

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
10 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

44

52 : 32 facade

51 : 1 molded post head

51 : 4 summer chamfer

51:7 tie beam in chamber

51 : 9 corner post, plate joint

52 : 15 attic gable wall

Sketch Map:



MAIN ST

REFERENCE 19 / 340-010 / 4741-150

QUADRANGLE Newburyport West

1:25,000

Town West Newbury

Address 750 Main Street

Historic Name Rev. John Tufts House

Use: Present Residential

Original Residential

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1714

Source visual analysis; local history

Style First Period / Second Period

Architect N/A

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings c. barn - early 20th c.
20th c. garage

Major Alterations (with dates) 20th c.

raer leanto and addition & side ell

Condition good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage 2 acres

Setting village residential - north

side of main route - 19th c. residential with
some infill

Recorded by J. Kyprianos

Organization Boston University

Date April 1986

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: WEST NEWBURY	Form No: 44
Property Name: Rev. John Tufts House	

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The Rev. John Tufts House retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. In the quality and distinctive construction methods of its well-exposed frame, the house embodies characteristics of late First Period architecture that meet Criterion C. Its molded post head is an example of those common to the North Shore, and the decorative chamfering is typical of Essex County later First Period buildings.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Tufts House began as a double cell, two story, central chimney plan house with lobby entrance. The house has a series of modern additions, including a rear leanto across two thirds of the back wall that gives the left gable profile a classic saltbox appearance. This now functions as an enclosed porch, with modern sliding doors on the rear and interior end walls. There is also a one story gabled addition on the opposite end of the house, connected to the main block by a small inset shed-roofed hyphen, and cut into the hillside for modern sliders at the cellar level.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

The frame of the ca. 1715 house is entirely of oak and clearly of a single build, as the bladed scarf in the upper hall plate indicates. The frame is exposed in the four major rooms, each 17'6" x 18'6", and had flat 2"-wide chamfers on the first floor 13"-wide longitudinal summers, which terminated with lamb's tongue stops. Oak joists are 25" on centers. While the west room has later paneling on the fireplace wall, the front chimney post retains a carved post head with a 4"-deep rolled molding profile.

The second floor tie beams are 11 x 10", with 1.5"-wide flat chamfers and stops similar to those on the first floor. There is evidence of falling wind braces at all upper corner posts. There is also evidence in the stud spacing that the two front windows in the east chamber were originally one central opening. While the roof has been rebuilt, the old rafters show evidence of dovetailed collar beams.

SIGNIFICANT LATER FEATURES

There is a good Second Period closed string triple-run staircase with panels beneath it in the lobby entrance; its round balusters are of 19th-century date.

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Community: WEST NEWBURY	Form No: 44
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Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The house has a well-documented association with the Rev. John Tufts, for whom the house was built after his ordination with the West Parish in 1714. He is significant for being one of the first, (some say the first,) in 1714 to publish "a very plain and easy introduction to the art of singing psalm tunes" by notes rather than lining-out in the traditional fashion.

REFERENCES

Joshua Coffin, A Sketch of the History of Newbury, Newburyport, and West Newbury from 1635 to 1845, (Boston: Samuel Drake, 1845,) pp. 175-184.

1/24/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational 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

71. Putnam, Deacon Edward, Jr., House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper for Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

72. Putnam, James, Jr., House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

73. Ross Tavern ~~Robertson-Kerr Review~~Keeper Betty L. Sarge 3/9/90

Attest _____

74. Sawyer House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

75. Smith House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

76. Smith, Hazariah, House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

77. Thorndike, Capt. John, House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

78. Titcomb, Benaiah, House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

79. Tufts, Rev. John, House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

80. White--Ellery House Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melvyn Byers 3/9/90

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Tufts, Rev. John, 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: 90000270

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: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 3/9/90 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



