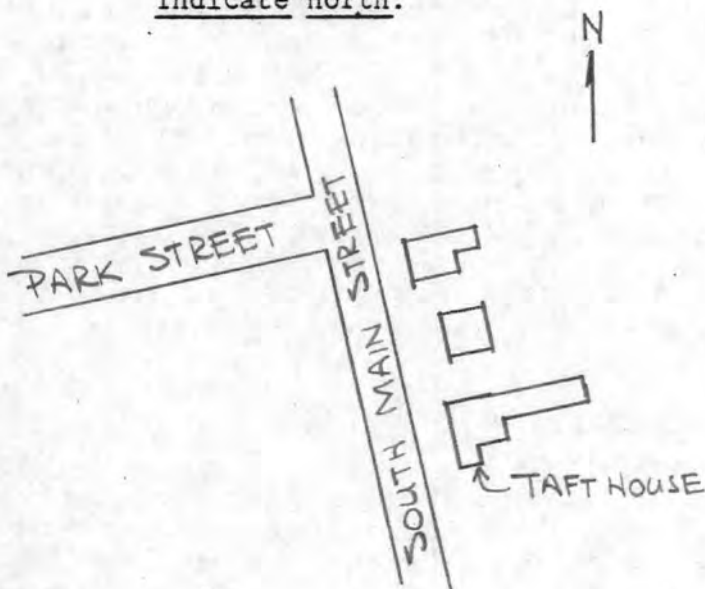
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

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

Roll 8 frames 18-19

SKETCH MAP

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



Town Uxbridge

Address 66 South Main Street

Historic Name Moses Taft House

Use: Original residence

Present same

Ownership: ☒ Private individual
Private organization _____

Public _____

Original owner Moses Taft

DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1850-1855

Source exterior & atlases

Style Italianate

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric asbestos shingle

Outbuildings 1½ storey stable (attached
to rear of house)

Major alterations (with dates) 2/2 sash

added (ca.1880?) present entry added
(ca.1900-1920); original porch removed
(ca.1960?): siding added (mid-20th cent-
ury)

Moved no Date N/A

Approx. acreage .48 acres

Setting residential neighborhood south
of the commercial district

Recorded by B.R.Pfeiffer

Organization Uxbridge Historical
Commission

Date May 1981

UTM: Quad Ux 19 282600 4661130

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

Now altered, the Moses Taft House was one of the most opulent Italianate style houses built in Uxbridge during the mid-nineteenth century. Built prior to 1855, the house is a two-storey wood-frame structure built on a foundation of rock-faced granite and enclosed by a pitched roof. The front section of the house (west) is rectangular in plan and has an ell extending eastward, connecting it to the former stable.

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)

The Taft House possesses historical associations with Moses Taft, an important local manufacturer during the mid-nineteenth century. Born in Uxbridge in 1812 on the farm of his father, Luke Taft, Moses Taft was exposed to textile manufacturing from the age of four when his father bought a jenny and hand loom in order to manufacture satinets in his home. In 1824, the elder Taft built a water-power mill on the West River (see form #43-G) where he manufactured satinets. In 1827 or 1828 after studying briefly at the Friends' School in Bolton, Mass., Moses Taft worked in his father's mill until 1829 when he became a clerk in the store of John Capron & Sons at Uxbridge Center. Following the failure of the Caprons' business (1830?), Taft returned to his father's mill and soon took charge of all manufacturing operations.

After Taft sold his interest in his father's mill in 1846, he became involved in many industrial ventures. In the late 1840's, he and Samuel Scott ran a satinet mill in Burrillville, Rhode Island; after the Burrillville Mill burned in 1849, Taft formed a partnership with James Day and rented the Capron Mill at Uxbridge Center, where they manufactured satinets until 1862. In 1852, Taft purchased water rights from the bankrupt Blackstone Canal Company, and soon thereafter built the Central Woolen Mill (form #46-D) together with some worker housing (form #46-E), all of which he sold in 1865. After 1865, Taft acquired interest in woolen mills in Bellingham, East Douglas and Ashland, Massachusetts as well as in Putnam, Connecticut.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Blackstone Bank 1925: 26-28
Chapin 1881: 150-151
Hurd 1888 I: 179-180

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Uxbridge	Form No: 42-10
Property Name: M. Taft House	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Framed by wide corner pilasters rising to bracketed capitals and a cornice with paired brackets, the facade is symmetrical about a center entry. Windows are set in frames with moulded caps and the front entry has been rebuilt with a Colonial Revival style surround. Originally, a porch extended the length of the facade. Other alterations include the addition of a one-storey (office?) wing on the house's south end (ca. 1900-1920).

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

Moses Taft also served as president of the Uxbridge Savings Bank and president of the Blackstone National Bank from 1865 until his death in 1893. In addition to his business ventures, Taft served frequently as a selectman and was also elected as a representative to the General Court (1845).

