

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination FormSee instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

For NPS use only

received OCT 27 1983

date entered NOV 29 1983

1. Name

historic Southwick House (preferred)

and/or common John Southwick House

2. Location

street & number 151 Lowell Street N/A not for publication

city, town Peabody N/A vicinity of

state Massachusetts code 025 county Essex code 009

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment
☐ object	☐ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government
	N/A being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial
		☐ no	☐ military
			☐ museum
			☐ park
			☒ private residence
			☐ religious
			☐ scientific
			☐ transportation
			☐ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Judith R. Damon

street & number 151 Lowell Street

city, town Peabody N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. South Essex Registry of Deeds

street & number 42 Federal Street

city, town Salem state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Inventory of the Historic Assets of
title the Commonwealth # 192has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate 1978 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission & Peabody Historical Commission

city, town Boston and Peabody state Massachusetts

7. Description

Southwick House, 151 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA

Condition

☒ excellent
☐ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Southwick House, constructed c. 1750, faces southwest onto Lowell Street at the outskirts (northwest) of central Peabody. The surrounding neighborhood is fairly densely developed with a mix of residential and commercial buildings dating from the 19th through mid-20th centuries. The house is set back a few feet from the sidewalk at the front of a narrow rectangular lot (105' X 3500'). Associated with the house and located to the rear is a small wood-frame art studio constructed in 1976; it is a non contributing element in this nomination. Two outbuildings, of unknown date shown on the Town Assessor's Map of 1932, have since been demolished.

Although traditionally dated c. 1660, the Southwick House appears to date stylistically from the mid-18th century and probably replaced an earlier house. It is a 2½ story center chimney, wood-frame, clapboard (new) structure set on a low fieldstone foundation with basement and capped with a gambrel roof with asphalt shingles. The center entry of the symmetrical five-bay facade is simply framed with channelled moulding with rosette motifs at the corner blocks; this treatment appears to reflect an early 19th century modification. Fenestration throughout the house consists of 6/6 doublehung sash set in wide, moulded, projecting surrounds. Narrow corner boards and fascia complete the buildings' trim.

In plan, the original portion of the house (18 X 36 feet) is one room deep with two rooms on each story arranged on either side of the central chimney. Typical of this early design, the chimney contains two flues set side by side resulting in a rectangular stack above the roof. The west and east gable ends are pierced on each floor and the attic by one window.

Running along the rear of the house and extending one-bay beyond at both ends to produce a "Beverly Jog" is a two-story ell (12 X 47 feet) apparently constructed soon after the original portion. The secondary pitch of the gambrel has been altered to form a smooth transition to the shed roof of the ell. Fenestration of the rear elevation is assymmetrical. A small one-story shed is attached to the northwest corner.

The interior of the house retains the majority of original features including floor plan, floorboards, panelling and trim. The house was carefully restored in the 1970s at which time modern conveniences were installed and the present exterior sheathing applied.

In addition to the ancillary buildings which once stood on the property as noted above, it is likely that subsurface remains of earlier structures also remain. Of particular importance is the potential presence of ceramic manufacturing related structures and artifact deposits dating from the early to mid 18th century. The Southwick's involvement in the ceramic industry is historically documented, and ceramic sherds are reported to have been found here into the 20th century (see Section 8).

8. Significance

Southwick House, 151 Lowell Street, Peabody, MA

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☒ religion
☐ 1400–1499	☒ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500–1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600–1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☒ 1700–1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☐ 1800–1899	☐ commerce	☒ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☐ 1900–	☐ communications	☒ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates c. 1750

Builder/Architect Unknown

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Southwick House retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, and association. It is architecturally significant as an excellent and well preserved example of vernacular Georgian period architecture in Peabody. Historical importance is derived from its association with the early settlement of Peabody and with the Southwick family, whose members were prominent in local industry, agriculture, and commerce during the 18th and 19th centuries. The Southwick House thus meets criteria A, B, and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Among the first English colonists to settle in Peabody was John Southwick (1620–1672) a husbandman and Quaker. He was born in England in 1620, son of Lawrence and Casandra Southwick, who migrated to the Colonies about 1630. After being banished from Danvers for their religious beliefs, the family settled in Peabody where Lawrence Southwick became a partner in the first glass manufacturing industry in America (1638) near present day Aborn Street.

