

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

PHOTOGRAPHS:

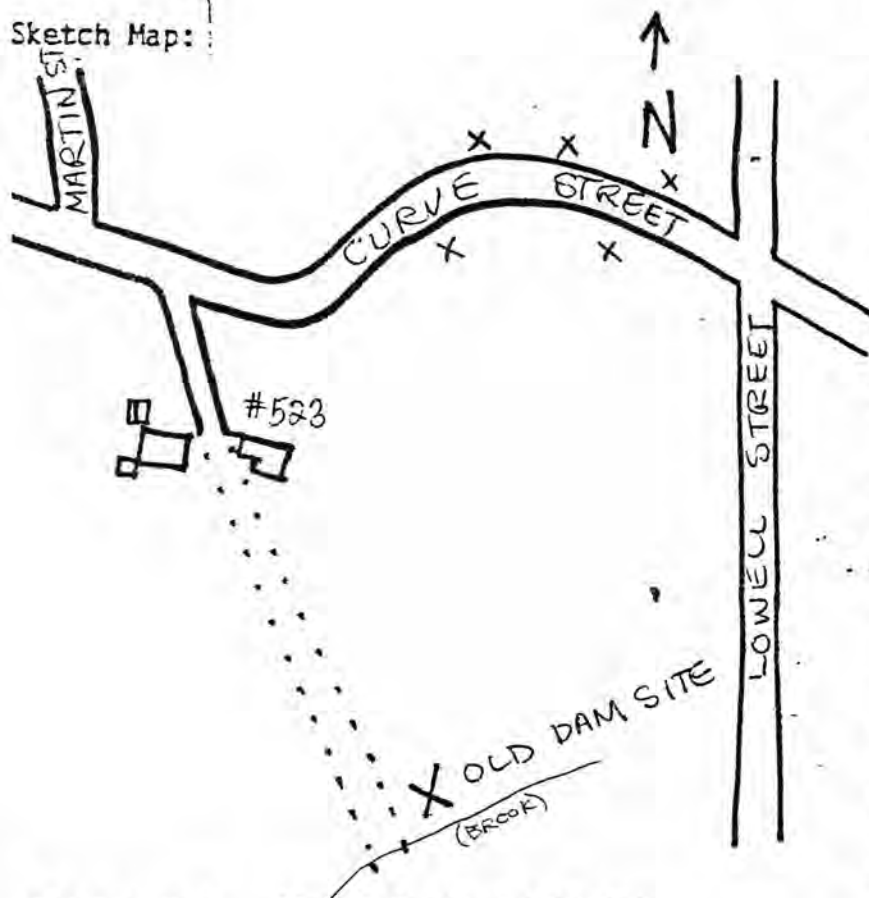
- 52:09 Front and left facades
52:03 Summer beam into chimney girt in first-floor right room

Town CarlisleAddress 523 Curve StreetHistoric Name George Robbins HouseUse: Present residenceOriginal residence

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1700Source visual analysisStyle First PeriodArchitect noneExterior Wall Fabric clapboardOutbuildings 19th c. barnMajor Alterations (with dates) 18th c. leanleft ell early 19th c; rear ell, sunporch
1960sCondition goodMoved no Date NAAcreage 3 2.5 acres (part of a parcel)Setting Faces south with its back towooded rural road. House and barn flankold cartpath, overlooking woods and fields;granite post & picket fence remains in frontRecorded by James KyprianosOrganization Boston UniversityDate May 1986

Sketch Map:

TM REFERENCE 19 / 306-940 / 4713-650GCS QUADRANGLE BillericaSCALE 1:25,000

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: CARLISLE	Form No: 99
Property Name: George Robbins House	

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The George Robbins House retains integrity of location, materials, design and workmanship under Criterion C in its surviving First Period frame. The fieldstone center chimney, which only reverts to brick above the attic floor, is an unusual occurrence in Massachusetts Bay First Period houses, except in Middlesex County, where it became a regional variant. Hidden under the present Second Period boxing and fireplace wall paneling may be surviving first period details likely to yield information important to our understanding of First Period decorative schemes under Criterion D.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The George Robbins House is a 2 1/2 story, 5 bay central chimney clapboarded structure with added 18th C. rear lean-to and various 19th and 20th C. ells and wings extending from the rear and sides. The First Period core is a double-cell 2 1/2 story house with a central chimney. The shallow-pitched roof probably dates from the early 19th century. The main facade is adorned with a simple Greek Revival door surround with sidelights and a heavy cornice.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

Although much of the original interior is covered by Second Period boxing and paneling, enough remains visible in the first floor right and upstairs left rooms to indicate the late 17th or early 18th C. origins of the house. The central chimney stack is made of fieldstone up to the attic floor.

