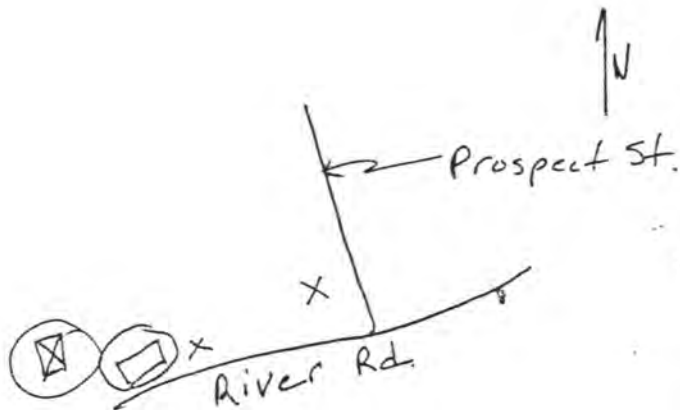


62

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

- Photos
- 19:3 left hand room
- 19:6 transverse summer beam and rear post, left-hand room
- 19:7 shadow-molded sheathing, left-hand room
- 19:10 exterior pendant now enclosed in house
- 19:12 post above overhang, right-hand chamber
- 19:14 right-hand chamber
- 19:15 attic at junction of 1710 roof (background) with 1752 roof (foreground)
- 19:18 barn, interior view
- 19:19 barn
- 19:21 south and east facades

SKETCH MAP



Town Topsfield 009

Address 95 River Road

Historic Name Stanley Lake House

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1693

Source A.L. Cummings' research

Style First Period, with Second Period exterior finishes

Architect Unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings pre-1717 barn

Major Alterations (with dates) End lean-to 1693-1710; added 2nd story, right-hand end, 1710; 1/1 room addition to right hand end, 1752

Condition Good

Moved No Date N/A

Acreage less than one acre

Setting rural, open fields overlooking Ipswich River

Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Boston University

Date June 1986

Z E N

ITM REFERENCE 19 / 339-050 / 4721-800

USGS QUADRANGLE Georgetown (now Ipswich)

SCALE 1:25,000

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

| | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| Community: TOPSFIELD | Form No: 62 |
| Property Name: Stanley-Lake House | |

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The Stanley-Lake house retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting and association. Its phased First Period construction embodies distinctive characteristics under Criterion C.

The growth of the house from single cell structure to two room plan building by the addition of an end lean-to (the outline of which is indicated by cuts in the exterior sheathing) and then by raising the lean-to to a full two stories, parallels the growth of the Goldsmith-Pickering House and may be more representative of the evolutionary growth of First Period buildings than surviving evidence suggests.

The construction and decoration of the frame and the survival of original shadow molded sheathing in three places in the pre 1693 single cell house adds considerably to our knowledge of carpentry practises in the late 17th century. The binding summer beam framing system is representative of a larger group of First Period buildings, particularly in the Salem area, although it never achieved the popularity of the longitudinal summer beam system in the survey area. The continuation of the sheathing up to the floorboards, with cuts to fit around the joists, is illustrative of evolutionary decorative practises, in which the chimney girt is the first framing member to be concealed.

The rare survival of a pendant in the now enclosed overhang, originally on the east end of the house, adds to the significance of the house. The pendant is one of two original pendants to survive in situ in a First Period house, the other being at the Brown house in Hamilton.

The frame of the 1752 addition in its size, joinery, chamfering and exposure demonstrates, as Cummings noted, that the house frame "preserved its post medieval character until the middle of the 18th century in conservative situations." [1] The pre 1718 Stanley-Lake barn is significant in itself as one of less than half a dozen extant First Period barns, and adds significantly to our knowledge of agricultural buildings in the first century of settlement. The survival of the Stanley-Lake house and barn in their original relationship, one of five pre 1730 farmsteads known in Massachusetts where barn and house survive in situ, adds to our understanding of First Period agricultural complexes.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Stanley-Lake house is 8 bays long, 2 1/2 stories in height and one room deep. There is a 2 1/2 story mid 19th century wing to the left rear and a small lean-to of unknown construction date to the right rear. The left-hand rooms and chimney bay comprise the original house built c. 1680 to 1690. Between 1693 and 1710, a lean-to was added to the east end. Circa 1710, the lean-to was raised to a full two stories and an end overhang with drops created. In 1752 another file of rooms and chimney

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

bay were added to the east. The clapboarded exterior has Second Period style trim. Sash windows are simply framed and vertically aligned. A recent pedimented doorway embellishes the easternmost bay, while a restoration vertical board door with plain frame marks the original lobby entrance. The pilastered chimney in the original chimney bay is a recent reconstruction. A second chimney pierces the ridge of the steeply sloped roof in the east end bay.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

First Period Features are visible in all rooms of the pre 1710 western part of the house. Retardataire exposed chamfered framing is visible in the east addition of 1752.

In the left-hand room, the 10 1/2 inch wide by 12 inch deep transverse summer beam has flat chamfers, angled collars and lamb's tongue stops. Posts which support the summer beam are flat chamfered. The embellishment of the post head on the front wall is an incised V-shaped cut, while that of the rear post is a rectangular cut with fillet moldings above and below. Pit-sawn joists in the left-hand room are spaced 21 inches on centers. Original vertical board sheathing with thin shadow molding at the edges survives on the fireplace wall south of the fireplace. The sheathing extends up over the chimney girt and is cut to fit around the joists. The chimney girt, since it was not intended to be exposed, is unchamfered. The overmantel trim and the vertical feather edged sheathing on the front and rear walls were added during a restoration in the 1920s. The room is currently painted (similar to the Gedney house in Salem) with joists and walls white, except for the fireplace wall, and summer beam and supporting posts picked out in black.