By or about the mid-17th century, John Southwick had acquired land and erected a house in the vicinity of the Southwick House. According to local tradition, the house standing at 151 Lowell Street today was erected by him in c. 1660, however, visible architectural features do not substantiate a date that early.

During the Quaker persecution of the mid-17th century Lawrence and Cassandra were both banished from Massachusetts. John's commitment to the Quaker faith is a little less clear, however, he did harbor members of the sect in his house and was fined 20 shillings a week while they remained there. He was also fined for being a Quaker in 1658 and his wife was repeatedly fined for not attending church up to 1663. Nevertheless, John appears to have been considered an important member of this pioneer community despite his religious dissent, as he was appointed to various town duties. In 1655 he constructed the first bridge over Goldthwaite's Brook near the South Church meeting house which he later repaired in 1662. He was appointed as Surveyor of Fences for the Northfield in 1663, in 1664 was ordered with Thomas Goldthwaite to set up two gates near Goldthwaite's property and Michael Shafelin's both on Lowell Street, and was appointed a Surveyor of Highways for the town in 1671.

Upon his death in 1672, John left 36 acres of land, house, and barns to his sons Samuel, John, and Isaac which they released to their mother and was later (1680) purchased by Samuel Southwick (1658–1709). Both John and Samuel were predominately farmers.

Ebenezer Southwick (1690–1771) a yeoman and son of Samuel, acquired the property under the will of his mother. Stylistically, the house appears to date from his period of ownership. By his will in 1771 he gave his wife Mary and his Negro man, Primas, the northeast end of the house. His son Ebenezer had the southwest end of the house and land. Ebenezer (1735–1820) became the owner of the whole property upon the death of his mother. He also built the well known Southwick Tavern nearby at the corner of Lowell and Endicott Streets (moved and substantially altered in the 20th century.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

South Essex Registry of Probate - Oct. 25, 1672 Will of John Southwick.
South Essex Registry of Deeds - Bood 5, Leaf 73, March 15, 1679-80.
(Samuel Southwick acquired property) History of Salem, Perley Vol. 12, Southwick Gen.
The John Southwick House 1660 William Bushby, Essex Institute 1960.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 31.760 Square Feet

Quadrangle name Salem, MA

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References

A 19 340960 4710300
Zone Easting Northing

B
Zone Easting Northing

C

D

E

F

G

H

Verbal boundary description and justification

John Southwick House is shown on plan for assessors by Osborn Palmer under George Abbot lot. Bounded N.E. by Right of Way from Lowell Street to property of Raymond and Margaret Crean formerly of McCarthy and adjoining land of Strauss Leather Co. Westerly by Crean formally McCarthy 85 Ft. Southerly by land of William & Madeline Elwell 350 ft. to Lowell St. & Easterly on Lowell St. 105 feet to point of beginning.

state N/A code county code

state code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Virginia A. Fitch, Preservation Planner with
John A. Wells, Consultant and Former Chairman, Peabody Historical Commission

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date August, 1983

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

 national state X local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Patricia W. Weslowski 10/19/83

State Historic Preservation Officer
title Massachusetts Historical Commission date

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

Entered in the date 11/29/83
National Register

for Shelana Byers
Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet Southwick House, Peabody, MA Item number 8 Page 1

The house is recorded in the Direct Tax of 1798: "Owner and occupant Ebenezer Southwick." House south on County Road, east on John Southwick, area = 1,032 sq. ft., two stories, 11 windows, 89 sq. ft. of glass, built of wood, 40 poles of land, value \$550. Farm joining house lot, south and north on County Road, barn 45 X 28, corn barn 14 X 10, slaughter house 14 X 12, 25 acres of land, value \$800.