The left first floor room is completely covered with Second Period finish. The present fireplace opening was built when the paneling was installed, but the large (13 1/2" x 12") original lintel is visible in the stairway leading to the cellar. When the owner replastered the ceiling in 1984, charred joists indicating an early fire in the room were visible. The boxed summer beam is 17" wide. The first floor right-hand room has an exposed longitudinal summer beam 16", wide with a flat chamfer and lamb's tongue stops. The posts are boxed, but the exposed chimney girt has a flat chamfer with simple stops at the posts.

The second floor left chamber has hewn gunstock posts and beams, with new 20th C. ceiling and joists. The summer tie beam has a flat chamfer with lamb's tongue stops. Sawn-off tenons still pegged into the framing of the original rear right and left corners of the room give evidence of rising braces. The room has no fireplace. The second floor right chamber retains no visible First Period finish.

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LATER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

Both first floor rooms have fine Second Period feather-edged paneling on the fireplace walls.

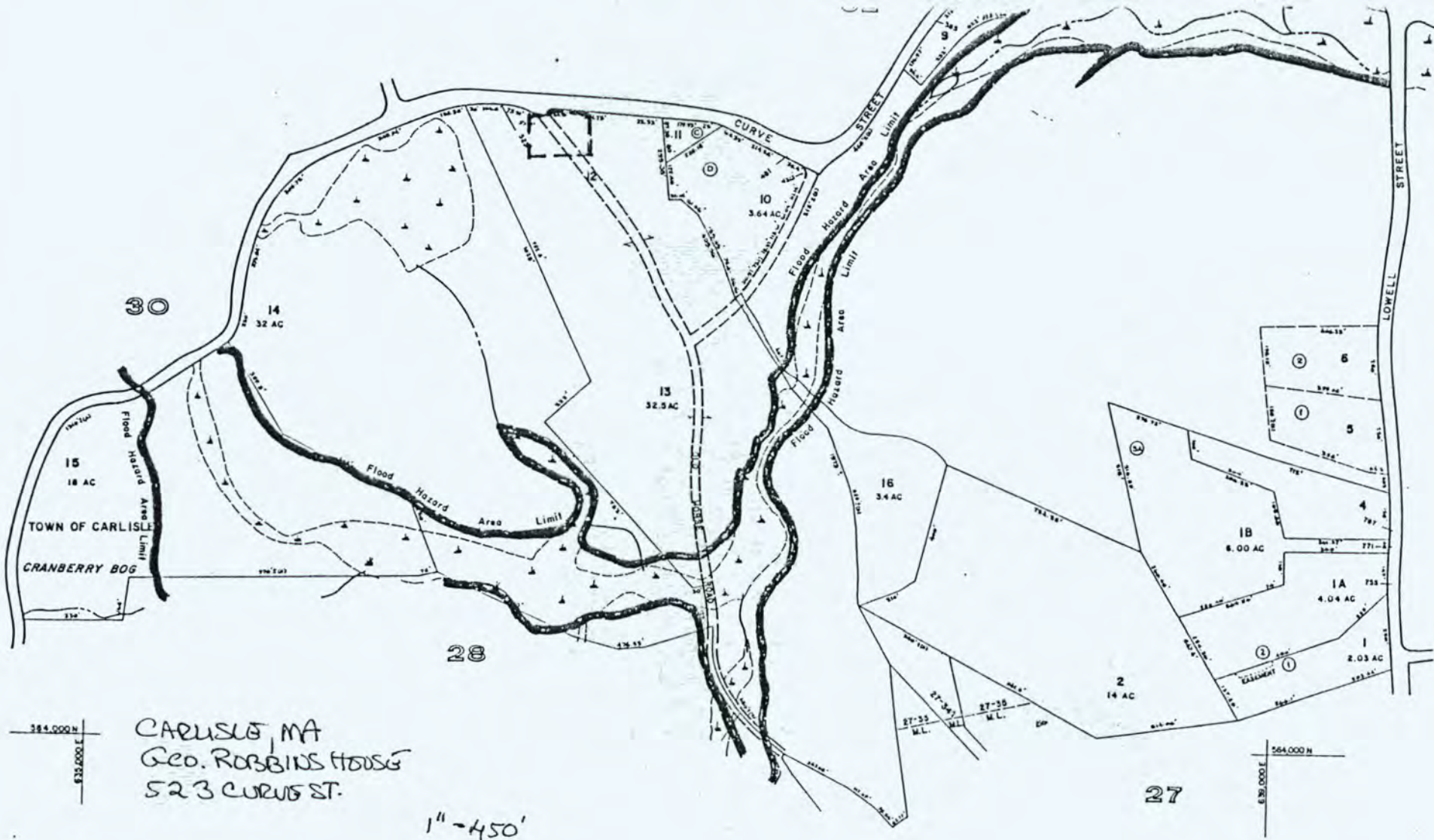
HISTORICAL INFORMATION

The house is traditionally ascribed to George Robbins c. 1660-1670, but the flat chamfers with lamb's tongue or taper stops tend to indicate a c. 1700 date. Robbins built a house and grist mill on his property, originally part of Chelmsford. The town built a road to the mill in the 1700s; the present house may date from that period of presumably increased prosperity through improved access to the mill.

The old roadbed from Curve street to the site of the mill dam passes between the house and its probably early 19th C. barn, contributing to a setting similar to that of colonial days. Over 32 acres of fields and woods still surround the house, as well.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The George Robbins House, situated near the road, has a line of convenience drawn to follow the road frontage and includes the house and a nearby barn which is an integral part of the setting.



WETLANDS / FLOOD HAZARD DISTRICT LIMIT
(ADOPTED 4/2/80)

WETLANDS DISTRICT (ADOPTED 5/5/76)

PREPARED BY PHOTOGRAMMETRIC METHODS BY
JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES
AUBURN, MAINE
FOR CARLISLE BOARD OF ASSESSORS

LEGEND

ADJACENT SHEET NO. 12

COMMON OWNERSHIP OR

DEVELOPMENT LOT NO. ①

CALCULATED AREA (C)