51-1

West Newbury. TIA
Rev. John Tufts to
750 Taun Street
made & post head
1985

1st Period Buildings of E. May, TR



West Newbury, MA
Rev. John Tufts to
750 Main Street
Summer Chancel
1985

51-4

1st Parish Buildings of E. May, MA



West Newbury, MA
Rev. John Tufts Ho^{se}
750 Green Street.
1985

15

1st Period Buildings of E. Mo., TR



West Needbury, VA
Rev. John Tufts House
750 Treen Street
he began
1985

1st Period Buildings of E. Mass., TR

51:7



West Newbury, MA
Rev. John Tufts to
750 Green Street
corner post
1985

1st Period Buildings of E. Mass., MA

51-9



Rev. John Tufts House
750 Main St

W. Newbury, *TR*
Main facade

1985

51:32

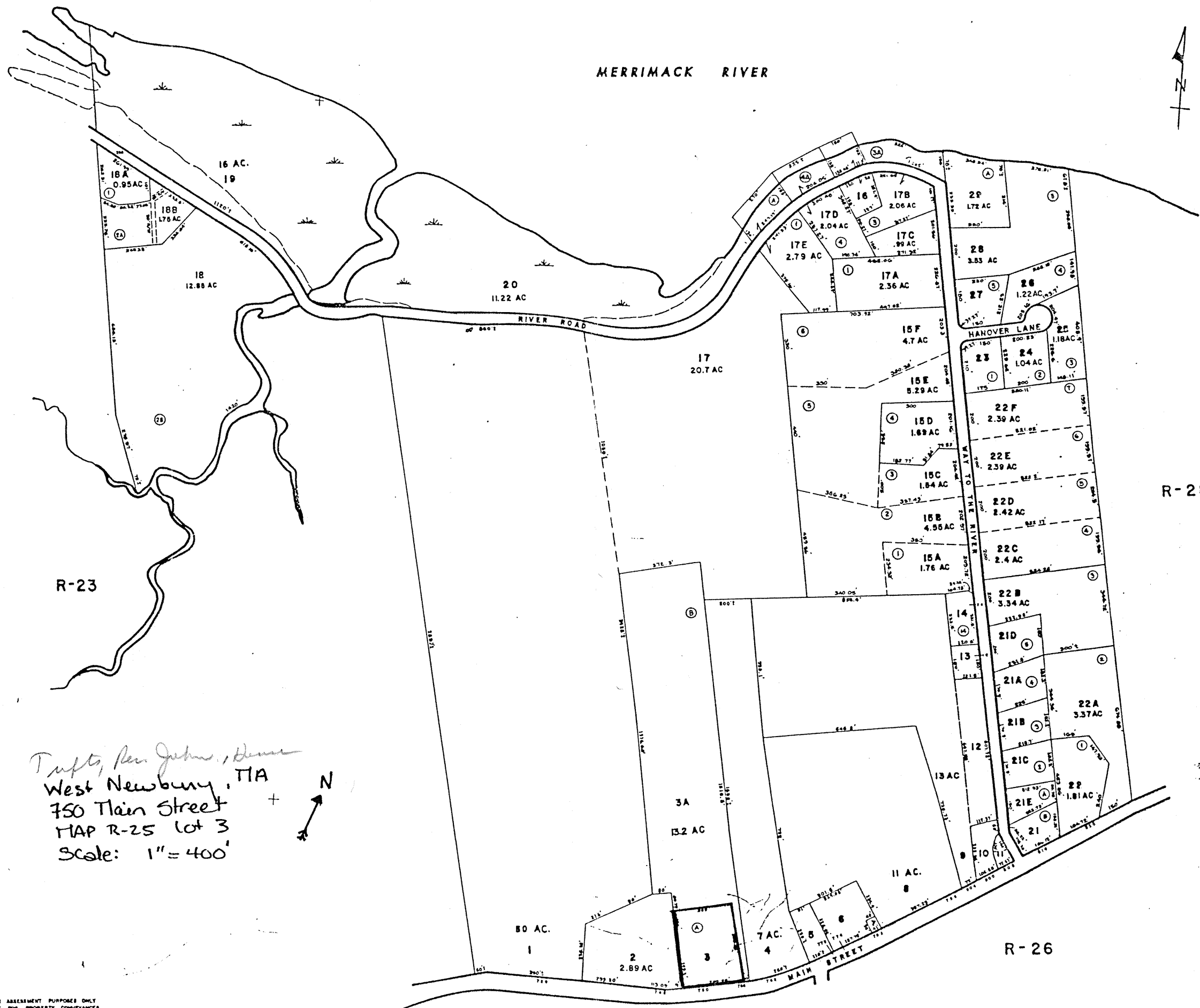
1st Period Buildings of E. Mass., TR



52:15

West Newbury, MA
Rev John Tufts House
750 Allen Street
attic gable wall
1985

1st Period Buildings of E. May, TR



Truitt, Ben, John, Dennis
 West Newbury, MA
 750 Main Street
 MAP R-25 lot 3
 Scale: 1" = 400'

FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY
 NOT FOR PROPERTY CONVEYANCES

JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES
 AUBURN, MAINE
 1988

PROPERTY MAP
 WEST NEWBURY, MASS.

0 200 400
 SCALE IN FEET

R-25

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281