

FORM B - BUILDING

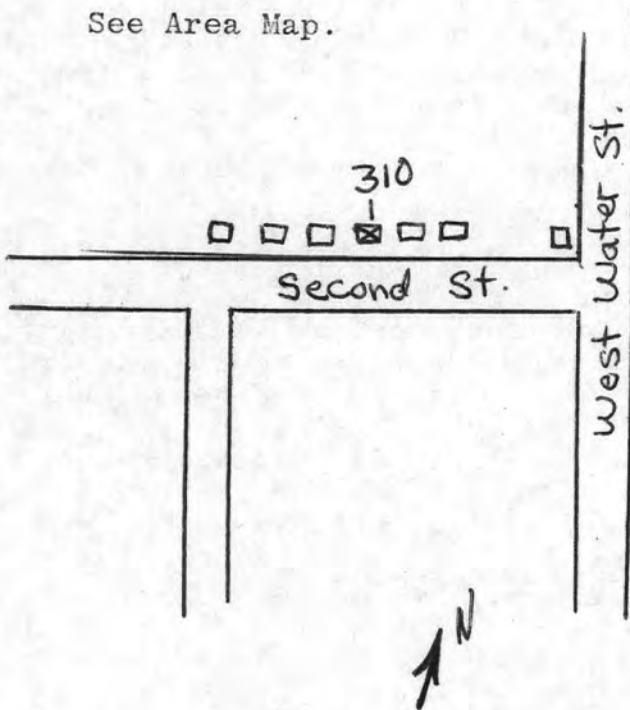
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. K	Form no. 310
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2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

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

See Area Map.



1. Town Taunton ✓
Address 21 Second Street ✓
Name Sylvanus N. Staples House ✓
Present use Residence
Present owner Anthony Barbour

3. Description:
Date 1837
Source Deeds
Style Greek Revival
Architect Unknown
Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
Outbuildings (describe) None
Other features See attached.

Altered No Date _____
Moved No Date _____

5. Lot size: WARD - 06 ^{RAN-5} BLK - 16 LOT - 20
One acre or less x Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 100'
Approximate distance of building from street
15'

6. Recorded by T.W.
Organization T.C.H.S.
Date 9/19/79

(over)

UTM: 19/326300/4639070

7. Original owner (if known) Sylvanus Nelson Staples

Original use Residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates N/A

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

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

This Greek Revival side hall house is associated with one of Weir Village's most prominent industrialists and commercial pioneers, Sylvanus N. Staples.

Born in 1811, Staples was descended from brickmakers and sea captains. Working for his paternal grandfather, Captain Jacob Phillips, Staples learned the sea trade first as a cabin boy, and, by the age of 18, became a sloop master. In the 1830's, he engaged actively in the coastal sea trade in the West Indies and Gulf of Mexico, beginning his own wholesale and retail flour and grocery shipping business in partnership with F.D. Williams and Hiram Burt in 1836. As his fortunes increased steadily, Staples had the present residence built for him in 1837. The structure was originally part of a large estate with workers' housing, barns, greenhouse and landscaped grounds.

Active as a landowner and speculator in the Civil War Years and later, Staples was also important for his formation of one of the city's largest and most lucrative iron, coal and lime freighting businesses. "Staples and Philips," begun in partnership with William H. Staples in 1857, had sales offices on Winthrop and West Water Streets throughout the 19th century. It continued to buoy Staples economically; however, the loss of his ship, "The William Mason," which was sunk off the coast of Tortugas in 1861. He continued to live in this structure until his death in 1893.

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

Emery, History of Taunton, 1893, Biographical, p. 24-26

Taunton City Directories, 1887, 1893

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Taunton	Form No: 310
Property Name: Sylvanus N. Staples House	

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

9. Historical Significance (continued)

Description: The 2½-story side hall house features a recessed, 2½-story wing with bay windows that intersects at right angles. A 1-story porch, on fluted columns, covers the facade and portion of the side elevation. Greek Revival features include corner pilasters and a full roof entablature, creating a pedimented gable.

The Sylvanus N. Staples House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. It meets criteria B and C of the National Register of Historic Places as one of Taunton's best preserved examples of a large, but restrained transitional Greek Revival/Italianate style house and for historical associations with a notable prosperous merchant who made his fortune in ocean freighting and seatriade in the 19th century.

Boundaries conform to current lot lines.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received MAY 21 1984
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

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Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Taunton Multiple Resource Area
State Bristol County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| 61. | School Street School | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 62. | Staples, Sylvanus N., House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 63. | Stone House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 64. | Sweet, Albert, House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 65. | Taunton Alms House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 66. | Taunton Public Library | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 67. | Thomas, H. P., House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 68. | Tisdale-Morse House | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 69. | Union Congregational Church | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |
| 70. | Union Mission Chapel-
Historical Hall | Entered in the
National Register | <i>for</i> Keeper | <u>Melrose Byers</u> | <u>7/5/84</u> |
| | | | Attest | _____ | _____ |

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Staples, Sylvanus N., 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
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

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

(A.M. 1000000) 1000000
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 1000000 1000000

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreege 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: _____



#310 Staples, Sylvanus N., House
Taunton MRA, Ma

MAY 1980

Prestige Prints

by Berkey

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000297