

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Massachusetts	
COUNTY: Franklin	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	FEB 23 1972

1. NAME	
COMMON:	Major Joseph Griswold House
AND/OR HISTORIC:	Major Joseph Griswold House

2. LOCATION	
Congressional District No. 1	
STREET AND NUMBER: Upper Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Buckland	
STATE Massachusetts	COUNTY: Franklin
CODE 025	CODE 011

3. CLASSIFICATION			
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
☐ District ☐ Site ☐ Object	☒ Building ☐ Structure ☐ Public ☒ Private ☐ Both	☒ Occupied ☐ Unoccupied ☐ Preservation work in progress	Yes: ☐ Restricted ☐ Unrestricted ☒ No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
☐ Agricultural ☐ Commercial ☐ Educational ☐ Entertainment	☐ Government ☐ Industrial ☐ Military ☐ Museum	☐ Park ☒ Private Residence ☐ Religious ☐ Scientific	☐ Transportation ☐ Other (Specify) _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY	
OWNER'S NAME: Misses Jane and Roberta Griswold	
STREET AND NUMBER: Upper Street	
CITY OR TOWN: Buckland	STATE: Massachusetts
	CODE 025

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION	
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Franklin County Registry of Deeds	
STREET AND NUMBER: Franklin County Courthouse	
CITY OR TOWN: Greenfield	STATE: Massachusetts
	CODE 025

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS	
TITLE OF SURVEY: Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth	
DATE OF SURVEY: 1971 ☐ Federal ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local	
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Massachusetts Historical Commission	
STREET AND NUMBER: Office of the Secretary, State House	
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts
	CODE 025

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
Massachusetts

STATE:

COUNTY:
Franklin

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	☐ Excellent	☒ Good	☐ Fair	☐ Deteriorated	☐ Ruins	☐ Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	☐ Altered	☒ Unaltered	☐ Moved	☒ Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Joseph Griswold Homestead is located on the top of a hill on the west side of Upper Street in Buckland, Massachusetts. Built in 1818, after designs in the pattern books of Asher Benjamin, this Federal style house is a simple, rectangular structure, with a one and one half story ell attached to the northwest corner. The main block of the building is brick; the ell is wooden. From this ell, Griswold sold cheese, rum and apples, as well as the furniture he made.

The front (east) facade has five bays and is laid up in Flemish bond. Sash windows are placed at regular intervals across the facade; on the first floor, two pairs of windows flank the entrance. The second story windows repeat the rhythm of the first floor, with a fifth window located over the doorway. These windows are all of the same dimensions, and are finished with flared marble lintels and lugsills. The doorway is adorned with a recessed fanlight, which is supported by two slender pilasters. A decorative boxed cornice, composed of delicate consoles and a narrow band of shields, runs under the eaves of the pitched roof.

On the third floor, a pair of windows, identical to those of the front facade, is located in each gable end and is the only source of light for the floor. In the north gable, two quarter-round lights flank the third story sash windows at sill level. The outward curve of these quarter-round lights is repeated in a full fanlight just under the peak of the gable. In the first and second stories there are windows under each pair on the third floor. This central pair of windows is set off by a single window placed roughly under the quarter-lights. The arrangement of windows in the south gable end is somewhat different, in that there are only three windows on each floor instead of four. A single window replaces the central pairs found in the first and second floors of the north gable end, and the quarter-round lights are absent.

The cornice under the eaves of the gable is much simpler than that in the main facade. It consists of three bands of moulding, one of which is beaded. Two brick chimney flues interrupt the roof line at each gable end, one on either side of the ridge pole. The top of each of the four chimney flues has been decorated with two bands of recessed channels of brick.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian

☐ 16th Century

☐ 18th Century

☐ 20th Century

☐ 15th Century

☐ 17th Century

☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

1818

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☒ Education

☐ Political

☐ Urban Planning

☐ Prehistoric

☐ Engineering

☐ Religion/Phi-

☐ Other (Specify)

☐ Historic

☐ Industry

losophy

☐ Agriculture

☐ Invention

☐ Science

☒ Architecture

☐ Landscape

☐ Sculpture

☐ Art

☐ Architecture

☐ Social/Human-

☐ Commerce

☐ Literature

itarian

☐ Communications

☐ Military

☐ Theater

☐ Conservation

☐ Music

☐ Transportation

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Griswold Homestead was built for Major Joseph Griswold and is a fine example of the Federal style in rural Massachusetts; it is also one of the earliest brick houses in the Buckland area. The primary significance of the house, however, comes from its association with Mary Lyon, pioneer in providing advanced education for women.

