

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

34-096	Sandwich	N	SDW.46
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Photograph



Town/City: Sandwich

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): East Sandwich, Old County Road Area

Address: 20 Old County Road

Historic Name: Stephen Wing House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: 1728

Source: similarity to others (SDW.42, 56, 82)

Style/Form: Half Cape

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: fieldstone and cement

Wall/Trim: shingles

Roof: bow

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .5

Setting: Old County Road follows the original route of the Old King's Highway which here followed native American trails meandering along the southern edge of Scorton Marsh. The Cape Cod Railway was extended through this area in 1854. Several important, well-preserved 17th, 18th, and 19th century houses remain, with a concentration around the former Nye mill site. Elsewhere, scattered historic houses, some fields, and one large cranberry bog help to convey the area's agricultural origins. Construction of the Route 6A bypass in the mid-19th century drained development from Old County Road and helped to preserve its early historic character. It was designated as a Scenic Road in 1973.

Locus Map

Insert here or on a Continuation Sheet a map clearly showing the location of the property including the name of the nearest road or street and at least one other intersecting road or feature.

Assessor's maps are preferred, but other forms of detailed plans such as an excerpt from a USGS topographic map or an aerial or satellite photo clearly marked are also acceptable. See MHC's Guidelines for Inventory Form Locational Information.

Recorded by: Don Bayley

Organization: Sandwich Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): Jan / 2012

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This is an unusual three bay deep half-Cape with its main entry contained in a small wing. Unlike the other early houses, its form results from subtraction rather than addition. In 1854 it was moved to its present location at the front of its lot to make way for the Cape Cod Branch Railroad. It is sheathed with shingles and a clapboard facade, sits on a low stone foundation, and is enclosed by the only bow roof on a half-Cape in East Sandwich. Recent research has shown that the 1/4 Cape at the corner of Route 6A and Quaker Meeting House Road in Spring Hill (SDW.66) originated as part of this house.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This was the home of Stephen Wing "of the Cedar Swamp*" (1700 - 1765) He most-likely started living here upon his marriage to Ann Hoxie in 1728. Stephen was the grand-son of Stephen Wing (1620 -1710) who established the Wing Fort House in Spring Hill. The Wings were Quakers who were often harassed by the Plymouth colony leaders and thus settled in the East Sandwich/Spring Hill area, away from the center of town.

This house is part of a fascinating architectural question. It was originally built further back on its lot. It was moved to its present location in 1854 when the railroad was put through to Barnstable & Yarmouth. In 1857 it was a Freeman house, and in an early 1870's photograph appears exactly as it does today with the front door in an awkward extension in the left front corner, having a straight roof in jarring contrast with the graceful curve of the main roof. It is the only bow-roofed half Cape in East Sandwich, and inevitably has been associated with the only bow-roofed quarter house in East Sandwich, now located about a mile away at 430 Quaker Meetinghouse (SDW.66). It is generally believed by old timers that these houses were built as one ¾ house, which was divided when the railroad forced a removal. The shorter side is about 12' wide, and the wider side 18'. These are about the same dimensions as found in other bow-roofed ¾ Capes and in the much older house at 247 Old County Rd (SDW.37). The ¾ cape at 10 Spring Hill Rd (SDW.56) has the narrow 8' section on one side.

When the separate parts were rebuilt as residences in 1854 the chimneys were relocated as well as the front doors. The depth of the two at the foundations agree, but we have not attempted more thorough measurements. Because of its unconventional facade, this old Cape remains frequently unrecognized, while its former portion (SDW.66) has attained fame as a unique quarter Cape.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Cross, Timothy A., Sandwich Historical Commission, Massachusetts Historical Commission Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS) Form B, 4/7/1972

FINAL REPORT FOR THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL TESTING AT THE WING FORT HOUSE, IN SANDWICH, MASSACHUSETTS
Prepared for Wing Family of America By Craig S. Chartier, Plymouth Archaeological Rediscovery Project, March 2011

Lovell, Russell. Sandwich. *A Cape Cod Town*. Town of Sandwich Archives and Historical Center. William S. Sullwold Publishing, Inc. Taunton, Mass. 1984.

Massachusetts Historical Commission Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS)
SDW.N: Route 6A East - Scorton Marsh
SDW.R: Old King's Highway Regional Historic District

Town of Sandwich Archives and Historical Center. Wing Family Records; Historic Asset Files

Wing Family of America website <http://www.wingfamily.org>

*Wing, Raymond T. Historic Wing Sites in Sandwich website <http://www.communitywalk.com/map/index/27748>