SCALED DIMENSION (S)

PROPERTY MAP
CARLISLE
MIDDLESEX COUNTY, MASS.

GRID BASED ON MASSACHUSETTS
COORDINATE SYSTEM, MAINLAND ZONE

SCALE IN FEET 0 200 400

REVISED TO JANUARY 1, 1988

NO PARCEL 8,3

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

c/24/80

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

101. Jaquith, Abraham, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Melrose Byers 3/14/91
Attest _____
102. Mason, John, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90
Attest _____
103. Meeting House of the Second Parish in Woburn **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90
Attest _____
104. Noyes--Parris House **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____
105. Page, Christopher, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90
Attest _____
106. Putnam, Rev. Daniel, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90
Attest _____
107. Robbins, George, House **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____
108. Spaulding, Zeb, House **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth J. Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____
109. Tenney Homestead **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Melrose Byers 3/9/90
Attest _____
110. Upham, Phineas, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Melrose Byers 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: 90000168 Date Listed: 03/09/90

Robbins, George, House Middlesex MA
Property Name County 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.

for Betty J. Savage
Signature of the Keeper

03/09/90
Date of Action

=====

Amended Items in Nomination:

Geographical Data: VBD and Acreage

The handwritten scale on the sketch map supersedes the typed or printed one: the handwritten scale is the appropriate scale for the reduced map.

The correct acreage is <1.

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: Robbins, George, House

MULTIPLE NAME: First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

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: 90000168

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 Swasey
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
☐ UTMs ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



523 Currier Street
Carlsle, MA

George Robbins House

1st Revised Building of E. No., TR

1985

52:03



523 Curve Street, Carlisle, MA

George Robbins House

1st Period Buildings of E. Mass, TA

1985

52:9

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281