

FORM B - BUILDING

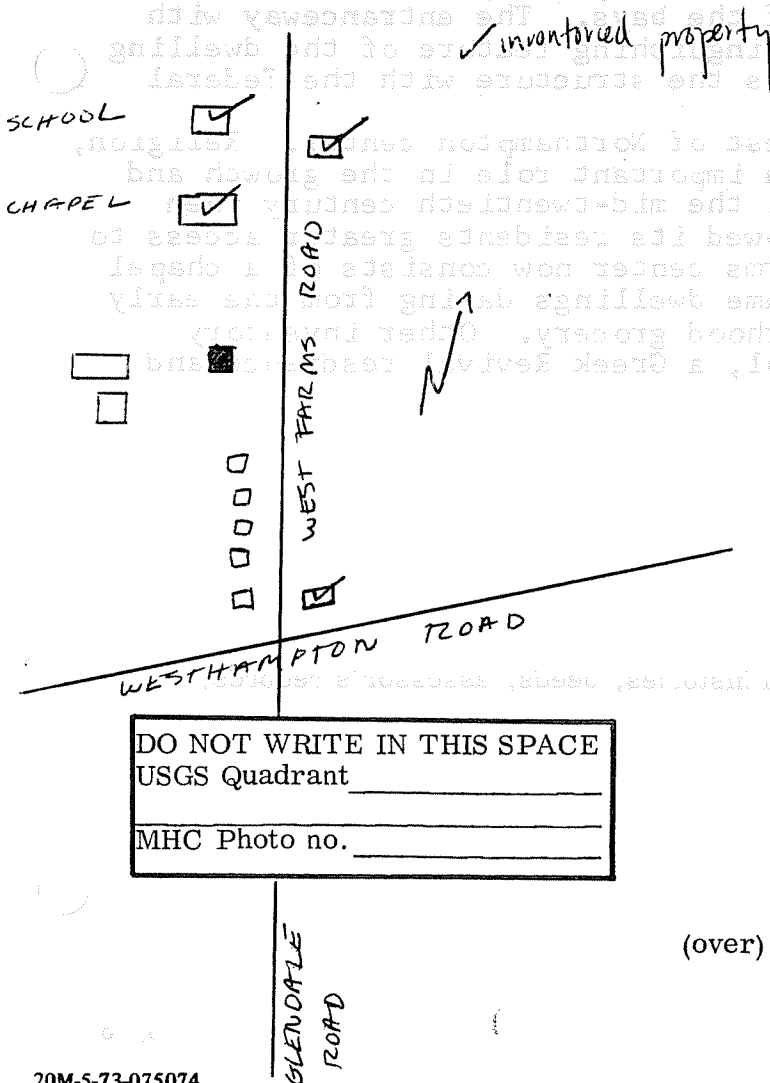
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	42-1



West Farms (Northampton)
 Address West Farms Road
 Name Federal House
 Present use Residence
 Present owner John & Eva Omasta
 Description:
1790-1820-visual evidence
1820-plaque on house
 Source visual evidence; plaque
Federal

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect unknown
 Exterior wall fabric clapboards
 Outbuildings (describe) barns
 Other features 2 stories; original house(5 bays) plus 2 bay addition; entrance with sidelights
 Altered no Date _____
 Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:
 One acre or less _____ Over one acre x
 Approximate frontage 960 feet
 Approximate distance of building from street 30 feet

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant _____
 MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by C. Dubie
 Organization Northampton Historical Commission
 Date September 1, 1975

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(over)

7. Original owner (if known) unknown (not researched)

Original use residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates residence

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

- | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| Aboriginal | <u> </u> | Conservation | <u> </u> | Recreation | <u> </u> |
| Agricultural | <u> </u> | Education | <u> </u> | Religion | <u> </u> |
| Architectural | <u> x </u> | Exploration/
settlement | <u> </u> | Science/
invention | <u> </u> |
| The Arts | <u> </u> | Industry | <u> </u> | Social/
humanitarian | <u> </u> |
| Commerce | <u> </u> | Military | <u> </u> | Transportation | <u> </u> |
| Communication | <u> </u> | Political | <u> </u> | | |
| Community development | <u> x </u> | | | | |

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This residence on West Farms Road dates from the late 18th or early nineteenth century and indicates the more modest detailing and character of the rural residence. The structure has ridge roof and plain, flat facade broken by five evenly spaced bays. At the south an addition two bays wide disturbs the originally intended symmetry without interrupting the rhythm of the bays. The entranceway with sidelights and transom is the distinguishing feature of the dwelling and the characteristic which allies the structure with the Federal period.

West Farms is a village southwest of Northampton center. Religion, Methodism in particular, played an important role in the growth and community life of the hamlet until the mid-twentieth century when widespread use of automobiles allowed its residents greater access to the city of Northampton. West Farms center now consists of a chapel and brick schoolhouse, several frame dwellings dating from the early nineteenth century, and a neighborhood grocery. Other inventory items include the chapel and school, a Greek Revival residence and late colonial style dwelling.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)