

Form 10-306
(Oct. 1972)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM FOR FEDERAL PROPERTIES

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	Massachusetts
COUNTY:	Barnstable
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY DATE	MAY 28 1976

1. NAME

COMMON:
Penniman, Edward, House No. 35-77; Barn No. 35-78 (Cape Cod NS)

AND/OR HISTORIC:
same HABS

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER: *Submittal at*
Fort Hill and Governor Prence Roads

CITY OR TOWN: Eastham *vi.* CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: Twelfth

STATE: Massachusetts	CODE: 25	COUNTY: Barnstable	CODE: 001
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Object <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public <input type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Park <input type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Comments <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) House: <u>Exhibit</u> <u>in place:</u> <u>Exterior viewing only</u>

4. AGENCY

National Park Service

REGIONAL HEADQUARTERS: (If applicable) North Atlantic Region	STREET AND NUMBER: 150 Causeway Street
CITY OR TOWN: Boston	STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 25

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
Courthouse, Barnstable, Massachusetts

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN: Barnstable	STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 001
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6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY: HABS House and Barn, CACO No. 35-77 and No. 35-78, Mass. State (HABS) No. 693 and 699

DATE OF SURVEY: 1962 Federal State County Local

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

STREET AND NUMBER:
Interior Building

CITY OR TOWN: Washington, D.C.	STATE:	CODE: 11
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:	Massachusetts
COUNTY:	Barnstable
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7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input type="checkbox"/> Unaltered		<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Located on the south side of Fort Hill road near the intersection of Fort Hill Road and Governor Prence Road, and 1/4 mile east of U.S. Mid-Cape Highway 6, the Captain Edward Penniman House is a two and a half story frame house in the Second Empire French style with a matching barn to the rear. The house is rectangular and faces west, and is surrounded by residential planting. The building is painted yellow with white trim and has a red roof, striped. This was a sumptuous whaling captain's home of 1867, known historically as the "finest house in Eastham."

The house has been painted several times, and prior to recent outside restoration, was badly "alligatored." Removal of this old paint revealed colors similar to those used in recent restoration. All dentil work was removed, scraped, repainted and replaced.

Over-all dimensions of the house are 40'-5" on the west and 34'-7" on the south. The foundations are of field stone topped with granite. The walls are of frame construction with clapboards on the exterior. The main front door on the west side has a porch with Corinthian columns, fluted shafts and pressed wood capitals. The rear or east door has a plank stoop. The house has two centralized red brick chimneys.

The front door of the house is a heavy wooden door with an arched top and two vertical etched glass panels in the top half. The rear or east door is also heavy, but has a flat top, and one panel of glass. All windows on the first floor are the same size and all of the windows on the second floor are the same size with those on the first floor slightly larger. These windows have 2/2 light double hung sash. In the NW bay there are some colored glass panels. All windows are equipped with exterior blinds, but only a few on the ground floor remain.

Roof is a mansard type. The lower level is covered with wood shingles that at one time were painted in red with brown stripes (restoration has followed this style). The cornice and eaves are heavy and rich in detail. There are dormers for all of the second floor windows--these are rich in details, with pilasters and scrollwork. The cupola is octagonal with arched windows on all sides.

House is set on an artificial terrace on the south side of Fort Hill road. Ornamental wood fence in front (west). There was at one time a high flag pole in yard. A turnstile, not replaced, once existed beneath the whale jaw-bone gateway.

The barn, located just southeast of the house, was constructed about 1800. It has three floors, mansard roof, but omits richly detailed brackets and dentil mouldings at the cornice and quoin blocks at first floor corners. Wooden brackets, left over from the house construction, were used at the corner of the wood shed.

Section of second floor extends over a slope to the south, forming the first floor cover which housed a carriage and stalls for horse and cow.