Bricks for the Griswold Homestead were made from native clay found in an adjacent field. According to family tradition, Mary Lyon stopped to inquire into the brick-making procedure and helped to make a few bricks for the house.

Major Griswold built a ballroom on the third floor of the house which served as an assembly hall for the community. He offered the use of this room to Mary Lyon in 1824 when she was attempting to found a new type of school for girls. She offered a curriculum equal to that being taught in boys' schools instead of the music, drawing, needlework program of the usual female seminary. Miss Lyon held school here until 1829, when a larger hall was built for her to meet increased enrollment. She later offered the school to the town of Buckland but was refused. South Hadley accepted her offer and in 1837 Miss Lyon opened the Mount Holyoke Seminary, which was to become Mount Holyoke College.



SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Kendrick, F. S., The History of Buckland, 1779-1935, Buckland, 1937.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		42 ° 35 ' 24 "	72 ° 47 ' 30 "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: less than two acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: <u>Anne Wardwell, Survey Director</u>		DATE <u>October 1, 1971</u>
ORGANIZATION <u>Massachusetts Historical Commission</u>		
STREET AND NUMBER: <u>Office of the Secretary, State House</u>		
CITY OR TOWN: <u>Boston</u>	STATE <u>Massachusetts</u>	CODE <u>025</u>

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☒ Local ☒

Name John F. X. Danner
Secretary of the Commonwealth, Chair-
man, Massachusetts Historical
Title Commission

Date July 16, 1971

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Ernest A. Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

FEB 23 1972

Date _____

ATTEST:

William F. Montague
Keeper of The National Register
FEB 11 1972

Date _____

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



Buckland, Mass.

Maj. Joseph Griswold House

- used as her first schoolhouse by Mary Lyon,
founder of Mt. Holyoke

photo: 1969

(north)

from Eleanore B. Monahan

Asst. Curator

R.I. Hist. Soc.

52 Power St.

Providence, R.I., 02906

①

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

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COUNTY Franklin	
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CITY OR TOWN: Buckland			
STATE: Massachusetts	CODE 025	COUNTY: Franklin	CODE 011
3. PHOTO REFERENCE			
PHOTO CREDIT: Eleanore B. Monahan			
DATE OF PHOTO: 1969			
NEGATIVE FILED AT: Eleanore B. Monahan, 52 Power Street, Providence, R. I. 02906			
4. IDENTIFICATION			
DESCRIBE VIEW, DIRECTION, ETC. Major Joseph Griswold House View of north and east facades.			

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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STREET AND NUMBER:

Upper Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Buckland

STATE:

Massachusetts

CODE

025

COUNTY:

Franklin

CODE

011

3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:

