

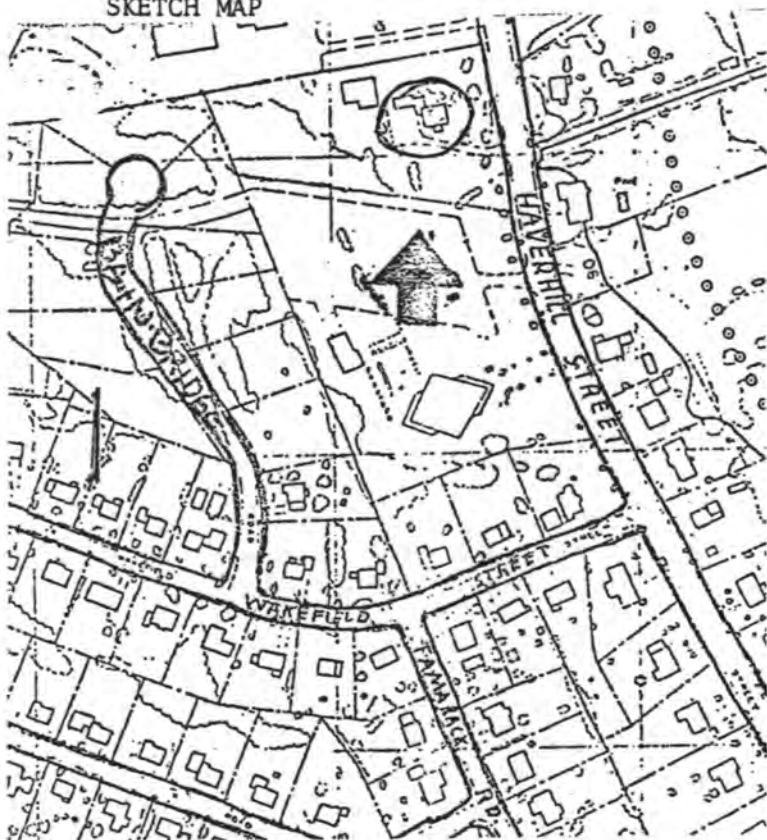
FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
A	7



1 Reading
 Address 320 Haverhill Street
 Historic Name Thomas Symonds House
 Original dwelling
 Present dwelling
 Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____
 Public _____
 Original owner Thomas Symonds, Jr.

SKETCH MAP



DESCRIPTION:

Date c. 1785
 Source Roof trees
 Style brick-end Federal
 Architect n/a
 Exterior wall fabric clapboards, brick
 Outbuildings barn (in ruins)
 Major alterations (with dates) Roof balustrade and entry porch (c. 1906), removed (c. 1980). First-floor fenestration, south (c. 1946)
 Moved no Date _____

Approx. acreage 2.2 acres
 Setting Faces south on a rise above an old road

Recorded by Architectural Preservation Associates
 Organization Reading Historical Commission
 Date November 1980

Date 6/82

UTM: 19/328430/4711680

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

This country-Federal farmhouse is relatively high-style for Reading's usual Federal building practices. It is the town's only house of brick-end construction, with interior end chimneys culminating in four tall stacks. The south doorway surround is elaborate, but may not be original. It features thin, reeded pilasters with small capitals flanking half-length sidelights. Its denticulate cornice is a conjectural replacement installed in 1979. The 6/6 sash and many of the narrow clapboards appear to be original. The north elevation has a tall, narrow doorway topped by a four-pane transom and entablature with elaborate cornice; it is possible that the south doorway looked like this originally. The ell appears to be original, but not the sun-

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

Haverhill Street represents one of the earliest nodes of settlement in present-day Reading. In the 1750's this area was called Bear Meadow Row, and its children received some schooling locally.

The farm was settled possibly as early as 1693. It was sold to Jonathan Parker of Charles and Pearl Streets in 1713, but it was not until 1750 that it came into full possession of the Symonds family. Thomas Symonds, Sr., was a blacksmith; his shop stood near the road. According to estate records, his house was a center-chimney dwelling. Thomas, Sr., died in 1775, and the farm passed to his son, Thomas, Jr. The latter built the present house, in the new and elegant Federal style, sometime between 1775 and 1836, the year that he died.

The Symonds came from Salem, Massachusetts, and it is thought that the Salem influence evident in the design of the house may have been the work of Daniel Bancroft, a cousin of Symonds' wife who worked in Salem with Samuel McIntire. Both Bancroft and the younger Symonds served in Salem during the Revolutionary War. It must have been fashion -- not economics -- that prompted him to build his house partly of brick in an all-wooden town, especially since he was part owner of the local saw mill at Lobs Pound.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1765 map	Thomas Symonds (not this house)	Bishop, <u>Rooftrees</u> , Chapter 23
1795 map	Thomas Symonds, Jr.	will of Thomas Symonds, probated Middlesex County
1830 map	yes	Courthouse
1854 map	F.D. Symonds (Eben)	
1875 map	" " "	
1889 map	N. Symonds (Newton)	

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Reading	Form No: A-7
Property Name: 320 Haverhill St.	

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

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The Thomas Symonds house is significant (1) for its role as an early farm homestead; (2) for its connection with Revolutionary War veteran Lt. Thomas Symonds, Jr.; and (3) for its relatively high-style, brick-end, Federal construction. It retains integrity of location, general design, setting, materials, workmanship, and feeling, and meets Criteria A, B, and C of the National Register.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 6/4/84
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 9 of 9

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Reading Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
81. Sanborn, Rev. Peter, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
82. Symonds, Thomas, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
83. Temple, Joseph, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
84. Temple, Mark, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
85. Walnut Street School Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
86. Wells, Charles, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
87. Weston, Ephrain, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
88. Weston, Jabez, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____
89. Wisteria Lodge Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum 7-19-84</u> Attest _____ Keeper _____ Attest _____

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Symonds, Thomas, House (Reading MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. JUN 4 1984

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85

Date Due: 7-5-84 / 7-19-84

Action: ACCEPT 7-19-84

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

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- 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

57 nonda, Thomas House (Reading, M.A.)
 Middlesex County
 MASSA CHUSETTS

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: _____



Symonds, Thomas, House
Reading, Mass.

320 Haverhill St.

~~XXXII~~ 27A

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000290