

NR 3/5/80

R. Greendale

FORM B - BUILDING

MRA IND

In Area no. CR	Form no. 440 139
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston



Town Worcester

Address 246 Burncoat Street

Name Amos Flagg House

Present use residence

Present owner Richard & Anne Roche

Description:

Date 18th century (ca.1748?)

Source exterior architecture, deeds

Style timber-frame vernacular

Architect probably none

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) none

Other features asymmetrical facade,

central chimney, 12 over 12 sash,

transom over entry

none
Altered apparent Date _____

Moved no Date _____

Assessors' Book 12, p.430
5. Lot size: Lot 22 8,450 sq.ft.

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 60'

Approximate distance of building from street

35'

6. Recorded by L. Carruth
ed. B.R. Pfeiffer

Organization Worc. Heritage Pres. Soc

Date January 1978

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

UTM:

19|270020|4687000

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Amos Flagg (first known)

Original use residence (farmhouse)

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ humanitarian	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>				

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

Located north of the center of Worcester, in an area which was rural until World War I, the Amos Flagg House is one of the city's few well-preserved timber-frame houses. The house consists of a one-storey front section which rises from a rubble foundation to a pitched roof, and a one-storey rear ell. The house's front section has a central chimney, asymmetrical facade (one door and three windows), 12/12 and 8/12 sash, and a sunken four-panel front door (ca.1790-1820) surmounted by a four-pane transom. The house appears unaltered after ca.1820.

Of apparent eighteenth-century origin, the Amos Flagg House has an unclear history and is not noted on Caleb Wall's "Map of Worcester's Earliest Settlers" published in 1877. During most of the nineteenth century the house belonged to Jonathan White, a farmer. White is thought to have come to Worcester in 1801 and worked on the farm of Joel Gleason, later on the farm of Amos Flagg, who had married Betsey Gleason, daughter of Joel Gleason. After Flagg's death in 1825, White married Flagg's widow and took title to the property. Until 1914 the house and farm remained in the possession of White's heirs. After 1914 the surrounding area was subdivided into house lots and the Amos Flagg House was sold to Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Nelson, who retained ownership into the 1970s.

It seems most likely that the house was constructed for Alan (Allen) Flagg on a fifty-acre parcel which Flagg sold (or perhaps mortgaged) to Jonas Gale of Waltham in 1748. During the eighteenth century the property (with alterations in its boundaries) changed hands several times

(cont.)

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

City maps and directories

Carruth, L. ~~Historical~~ research prepared for and on file at the Worcester Heritage Preservation Society.

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Worcester	Form No: 44-C
Property Name: Amos Flagg House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

9.
 within the Gleason and Flagg families. Owned briefly by Silas and Amos Flagg jointly in 1807, the house was not owned solely by Amos Flagg until 1816, the year of his marriage. Although the Flagg House is among the best preserved "Cape Cod" style houses in Worcester, it has been largely unnoticed by the traditional sources of historical information.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom