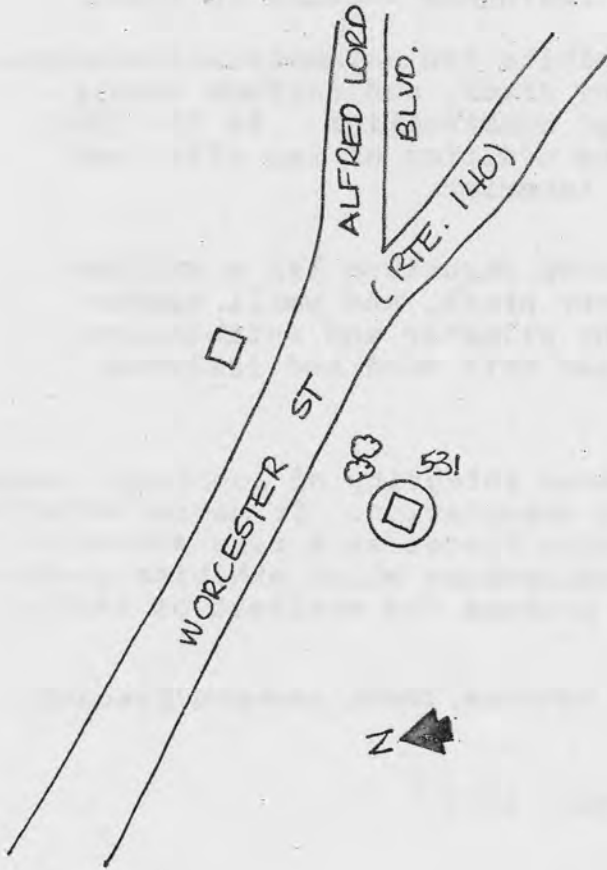


MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	531

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.



1. Town Taunton
Address 28 Worcester St.
Name Joseph Willis House
Present use Residence
Present owner Fernandes Lopes

3. Description:
Date 1688
Source Probate Records, Deeds, Early Maps
Style First period lean-to
Architect Unknown
Exterior wall fabric Clapboards
Outbuildings (describe) Small shed
Other features See attached.

Altered Ells added Date 20th century
Moved interior remodeled Date _____

5. Lot size: WARD 7, PLAN-32 BLK-52 LOT-9
One acre or less Over one acre _____
Approximate frontage 525'
Approximate distance of building from street 70'

6. Recorded by T.W./C.C.
Organization T.C.H.S.
Date 10/79

(over)

UTM: 19/321915/4642520

7. Original owner (if known) Joseph Willis
 Original use Residence
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates N/A

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>				

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

Reputed by local sources to be the oldest structure on its original site in Taunton, this ~~lean-to~~ house was built for Joseph Willis in 1688. Willis, a native of Bridgewater, was granted land in Taunton as a military favor for his service in King Philip's War, and established residence locally in 1670.

Architecturally, the house exhibits the asymmetrical arrangement of facade bays, central chimney stack, and saltbox configuration associated with early period construction. In the 19th century, it was enlarged through the addition of two ells, and has recently been remodeled on the interior.

Description: The asymmetrically-bayed structure has a saltbox roof, off-center entrance and chimney stack, and small window openings. The doorway is trimmed by pilaster and entablature boards. The roof has been resingled with wood and features close-cropped eaves.

The Joseph Willis House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship and association. It meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places as a rare and well preserved example of First Period architecture which exhibits a characteristic lean-to in Taunton and stands as perhaps the earliest of initial settlement in the city.

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

Map of Taunton, Morgan Cobb, Surveyor, 1728
Dunbar, 1836
Beers, 1871

Probate Records
 Bristol Co. Registry of Deeds
 Willis Family History and Genealogy
 Charles Crowley, Notes.

