

Area	Form no.
	42-1

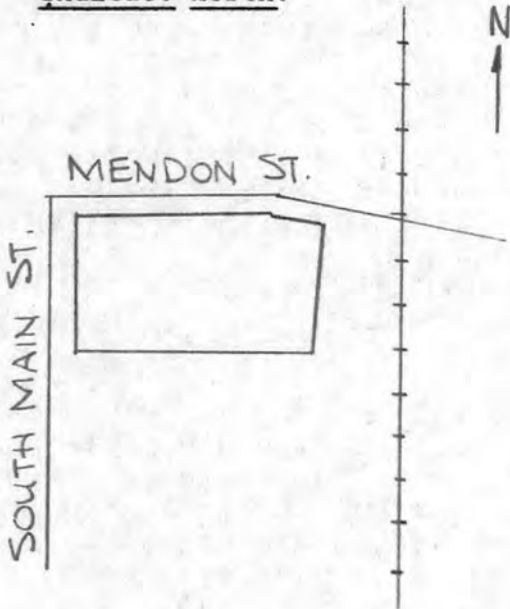
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

Roll 1 Frame 7A

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



✓ Town Uxbridge

✓ Address 2-8 South Main Street

✓ Historic Name Taft Brothers' Block (U.M.P.A.)

Use: Original Commercial & Offices

Present Commercial & Offices

Ownership: Private individual
 Private organization _____

Public _____

Original owner Taft Brothers

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1902

Source Sprague 1927:83

Style astylistic late Victorian

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) store front rebuilt (1970's)

Moved no Date N/A

Approx. acreage 7,220 sq. ft.

Setting at major intersection at north end of Uxbridge's commercial district

UTM: 19 282470 4661370 Quad UX

Recorded by B.R. Pfeiffer

Organization Uxbridge Historical Commission

Date May 1981

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

One of three large-scale commercial blocks built in Uxbridge around the turn of the century, the Taft Brothers Block is a good local example of late Victorian commercial architecture. The building is built of red brick, three-stories high, and covers nearly all of its corner lot. Decorative trim is confined to a brick cornice and rock-faced granite trimmings around windows and storefronts. As with many commercial blocks of the period, the Taft Brothers' Block contained a public hall on its third storey, a use which is reflected on the exterior in the greater height of the third floor.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

Primarily significant as an example of late Victorian commercial architecture the Taft Brothers' Block stands on the approximate site of the former Capron Building, a Federalist style commercial block of ca.1814-1820 which was built by John Capron. Used as a dry goods store, offices of the Blackstone National Bank and a public hall, the original block was destroyed by fire on December 20, 1896. The present block was built for Robert and Jacob Taft, grocers, who had bought the original Capron Block prior to 1855; in addition to their grocery business, the two brothers were involved in several industrial ventures around the time of the Civil War (for more information see Robert Taft House Form#48A-158).

The Taft Brothers Block possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship, as well as historical associations with the reconstruction of Uxbridge Center's commercial district following two fires in the mid-1890s. The Taft Brothers Block meets criteria C of the NRHP.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES : Old Home Week Souvenir, 1908 (Robert & Jacob Taft biographies)
 Chapin 1881:73
 Jewett 1879 II:433-434
 Hurd 1888 I:170-171 & 173
 Sprague 1927:76 & 83

OWNER: John S. Emmott
 South Main Street
 Uxbridge, MA 01569

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 8/26/83

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 5 of 5

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area
State MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. Whipple, A., House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

42. Williams, N., House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

43. Taft, Aaron, House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

241 44. Taft, Bazaleel, Jr., House and Law Office
Substantive Review

for Keeper

accept Patrick Andrews 10/7/83

Attest

45. Taft, Hon. Bazaleel, House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

46. Taft Brothers Block Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

47. Taft, George, House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/2/83

Attest

48. Taft, Moses, House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

49. Taft, Samuel, House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

247 50. Taft, Zadock, House Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Melora Byers 10/7/83

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Taft Brothers Block (Uxbridge M R A)
Worcester County
MASSACHUSETTS

AUG 26 1983

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85
Date Due: 9/22/83 - 10/10/83
Action: ACCEPT 10/7/83
Entered in the _____ RETURN _____
National Register _____ REJECT _____
Federal Agency: _____

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Entered in the _____ RETURN _____
National Register _____ REJECT _____
Federal Agency: _____

