

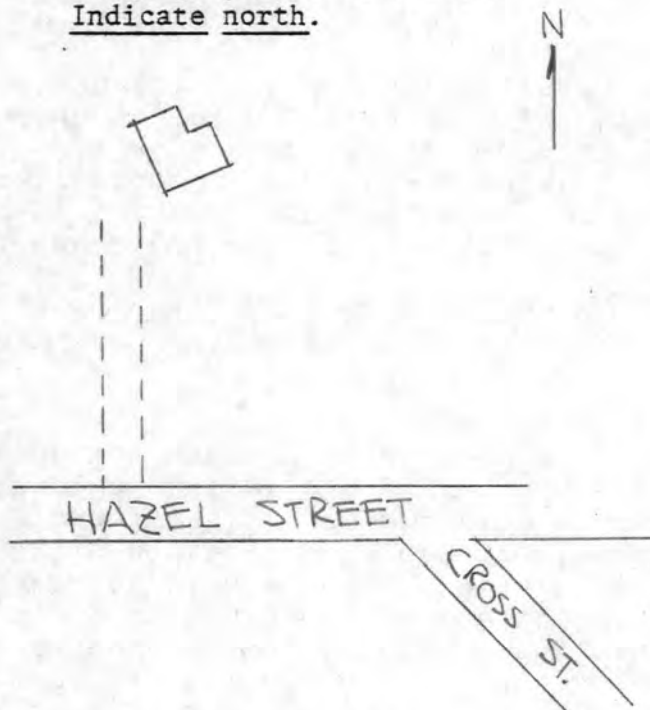
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

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

Roll 5 frames 33-35

SKETCH MAP

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



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

Town Uxbridge

Address Hazel Street

Historic Name Aaron Taft House

Use: Original residence

Present same

Ownership: ☒ Private individual
Private organization

Public _____

Original owner Aaron Taft (?)

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1749

Source 250th Anniversary book

Style timber-frame vernacular

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings garage

Major alterations (with dates) Greek

Revival style entry added (1840's),
rear ell added (mid-20th century), 6/6
sash (19th C.?)

Moved no Date N/A

Approx. acreage less than 1/4

Setting rural-fields immediately
surrounding the house, woods beyond.

UTM: Quad Ux 19 280630 4661830

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

The Aaron Taft House is an exceptionally fine and well-preserved example of vernacular architecture of the mid-18th century. The original portion of the house is contained in the front(west) section of the present building, a rectangular plan structure with a central chimney. Of timber-frame construction the building rests on a granite foundation and is enclosed by a gambrel roof. The facade(west) is asymmetrical, having two windows south of and one window north of a central entry. Window frames have moulded caps which are set into the cornice on the facade.

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

One of only five gambrel cottages of the eighteenth century extant in Uxbridge, the Aaron Taft House derives its historical significance from its preservation of this once-popular house-type. One local history provides the date of 1749 for the house, and, based on similar buildings such as the Cornet Farnum House of ca. 1729 (Form #47-93) and the Samuel Taft House of ca. 1744 (Form #56-53), such a construction date seems probable.

Of the house's owners, little is known. Uxbridge's 250th Anniversary history notes Aaron Taft as the house's first owner; however, the earliest owner marked on local maps is J.S.Taft, a farmer and lumber dealer who owned the house during much of the nineteenth century, at least as late as 1870. Immediately northeast of the house, Taft had a small mill pond and saw mill, which existed here as early as 1830 and as late as 1870. The production of this saw mill was probably very small as Taft's business is not listed in any of the manuscript industrial censuses(federal) of the mid-nineteenth century (1850, 1860, 1870).

The Aaron Taft House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and feeling, as well as historical associations with the settlement of Uxbridge by members of the Taft family during the early and mid-eighteenth century. The house is also a well-preserved example of a vernacular house type associated with the settlement of Uxbridge. The Taft House meets criteria A and C of the NRHP.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps & Atlases: 1830, 1855, 1870, 1898
Uxbridge 1727-1977: 250th Commemorative Book, 1977: p.98

OWNER: Barbara S. Blanchard
Hazel St.
Uxbridge, MA 01569

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

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

42. Williams, N., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

43. Taft, Aaron, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

241 44. 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

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

46. Taft Brothers Block

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

47. Taft, George, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

48. Taft, Moses, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

49. Taft, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

241 50. Taft, Zadock, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melvina Byers 10/7/83

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Taft, Aaron, House (Uxbridge MRA)
Worcester County
MASSACHUSETTS

AUG 26 1983

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85

Date Due: 9/22/83 - 10/10/83

Action: ACCEPT 10/7/83

Entered in the _____

National Register _____

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
----------	---------------------------------	----------------------	-------------

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



Town: Uxbridge *MRA, Ma*

Form #50-21

Aaron Taft House

Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area
Aaron Taft House
Hazel Street
Map #50 Lot #21

Uxbridge Assessors
1" = 200' 1983

21

113.52 Ac. (s)

NORTH



STREET

HAZEL

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000299