U. S. G. S., Ashfield, Massachusetts

SCALE: 1 : 24,000

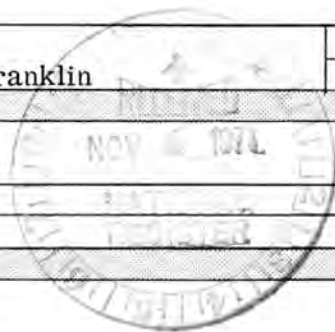
DATE: 1955

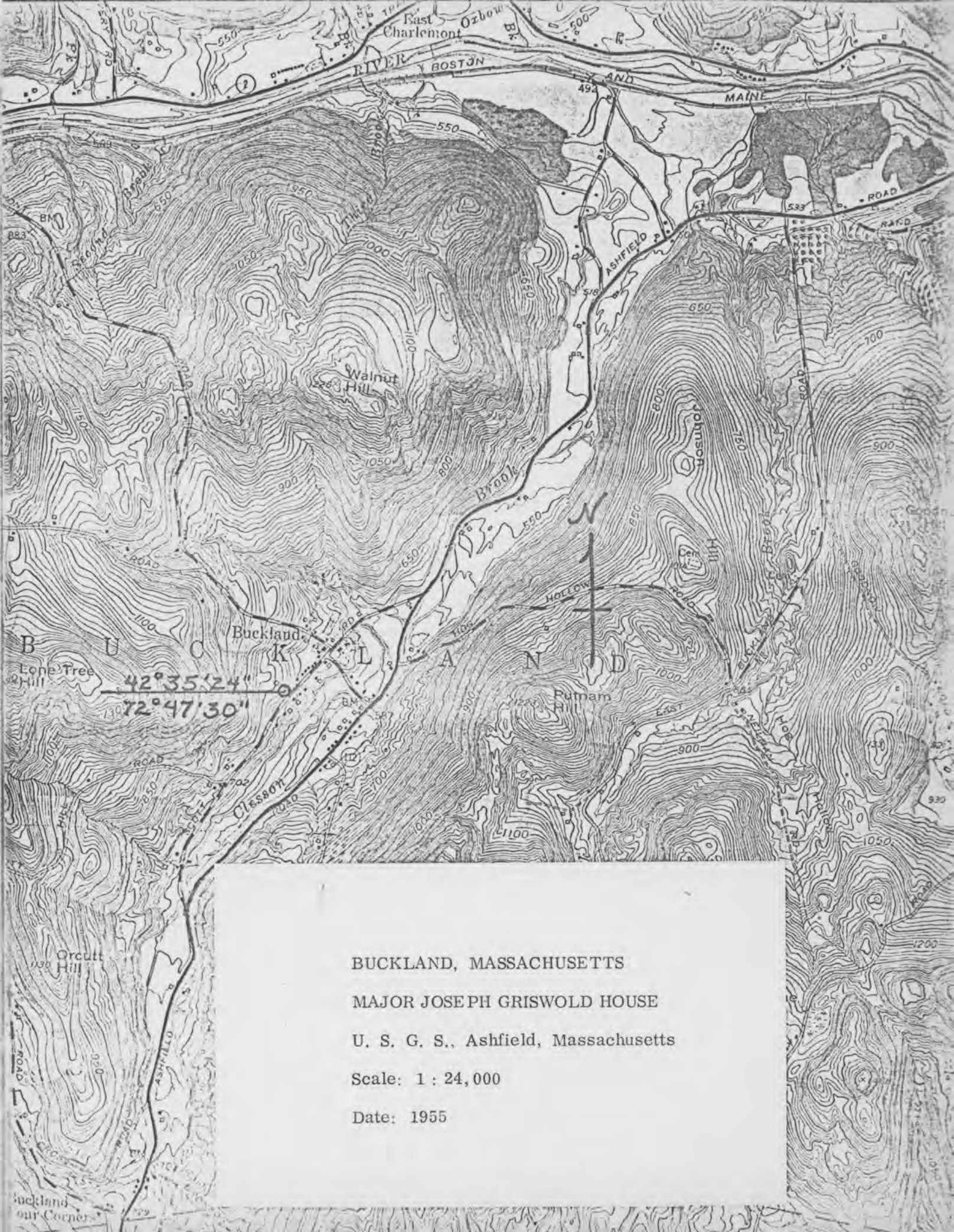
4. REQUIREMENTS

TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

1. Property boundaries where required.
2. North arrow.
3. Latitude and longitude reference.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS





BUCKLAND, MASSACHUSETTS

MAJOR JOSEPH GRISWOLD HOUSE

U. S. G. S., Ashfield, Massachusetts

Scale: 1 : 24,000

Date: 1955

ENTRIES IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

STATE MASSACHUSETTS

Date Entered FEB 23 1972

<u>Name</u>	<u>Location</u>
Merrell Tavern	South Lee Berkshire County
Northborough Town Hall	Northborough Worcester County
First Baptist Church	Boston Suffolk County
Old County Court House	Plymouth Plymouth County
Trinity Rectory	Boston Suffolk County
St. Luke's Episcopal Church	Lanesborough Berkshire County
Crowninshield House	Boston Suffolk County
First Universalist Church	Provincetown Barnstable County
Griswold (Major Joseph) House	Buckland Franklin County

Also Notified

Hon. Edward M. Kennedy
Hon. Edward W. Brooke
Hon. Silvio O. Conte
Hon. Harold D. Donohue
Hon. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
Hon. Hastings Keith

State Liaison Officer
Hon. John F. X. Davoren
Secretary of the Commonwealth
Chairman, Massachusetts Historical
Commission
Office of the Secretary
State House
Boston, Massachusetts 02133

Director, Northeast Region

HR NRoland:mm 2/16/72

ms

MAJOR JOSEPH GRISWOLD HOUSE (25-74-00073-00). *Buckland, Franklin Co.* Private (individual) ownership. Federal style brick house associated with Mary Lyon, a pioneer in providing advanced education for women. Work to include washing, painting and wallpapering of the third floor ballroom. \$500.00.