Boundaries are confined to the house itself and 12' of land measured out from the foundation on all sides.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Willis, Joseph, House (Taunton MRA)
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. MAY 21 1984

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.5.85

Date Due: 6/21/84 - 7/5/84

Entered in the Action: ACCEPT 7-5-84
National Register RETURN
 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	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"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	
	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	
	<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 1 S YAM
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

WILLIAMS HOUSE (TAMSON H.A.)
BRADLEY COUNTY
MISSISSIPPI

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: _____



#531 Willis, Joseph, House
Taunton MRA, Ma

W

MAY 1980



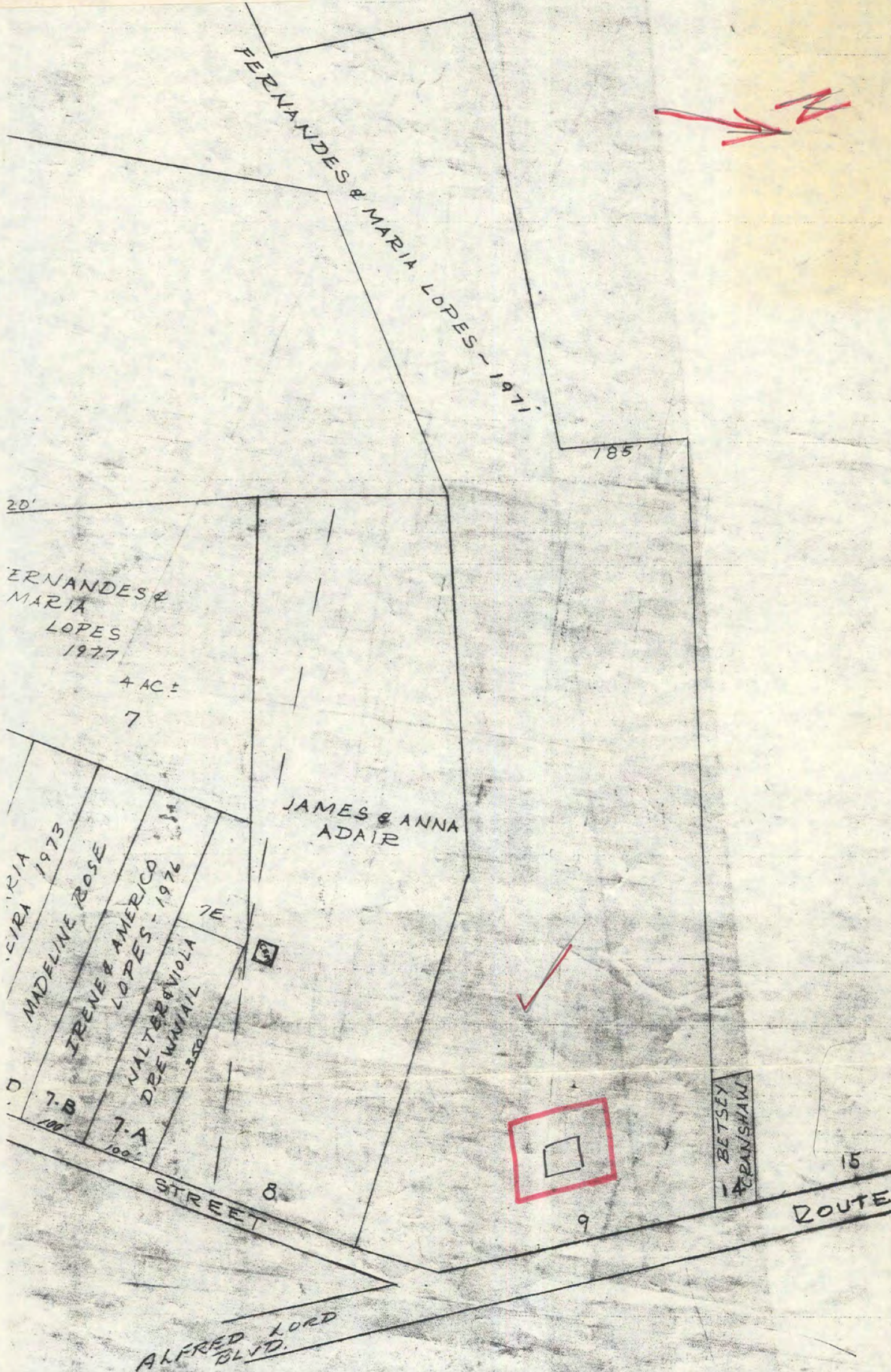
by Berkey

TAUNTON MULTIPLE RESOURCE
NOMINATION

FORM NO. 531
JOSEPH WILLIS HOUSE

SCALE: 1" = 60'
MAP NO. WD7 Pg. 32, Lot 9
ACREAGE

40 AC. ±



date: unkl
scale: 1" = 160'
average: 20A
WD 7 pg 32 lot 9
form: #531



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000297