By the mid 18th century the Southwick family owned a considerable amount of land in the area and was one of the largest and most enterprising in Peabody. In addition to agricultural activities various branches of the family were involved in the formation of two of Peabody's most important industries: ceramics and leather. A. William and Joseph Southwick operated pottery kilns and shops behind 161 and 151 Lowell Street, respectively, from the early to mid 18th century. They were noted primarily for the production of black glazed redwares. Members of the family continued in the business into the early 19th century; some twelve Southwicks are listed in town records as potters. All told there were some 94 potters engaged in that industry in Peabody, the largest number recorded for any New England city or town, from the early 18th through mid-19th centuries. Other family members participated in the tanning industry beginning in the early 18th century. In the late 19th century L.B. and H.A. Southwick owned and operated the Strauss Tanning Company, located next door to the Southwick House at 145 Lowell Street.

In 1816 the property passed out of the Southwick family. Half of the house was sold to Eben Nichols, and the other half to Sarah Stacy who sold her part to Elijah Upton. He subsequently sold it to Francis Johnson in 1842, who sold his part of the house to Phèbe King in 1857.

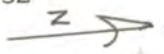
Upon the death of Susan Nichols, the other part of the house became the property of William Berry, who sold it to Lucy Twiss in 1863.

After years of dual ownership, and reduction of associated land the property at 151 Lowell Street was brought under one ownership when George Abbott acquired the remaining half of the house from Lyman Holman in 1904. He had previously acquired the Twiss part of the old Southwick house. The property remained in the Abbot family until December 2, 1958 when Dorothy Q. Abbott, widow, sold it to Gardner M. Damon, vice-president of the Salem Evening News.

The land on which the Southwick House stands should be considered to retain the subsurface remains of structures and artifact deposits associated with over 250 years of human occupation. Research guided identification, evaluation, and excavation of these resources may provide important information pertinent to several areas including: a firmer construction date for the house; configuration of the farm; past lifeways; and the ceramic industry.

Southwick House
151 Lowell Street
Peabody, Massachusetts

Peabody Assessor's Plans
Osborn and Palmer 1932
Scale: 1" = 50'



LOWELL STREET



#151



33320
WILLIAM & MADELINE ELWELL - PRESENT OWNERS

JUDITH R. DAMON - PRESENT OWNER

George W Abbott, et als
31760

RAYMOND & MARGARET
CREAN - PRESENT OWNERS

John W. McCarthy

5660

RIGHT 160' OF WAY
RIGHT OF 195 WAY

Aaron Strauss, et als
73,900

Strauss, et als
See R7

Hattie Sharpe
6020

Edwin S. VanDyke
5200

Josephine Shea
4480

LILY FERGUSON
&
ELIZABETH Heylingberg

8920

Alice M. Lawrence
4600

Catherine Coffey
4660

Aaron Strauss
et als
4050

ENDICOTT ST.

PEABODY
ASSESSORS
PLANS

BY OSBORNE PALMER

ENDICOTT STREET

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Southwick House
Essex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. OCT 27 1983
Fed. Reg. Date: 2-5-85
Date Due: 11/24/83 - 12/11/83
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 11/29/83
☐ RETURN
☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

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

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
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ 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: _____