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"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<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
- clarity
- applicable criteria
- justification of areas checked
- relating significance to the resource
- context
- relationship of integrity to significance
- justification of exception
- other

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 _____

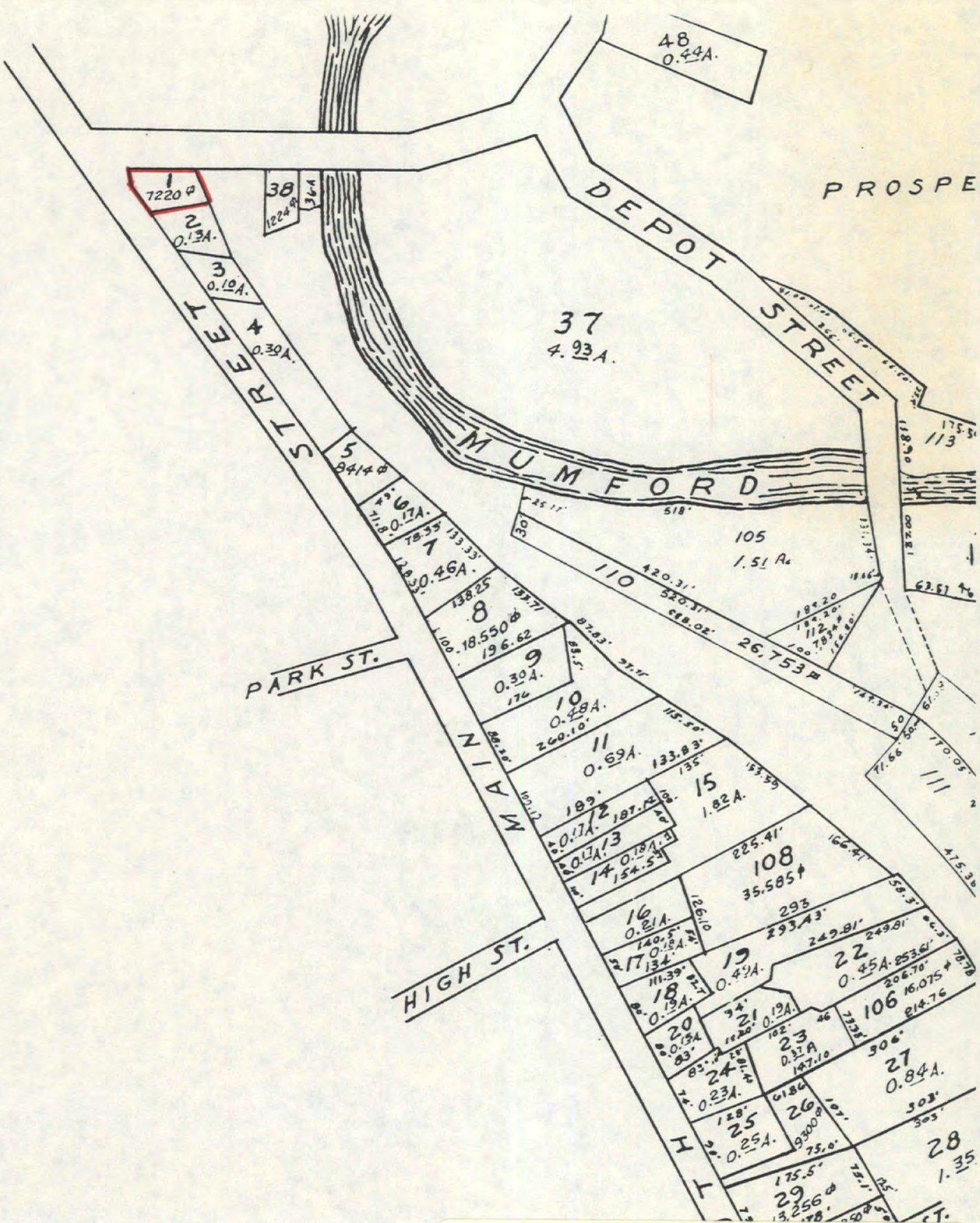
Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____

1025 1/2 N. 5th St. - 1st Floor - 1st Floor - K.A. 1/11



T

PLAT 41



Uxbridge Multiple Resource Area
 Taft Brothers Block
 2-8 Main Street
 Map #42 Lot #1

Uxbridge Assessors
 1" = 200' 1983

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000299