In the lobby original shadow molded vertical sheathing which enclosed the staircase was cut off on an angle during the restoration in the 1920s to create a solid balustrade and handrail.

In the left-hand chamber, the summer tie beam has flat chamfers and lamb's tongue stops. A deeply jowled post visible in the closet is embellished above the flare of the post with a transverse, rectangular cut. There is shadow-molded vertical board sheathing on the fireplace wall. Again the chimney girt is unchamfered.

In the room to the right of the chimney, framing is exposed and flat chamfered. There are lamb's tongue stops on the transverse summer beam. In the chamber to the right of the chimney, the summer tie beam has flat chamfers and lamb's tongue stops. South of the fireplace on the fireplace wall is apparently original vertical feather-edged sheathing. There is horizontal feather-edged sheathing on the other walls. The room retains corner posts of unusual configuration. The flat chamfered posts are jowled at the top and at the bottom. The jowl at the bottom which runs at

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right angles to that at the top provided a way to frame an overhang where previously there had been a lean-to with shed roof.

The overhang, now exposed in the easternmost room of the house, displays original pendants which survived closed up in later walls inside the eastern addition of 1752.

The addition of 1752 is unusually conservative in framing characteristics. The frame is flat chamfered.

In the attic, the different stages of construction are clearly evident, although all portions of the roof are framed with principal rafters and common purlins. In the three original bays the rafters are chamfered. There are collar beams in the west end wall and over the chimney tie beam in this section of the roof. In the mid portion of the roof, constructed c. 1710, purlins are smaller members and there are six purlins on the rear slope. Rafters are doubled at the junction between this roof and the eastern section built in 1752. There are two cellars, the older cellar under the left-hand room, and the newer cellar entered from the 1752 addition.

LATER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

In the left-hand chamber, some horizontal feather-edged sheathing remains on the end wall, and very wide sheathing boards of similar finish are enclosed in the plaster front wall. This horizontal sheathing may represent an updating of the room in the early Second Period.

The room to the right of the chimney retains Second Period trim including raised-field panelling on the fireplace wall. The right-hand addition, of which the construction date is pinpointed at 1752 by an inscribed date found on a lath, retains raised-field panelling on the fireplace wall in the chamber.

THE STANLEY-LAKE BARN

The Stanley-Lake barn, built before 1718, consisted originally of four bays. A fifth bay was added within a few years. The bays were varied in width according to function. The entry bay was the widest, and was equipped with high doors on one side for the use of carts loaded with hay. Lower doors originally on the opposite side allowed empty carts to exit. Roof framing is composed of principal rafters, purlins, and cambered tie beams. Walls are framed with heavy posts, braces, plates and girts. There are no studs. Intermediate girts serve the strengthening function of studs in other barns. Construction of the bents is varied according to function of the spaces and raising sequence. The bent raised first has a collar beam to hold the rafters rigid during raising. The other bents have struts from tie beam to rafters in place of collar beams.

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

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Mathew Stanley built the original house between c. 1680 and 1693. His heirs sold the property with buildings (i.e. including the barn) to Eleazer Lake in 1718.

REFERENCES

Abbott Lowell Cummings, The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay, 1625-1725 Cambridge: Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1979:105, 126, 128, 174, 207, 208.

1. Ibid.: 207-208.

Robert Blair St. George, "The Stanley-Lake Barn in Topsfield," Perspectives in Vernacular Architecture. Edited by Camille Wells. Annapolis, Maryland: Vernacular Architecture Forum, 1982: 7-24.

Abbott Lowell Cummings. Massachusetts and its First Period Houses. Publication of The Colonial Society in Massachusetts 51:188-189.

1/24/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
State _____

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Johnson, Capt. Timothy **Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper Helene Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

52. Kimball, Solomon, House **Substantive Review**

Keeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

**Entered in the
National Register**

~~53. Lake, Stanley, House~~

Keeper Helene Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

54. Lambert, Thomas, House **Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper Helene Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

**Entered in the
National Register**

55. Larch Farm

**Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper Helene Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

56. Livermore, William, House

**Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper Helene Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

57. Low, Thomas, House **Substantive Review**

Keeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

58. March, Samuel, House **Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper Helene Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

**Entered in the
National Register**

59. Morse, Timothy, House **Entered in the
National Register**

Keeper Helene Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

**Entered in the
National Register**

60. Murray, William, House **Substantive Review**

Keeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Lake, Stanley, House

MULTIPLE NAME: First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/24/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/07/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/23/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/10/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000260

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/9/90 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Lake Stanley, Hesse

1st Period Biddings of E. Ma., TR

19103



Lake, Stanley, House

3rd period Buildings of E. Ma., TR

19:06



Lake, Stanley, Geese

1st Period Buildings of E. May, TR

1907

19:07



Lake, Stanley, Wisc

1st Period Beddings of E. Ma., TR

19:10



Lake, Stanley House

1st Period Building of E. Ma., TR

1914



Lake, Stanley, House

2nd Period Buildings of E. Man, TR

19:15



Topfield, TA
Stanley Lake House
95 River Road
barn, interior view
1985

19:18

1st Social Building of E. May, TA



75 River Road,

Toppsfield, MA

Stanley Lake House

19:19

barn

1985

1st Period Buildings of FE May, MA

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281