

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no. 181
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1. Town ANDOVER

Address 70 Elm Street

Name Abbot Tavern

Present use Residential

Present owner Young, Ern st and  
Castle, Eleanor

3. Description:

Date ca. 1680/1776

Source Historic Houses in Andover

Style Georgian

Architect ---

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) None

Other features 2 stories; hip roof w/hipped rear ell; 5 bay facade has large 9/6 & 6/6 windows; pedimented center vestibule has classical trim; blind-arched side windows; fluted pilasters; center chimney

Altered ----- Date -----

Moved ----- Date -----

5. Lot size: Map 38, Parcel 221

One acre or less x Over one acre -----

Approximate frontage 133'

Approximate distance of building from street

20'

6. Recorded by W. Frontiero

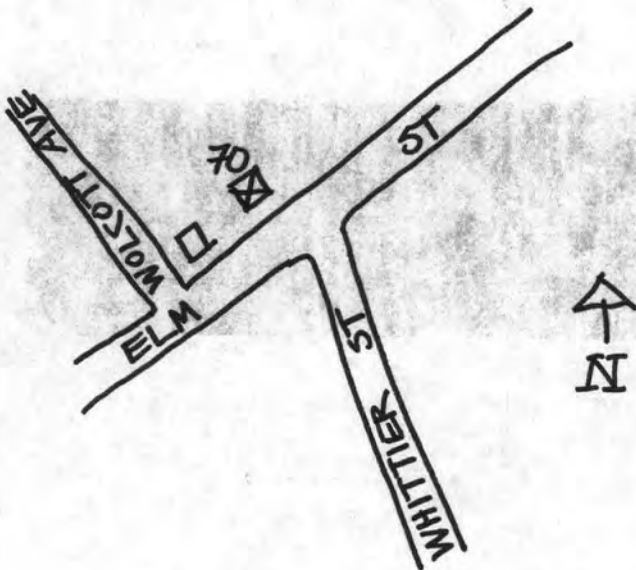
Organization Andover Historical Commission

Date August 7, 1980

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.

181: Lawrence Quad, 1:25000  
19/324820/4725090



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Isaac Abbot  
 Original use residential  
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates tavern (1776-ca. 1800), post office (1795-1825)

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>X</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	<u>X</u>	Political	_____		
Community development	<u>X</u>				

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

No. 70 Elm St may have been built as early as 1680, although stylistically it dates much later, and it does not appear on the records until 1776. In the latter year Isaac Abbot, a storekeeper, petitioned the General Court "to keep a house of General Entertainment... The house near having been closed, I have been subjected to no small inconvenience for the application of passengers (on the old stage road) for refreshment." Abbot's tavern was made locally famous by the visit of George Washington there in 1789, shortly after his inauguration as President. In 1795 the tavern became Andover's first post office, with Isaac Abbot as postmaster from 1795-1825; he was also a selectman, town clerk, clerk of markets, and deacon of the South Church from 1794-1825. Subsequent owners of this property included several out-of-towners as well as Deacon Amos Abbot of Andover.

The solid "boxy" form of this building is anchored by a central chimney and relatively large, pedimented vestibule. The hip roof, large original windows, and fine proportions (especially of the vestibule details) complement these substantial features with a forward-looking elegance.

Abbot Tavern is significant (1) for its associations as an early tavern (further distinguished by a visit from George Washington) and post office; (2) for its connections with the locally prominent Abbot family; and (3) as a fine example of Georgian architecture in Andover. The property retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, and setting, and meets Criteria A, B, and C of the National Register.

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

Historic Houses in Andover, MA, comp. for the Tercentenary Celebration, 1946

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 1 of 5

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

dnr-11

Name Town of Andover Multiple Resource Area  
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

1. Lower Shawsheen Railroad Bridge

Keeper

*Determined eligible*  
W.H. Brorson 6.10.82

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Attest

Patrick Andrus 6/8/82

2. Upper Shawsheen Railroad Bridge

Keeper

*Determined eligible*  
William H. Brorson 6.10.82

DOE/OWNER OBJECTION

Attest

6/8/82 Patrick Andrus

3. Andover Village Industrial District (92)

Keeper

Bruce Hubbard 10.7.82

Substantive Review

Attest

4. Bradlee School

Keeper

William H. Brorson 6.10.82

~~Attest~~

5. Abbot Tavern

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 6/10/82

Attest

6. Central Street District

Keeper

Bruce Hubbard 10/7/82

Attest

7. Abbot, J. T., House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 6/10/82

Attest

8. Ballardvale District

Substantive Review

Keeper

Bruce Hubbard 10.7.82

Attest

9. Abbot-Baker House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 6/10/82

Attest

10. Abbot-Battles House

Entered in the  
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 6/10/82

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

Property: Abbot Tavern (Town of Andover MRA)  
State, County: MA, Essex  
Federal Agency: \_\_\_\_\_

Working No. 4/28/82-1283  
Fed. Reg. Date: FEB 1 1983  
Date Due: 5/27/82 - 6/12/82

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Action:  ACCEPT 6/10/82  
 RETURN \_\_\_\_\_  
 REJECT \_\_\_\_\_

Entered in the National Register

photos \_\_\_\_\_  
maps \_\_\_\_\_

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

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

## 10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

USIT 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: 202 272-35

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



70 Elm St.

Abbet Tavern

Town of Andover MRA, Ma

OCT 1980

OCT 1980

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000298