

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

- 25-33 main view of house
- 25-29 Detail, rear/end wall corner, right-hand chamber
- 25-30 Detail: rear wall, right-hand chamber showing quirked bead on rear plate petering out to a flat chamfer
- 25-32 Ships knee at chimney tie beam/post joint right-hand room

Town Gloucester

Address 144 Wheeler Street

Historic Name Dyke-Wheeler House

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1720

Source Stylistic analysis by A.L. Cummings

Style First Period core

Architect None

Exterior Wall Fabric Shingles/clapboards

Outbuildings garage and shed

Major Alterations (with dates) Lean-to added c. 1800. Dormer raised in rear, front portico replaced and enclosed, 1962.

Condition Good

Moved No Date N/A

Acreage less than 1 acre

Setting On a high bank overlooking the Annisquam River. Secluded, residential setting.

Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Boston University

Date October 1985

Sketch Map:



Z E N

UTM REFERENCE 19 / 362-200 / 4722-370

USGS QUADRANGLE Gloucester

SCALE 1:25,000

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: GLOUCESTER	Form No: 25
Property Name: Dyke-Wheeler House	

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

SIGNIFICANCE

The Dyke Wheeler House has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship in its First Period plank frame, making it eligible under Criterion C. The house is significant as one of the several dozen plank frame structures in the study area, and is part of a particular concentration of such structures in Cape Ann. The presence of some flat chamfers in an otherwise quirk-beaded late First Period frame is an interesting variation. Whether it signifies that the carpenter intentionally changed the type of frame decoration in mid-stream is unknown, however. The frame incorporates the only quirk-beaded brace known in the study area and also employs the relatively rare ship's knee brace.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Dyke Wheeler house is a 5-bay wide, 2 1/2 story plank framed structure with lean-to added c. 1800. The exterior, clapboarded on the front and shingled elsewhere, is characterized by simple 19th century trim: plain surrounds for sash windows, a one story enclosed porch with an un-ornamented doorway, and plain corner boards. There is a central chimney at the ridge and an early 20th century one story wing to the rear.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

First Period features are visible in the right and left hand chambers. Framing in the right hand chamber presents an unusual combination of quirk beading and flat chamfering. The end tie beam has an inch wide flat chamfer and lamb's tongue stops. Corner posts have flat chamfers and no stops. The rear plate begins at the end wall with a flat chamfer, but a third of the way along the beam, the flat chamfer becomes a quirked bead (see photograph). The rest of the framing, including the one exposed brace, is quirk-beaded. The frame of the right hand room also incorporates a ship's knee to brace the front chimney post and chimney tie beam.

In the left hand chamber the front and rear plates are exposed and quirk-beaded. During restoration of the house, a quirked bead was observed on the longitudinal summer beam in the left hand room. The chimney is original, although altered in the mid 18th century to accommodate later fireboxes.

LATER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

All four rooms of the original house exhibit fine Second Period raised-field paneling and trim, dating from the mid 18th century.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

1/24/90

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR  
State \_\_\_\_\_

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 11. Coker, Benjamin, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 12. Conant, Exercise, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 13. Corning, Samuel, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 14. Davis, Ephraim, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 15. Davis--Freeman House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 504 16. Dickinson--Pillsbury--Witham House **Substantive Review** Keeper *Betty L. Savage* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 17. Dustin House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 18. Dyke-Wheeler House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 19. Emerson House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 3/9/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 20. Foster, Phineas, House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper *Helene Byer* 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: Dyke--Wheeler 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: 90000215

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



144 Wheeler Street, Gloucester

Pyke-Wheeler house  
modern view of house  
1985

TRAS

25:33

1st Period Buildings of E. Mo TR



Gloucester, MA

Dyke-Wheeler House

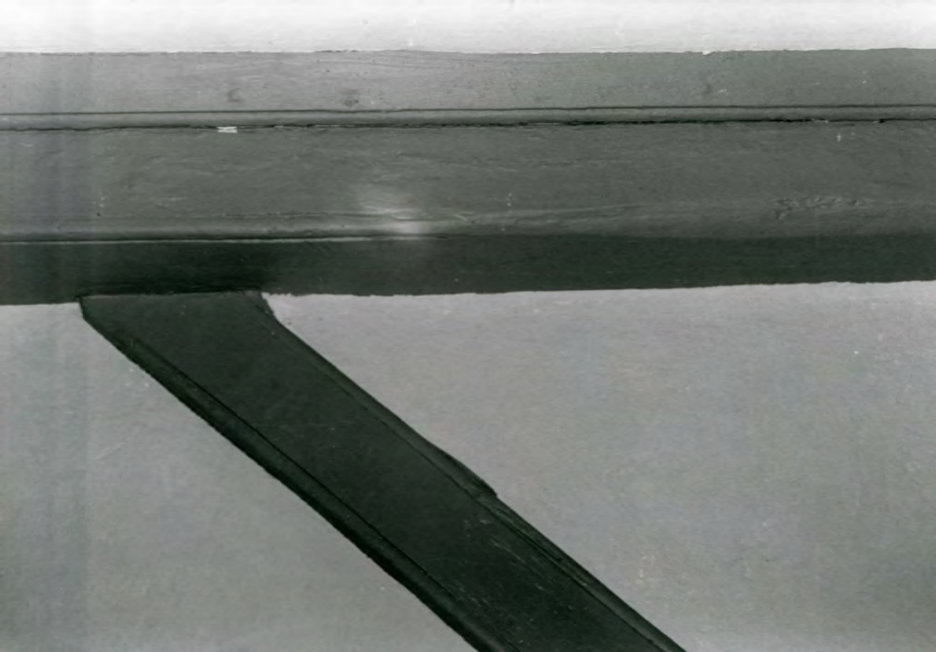
144 Wheeler Street

detail, rear fence wall corner.

1985

25:29

1st Panel Buildings at 15. Ma TR



Gloucester, MA  
Dyke-Wheeler House  
144 Wheeler Street  
detail: rear wall,  
right-hand chamber  
1985

Dept. of Cultural Resources, U.S. Dept. of the Interior

25:30



Gloucester, MA  
Dyke - Wheeler House  
144 Wheeler Street  
Ships knee at  
chimney the beam /  
post  
1985

Let Period Buildings of E. Ma TR

25:32

Gloucester, MA  
Dyke-Wheeler House  
144 Wheeler Street  
Tap 100 Lot 21  
Scale: 1" = 40'



SCALE 1" = 40'

FOR ASSESSMENT PURPOSES ONLY

CITY OF GLOUCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS  
SHEET NO. 100 *2/27/87*

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281