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



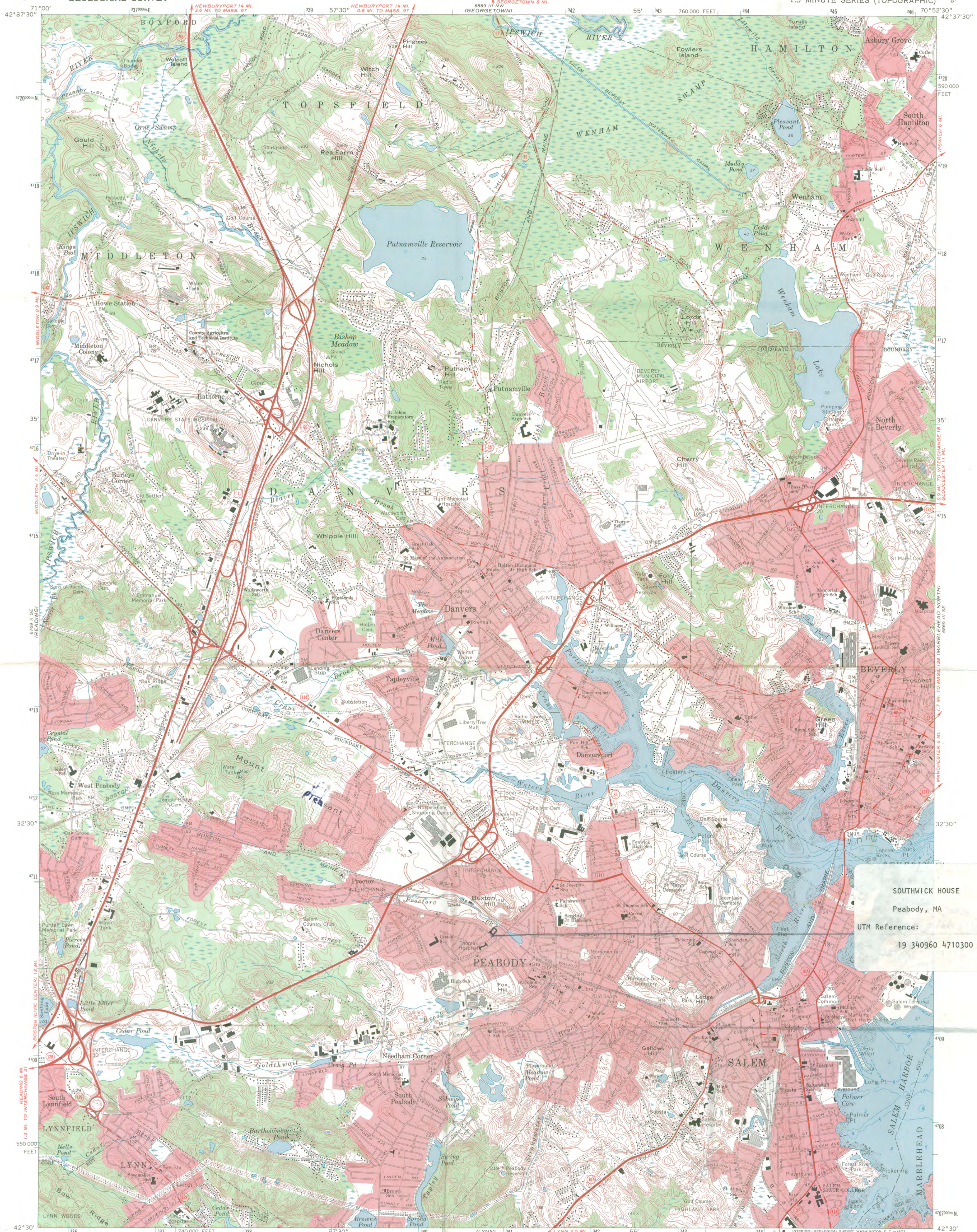
Southwick House
151 Lowell Street
Peabody
Essex County, Massachusetts

Photo and negative: G. M. Damon 1980
Peabody Historical Comm.

Looking north at front facade on Lowell St.

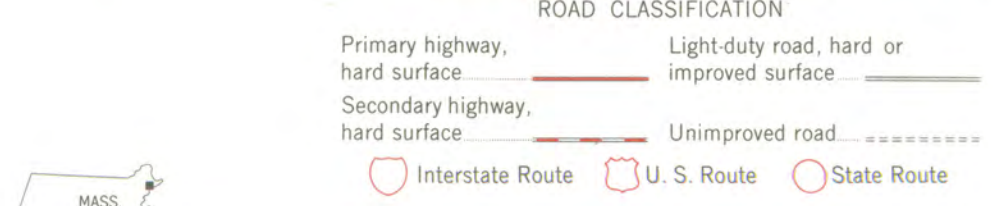
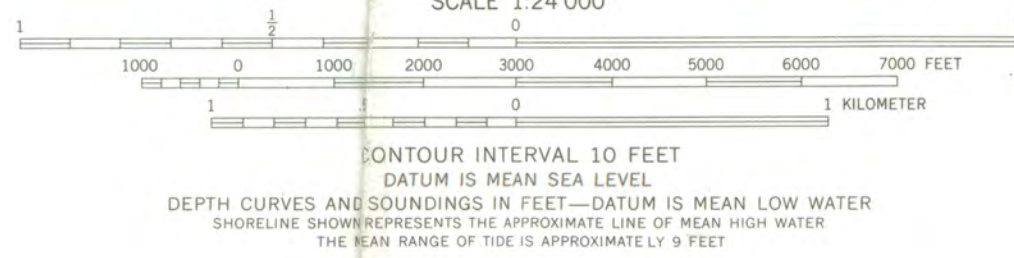
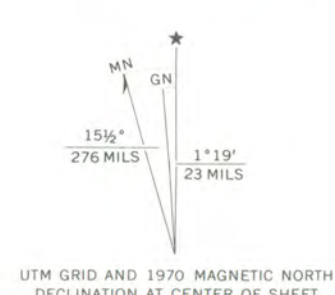
Photo 1 of 1

