

FORM B - BUILDING

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| Area | Form no. |
| | 34 |

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



swich _____

5 Woods Lane _____

Name Wade House

Original residence

Present residence

Property: Private individual
 Private organization _____

Public _____

Original owner Francis Merrifield, Jr.
 Present owner: Francis Wade

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1792

Source Waters I

Style Third Period (Federal)

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings garage, shed

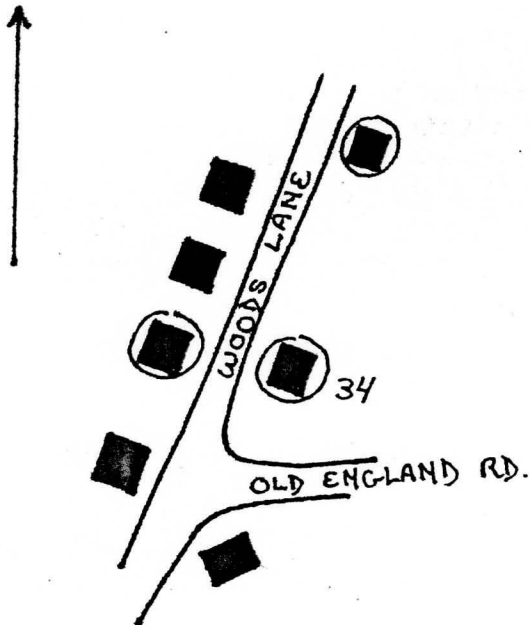
Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage less than one acre

Setting residential/wooded

location in relation to nearest
 cross streets and other buildings
 or geographical features.
Indicate north.



Recorded by Margaret Welden

Organization Ipswich Historical Commission

Date 1978

Assessor's lot # 65-K

UTM Reference: 19/349930/4726300

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The Wade House is a 1½ story gambrel cottage with a center chimney. Its symmetrical five bay facade is centered around the entry which is headed by a rectangular transom. A small ell is attached to the rear elevation and a shed to the north elevation.

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

The Wade House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship and significant associations with the early development of Ipswich.

Francis Merrifield, Jr. bought this corner lot from his father in 1792 (155:108), and built the gambrel cottage which stands on the bank above the road. Mary Wade, Jr., daughter of Col. Nathaniel Wade of Revolutionary War fame, bought the property in 1827 (251:83). The house has remained in the Wade family since that time.

The front of the house retains the original two rooms over 2 rooms floorplan. At the rear is a small ell (with a cooking fireplace) that was added in two stages to enlarge the original house. Considerable original detail survives, including the central stair with a simple but handsome balustrade, a panelled fireplace wall in the south room of the main floor, and panelled doors with painted graining in several rooms. Several fragments of an early wallpaper are preserved in the house, and the main south room is papered with a reproduction based on fragments.

The long history of ownership by one notable Ipswich family, the quantity and quality of original detailing, the picturesque setting, and the scarcity of gambrel cottages in Ipswich all combine to make the Wade House a significant Ipswich site.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

T.F. Waters, Ipswich in the Mass. Bay Colony, vol. I, p. 486.