The Moses Taft House possesses integrity of location, design, setting and workmanship, as well as historical associations with Moses Taft, a locally important manufacturer during the mid-nineteenth century.

The Taft House meets criteria A, B and C of the NRHP.

OWNER

Charles A. and Cecilia A. Foley
South Main St.
Uxbridge, MA 01569

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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

For NPS use only

received 8/26/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 5 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. Whipple, A., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

42. Williams, N., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

43. Taft, Aaron, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

241 44. Taft, Bazaleel, Jr., House
and Law Office

Substantive Review

Keeper

Attest

accept Patrick Andrews 10/7/83

45. Taft, Hon. Bazaleel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

46. Taft Brothers Block

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

47. Taft, George, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

48. Taft, Moses, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

49. Taft, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

247 50. Taft, Zadock, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Attest

Melvyn Byers 10/7/83

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Taft, Moses, 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
☐ 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 | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ 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

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: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area

Moses Taft House

66 South Main Street

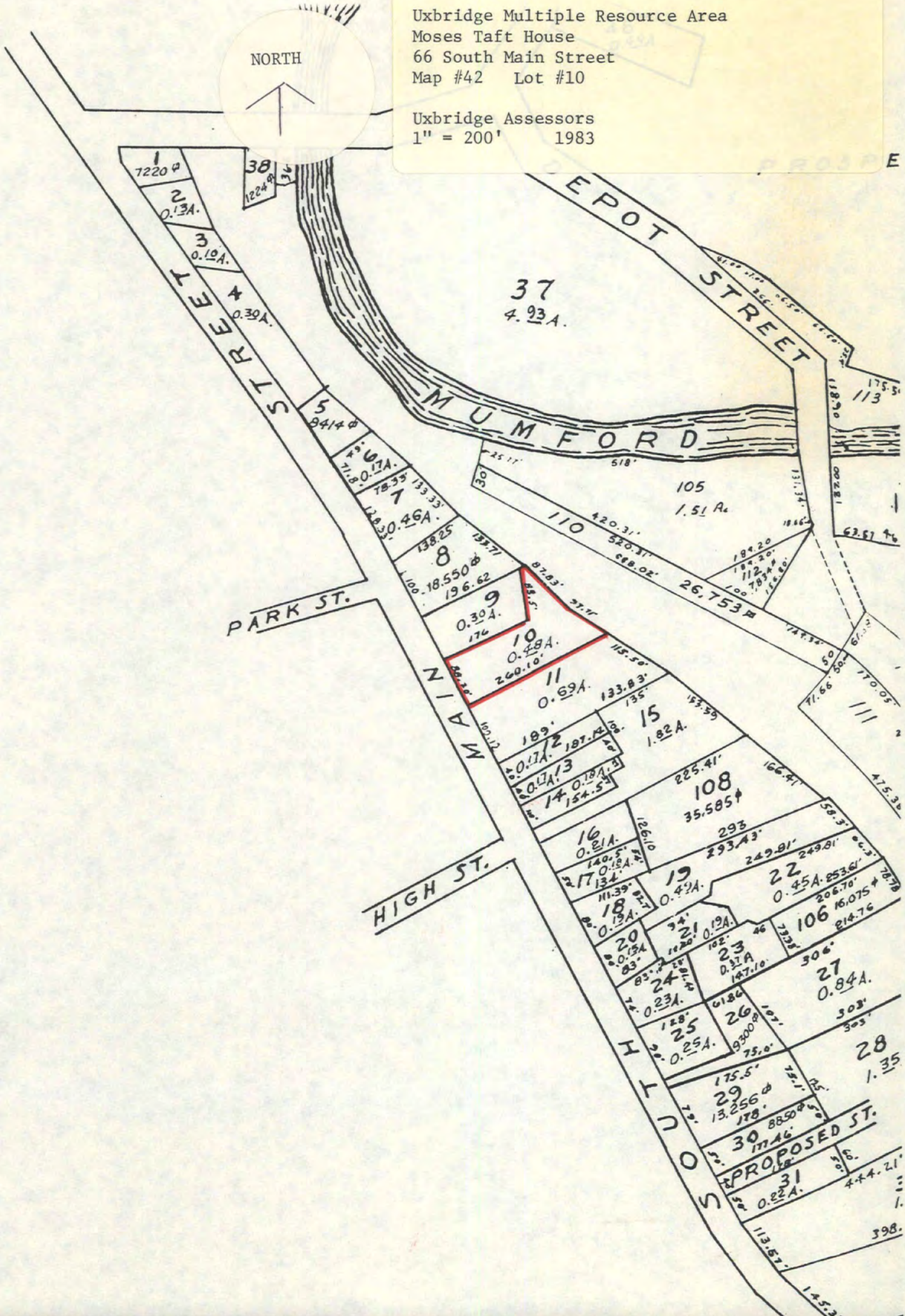
Map #42 Lot #10

Uxbridge Assessors

1" = 200' 1983

NORTH

PLAT 41



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000299