G. M. DAMON
151 LOWELL ST.
PEABODY, MASS. 01960



SOUTHWICK HOUSE
Peabody, MA
UTM Reference:
19 340960 4710300

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1938. Topography by planimetric surveys 1942
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from USC&GS Charts 240 and
241 (1970). This information is not intended
for navigational purposes
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Boundaries in tide waters from information supplied
by Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



SALEM, MASS.
N4230—W7052.5/7.5
1970

AMS 6869 III SW—SERIES V814

THIS MAP COMPIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20242
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

PAINTINGS
SCULPTURE
GRAPHICS

ALLAN A. DAVIDSON, A.W.S.

STUDIO • EIGHT DEAN ROAD • BOX 7 • ROCKPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01966

1 June 1982

Hon. Byron Matthews
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Boston

Dear Byron:

The enclosed material clearly establishes the historic facts related to the John Southwick House at 151 Lowell Street, Peabody, Mass.

The Southwick House is owned and lived in by my dear friend Mrs. Judith R. Damon, widow of the late Gardner Damon of the Salem News. It would be extremely helpful to her if you or whomever is in charge of registering Historic Houses could facilitate proper recognition of the property as an historic site.

Constructed in 1660, the Southwick House is well known in the area as one of the finest examples of early architecture. For esthetic, historic and economic reasons it would be most beneficial to Mrs. Damon and the community to recognize the value of the property as an important building in the Peabody area located a short distance from Route 128, Peabody Square and the North Shopping area.

Whatever you can do to facilitate the registering of Southwick House as an historic building and site would be gratefully appreciated.

Mrs. Judith R. Damon may be reached at 151 Lowell Street, Peabody, Mass. 01960, and by phone at 531-1635. With many personal thanks,
Sincerely,

RECEIVED
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF COMMUNITIES & DEVELOPMENT
617) 546-6666
CORRESPONDENCE # _____
DATE: 6/1, Secretary



Edward J. King, Governor
Byron J. Matthews, Secretary

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Communities and Development

Division of Community Services

100 Cambridge Street 9th Floor Boston, Massachusetts 02202 (617) 727-7001

June 16, 1982

RECEIVED

JUN 20 1982

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Ms. Pat Weslowski
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Pat:

I recently received a request to support the nomination of the John Southwick House of Peabody, Massachusetts, into the National Register of Historical Places. A copy of the completed nomination forms and information describing the House are enclosed for reference.

When contacting your office regarding the status of the Southwick application, my staff was informed that the nomination is pending review for certification by the Massachusetts Historical Commission.

I realize the large workload which your office is faced with. However, any efforts to expedite review of this nomination would be very much appreciated.

I hope you are feeling well. I will be in touch.

Sincerely,

John F. Bradshaw
Assistant Secretary
Executive Office of Communities
and Development

JFB/cr
Enclosure



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

October 19, 1983

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
18th & C Streets, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

Edgartown - Edgartown Village Historic District (state)
Framingham - Moses Ellis House (local)
Great Barrington - Monument Mills (local)
Peabody - John Southwick House (local)
Scituate - Captain Benjamin James House (local)
Stockbridge - Villa Virginia (local)
Westfield - United States Whip Company Complex (national)

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms. Also included are the forms for Border City Mills (Fall River Multiple Resource Area) which had been returned to us for boundary justification and for Woodbridge Street Historic District, South Hadley, returned for technical corrections.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Preservation Planning Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/hi
Enclosures