Significance: 2nd Order
 Longitude and Latitude: See Section 10
 Acreage: 1. Surrounding new growth woods and fields owned by Fed.Gov.
 Recommended treatment: Preservation, exterior, which includes painting on a 4 year cycle, all windows and doors kept in repair, and roof kept free from leaks -- \$850 annually. Partial Restoration of House:

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

Handwritten notes:
 100 ft
 100 ft
 100 ft
 100 ft
 100 ft

8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pre-Columbian | <input type="checkbox"/> 16th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 18th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 20th Century |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 15th Century | <input type="checkbox"/> 17th Century | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 19th Century | |

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Political | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Planning |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prehistoric | <input type="checkbox"/> Engineering | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Historic | <input type="checkbox"/> Industry | <input type="checkbox"/> Science | <u>Whaling Captain's</u> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Invention | <input type="checkbox"/> Sculpture | <u>Home.</u> |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Architecture | <input type="checkbox"/> Social/Humanitarian | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Art | <input type="checkbox"/> Literature | <input type="checkbox"/> Theater | _____ |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commerce | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Music | | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation | | | _____ |

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The art of whaling originated on Cape Cod, and the art and business reached its peak in the mid-19th century. Like most whaling captains, Penniman operated out of New Bedford, being in charge of several vessels during his long lifetime. He chose to retire in Eastham, and built this house in 1867. Penniman undertook whaling voyages to both southern and Arctic latitudes, being absent some 4 years at times.

Penniman was born in 1831, one of 11 children. He went to sea at eleven. His fourth whaling voyage took place in 1860 in the Minerva. After retirement, Penniman undertook a business venture in Chicago, lost money, and returned to whaling for a time. On one South Atlantic trip, gone 3 years, he came back with 42000 bbls. of oil, one of the largest hauls ever to port at New Bedford. His wife, Betsey Knowles Penniman, accompanied her husband on some trips--(his wife was born in the house directly across the street from the Penniman House). His seventh and last voyage was 1881-1884 in the Jacob A. Howland, a three year's voyage to the Arctic.

Penniman was a typical whaling captain. Records show that he never lost a vessel in his command. He died in 1913, and his son, Eugene, carried on the work for a short time.

The real significance of the house lies in three factors: The unique appearance of the house (plans were said to have been brought back from France by Penniman, personally), the fact that this is the only whaling captain's house in Eastham, and it is the only one inside the Seashore boundaries.

Restoration of the interior will depend on public interest and availability of funds. Much victorian furniture (some of it from this house) is stored at the Seashore. The interior of the house is very plain with the exception of the captain's den, a red-flocked wallpaper and fancy quilt-trim room which will require much money and time to restore.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Historic American Building Survey (HABS)

Historic Structures Reports, Architectural and Historical, on file at Cape Cod National Seashore.

History of Barnstable County by Deyo

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES				
CORNER	LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		LATITUDE		LONGITUDE		
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds
NW	°	'	"	°	'	"	41 °	49 '	06 "
NE	°	'	"	°	'	"	69 °	57 '	58 "
SE	°	'	"	°	'	"	<i>zone 19</i>		
SW	°	'	"	°	'	"	<i>N- 4629-860 E- 419-750</i>		

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 1

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Edison Pike Lohr, Park Historian DATE: 7/13/73

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Cape Cod National Seashore

STREET AND NUMBER: _____ PHONE: 349-3785

CITY OR TOWN: South Wellfleet STATE: Massachusetts CODE: 001

12. CERTIFICATION OF NOMINATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

State Liaison Officer recommendation:
 Yes
 No
 None
Elizabeth R. Amador
State Liaison Officer Signature

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

[Signature]
 Director, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

In compliance with Executive Order 11593, I hereby nominate this property to the National Register, certifying that the State Liaison Officer has been allowed 90 days in which to present the nomination to the State Review Board and to evaluate its significance. The recommended level of significance is National State

Date 5/28/76

ATTEST: [Signature]
 Keeper of The National Register

[Signature] MAR 31 1976
 Federal Representative Signature Date
Deputy Assistant Assistant
 Title

Date 5-28-76

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM**

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE	
COUNTY	
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ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
	MAY 28 1976

(Number all entries)

Internal, Captain's Den, \$15,000. Remainder of House, plastering and paper, \$10,000. Total \$25,000. Barn needs new floors and other internal repairs. Cost: \$4,500.

Photograph enclosed.

