

JAN 24 1990

251

FORM NO.

82

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Photos

- 21:25 detail of brick nogging exposed
in chamber on Essex Street side
during restoration
- 21:30 west (Essex St.) and south facades

Town Salem

009

Address 39 Essex StreetHistoric Name William Murray HouseUse: Present ResidenceOriginal Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1688Source Deed researchStyle First Period core/Second Period
exteriorArchitect UnknownExterior Wall Fabric ClapboardsOutbuildings None

Major Alterations (with dates) Addition
on Essex St. side, ca. 1800-1825; roof
of rear part raised, ca. 1800

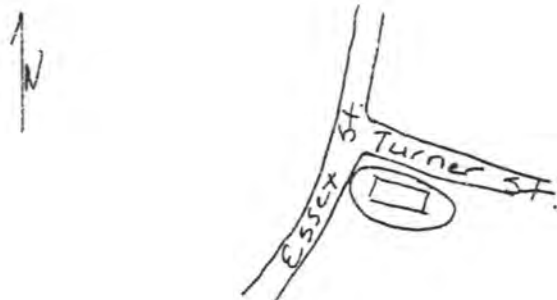
Condition GoodMoved No Date N/AAcreage less than one acre

Setting City street of closely spaced
18th and 19th century houses

Z E N

T.M. REFERENCE 19 / 345-080 / 4709-400GS QUADRANGLE SalemSCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Anne GradyOrganization Boston UniversityDate June 1986

Sketch Map:



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: SALEM	Form No: 82
Property Name: William Murray House	

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The William Murray House has integrity of location, design, materials and workmanship in its two First Period frames which embody distinctive characteristics of form and construction under Criterion C. The growth of the house by the addition of a second cell still in the First Period is typical of a larger group of First Period houses. The contrast in form and construction between the c. 1688 and the early 18th c. parts of the house allows us to define the evolution of First Period building techniques in a given area. If the First Period finishes now concealed within the walls are exposed in the future, we will have an opportunity to study further features of what was apparently originally an elaborately decorated Salem house, thus making the house significant for Criterion D, as well.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The William Murray house is six bays long, 2 1/2 stories in height and one room deep. The three easternmost bays (farthest from Essex St.) enclose the original c. 1688 single cell house. That house had overhangs on the south and east facades and a roof pitch comparable to the current roof pitch of the west end of the house. The three bays on the west were added early 18th century. In the late 18th or early 19th century the roof was raised to a shallower pitch on the original part of the house and the overhangs concealed behind a flush wall. When the house was restored in 1980 beaded clapboards were installed on the west part. Plain clapboards remain on the east part. The exterior has vertically aligned Second Period style sash windows and simple doorways, two on the south and one on the north. The central chimney was built in 1980.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

First Period features are visible only in the upstairs chamber on the Essex St. side of the house, in the kitchen connecting to that chamber which is actually in the c. 1688 part of the house and in the stairhall of the original house. More First Period features were examined and documented by Salem Woodworker, Kenneth Towey when he renovated the house in 1980. Because of cost Towey did not restore all of the original finishes he found. He chose instead to leave the finishes intact for possible future restoration and build new walls in front of them. First Period features known to be concealed by the later walls are described below.

The earlier frame in the eastern end of the house is exposed in the kitchen off the west chamber. There, a slightly shouldered post supports a c. 9 inch wide pine summer tie beam decorated with 1 1/2 inch flat chamfers, lamb's tongue stops and pips. The rest of the framing beams are now boxed, but, according to Towey, they exhibit similar decoration.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: SALEM	Form No: 82
Property Name: William Murray House	

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

In the south stairhall on the second floor, a single post is exposed and displays a flat chamfer with lamb's tongue stop at the top of the post and triangular stop at the bottom.

There was a framed overhang 18 inches deep on the south wall of the original house. Towey found evidence that four drops hung from the overhang and that the space between the inner girt and the overhanging girt was plastered. There was a 10 inch framed overhang on the east end of the house now enclosed inside an added 8 foot wide bay. Again, the space between the inner and outer girts was plastered. The corner made by the two overhangs was supported by a diagonal brace in the wall above.

In the attic of the earlier part of the house, several original rafters, left in place when the roof was raised, give evidence of the original steep pitch and of the principal rafter, common purlin framing system of the first roof.

In the west end of the house, added in the early 18th century, Towey uncovered the beams in the downstairs room. In the process of installing new boxes. The beams were clean and partially chamfered as though the decision to case the beams had been made only after the carpenter had started to chamfer them. In the upstairs room, Towey found that the beams were intended to be exposed and were finished with narrow, flat chamfers and lamb's tongue stops.

LATER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

The two halves of the house were owned separately from 1759 until the mid 19th century, so there are two small lobbies with staircases side by side. The southernmost staircase is trimmed with turned balusters of late Second Period profile. During the restoration of 1980, Towey, a skilled woodworker, fashioned Second Period style fireplace wall trim for the west room and chamber, while in the east room he created oak finish and trim in a late 19th century Colonial Revival Style.

REFERENCES

Summary of Ownership history, Salem Historical Commission files.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

1/24/90

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
State _____

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Johnson, Capt. Timothy **Entered in the
National Register**Keeper Helmut Byun 3/9/90

Attest _____

52. Kimball, Solomon, House

Substantive ReviewKeeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

**Entered in the
National Register**

53. Lake, Stanley, House

Keeper Helmut Byun 3/9/90

Attest _____

54. Lambert, Thomas, House

**Entered in the
National Register**Keeper Helmut Byun 3/9/90

Attest _____

55. Larch Farm

**Entered in the
National Register**Keeper Helmut Byun 3/9/90

Attest _____

56. Livermore, William, House

Keeper Helmut Byun 3/9/90

Attest _____

57. Low, Thomas, House

Substantive ReviewKeeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

58. March, Samuel, House

**Entered in the
National Register**Keeper Helmut Byun 3/9/90

Attest _____

59. Morse, Timothy, House

**Entered in the
National Register**Keeper Helmut Byun 3/9/90

Attest _____

60. Murray, William, House

Substantive ReviewKeeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90

Attest _____

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

SUPPLEMENTARY LISTING RECORD

NRIS Reference Number: 90000257 Date Listed: 03/09/90

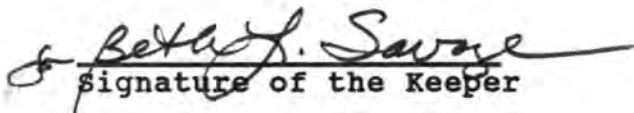
Murray, William, House
Property Name

Essex
County

MA
State

First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
Multiple Name

This property is listed in the National Register of Historic Places in accordance with the attached nomination documentation subject to the following exceptions, exclusions, or amendments, notwithstanding the National Park Service certification included in the nomination documentation.


Signature of the Keeper

03/09/90
Date of Action

=====
Amended Items in Nomination:

Geographical Data: VBD

The correct scale for the sketch map is 1"=100'.

This information has been confirmed with Ann Tait, MASHPO, by telephone.

DISTRIBUTION:

National Register property file
Nominating Authority (without attachment)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Murray, William, 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: 90000257

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3/9/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C+D
REVIEWER Saville
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 3/9/90

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 _____



Murray, 1 Manhattan
Hallen Co MA

1st Period Building of E. May TR

21:25



39 Essex Street, Salem

MA

Murray, Wm. Frank

21:30

1st Period Building of E. Ma, JR

Murray William, House

Salem, MA
39 Essex St.
TAP 41-022
Scale:



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281