

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

67-050	Sandwich		SDW.70
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Town/City: Sandwich

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Spring Hill

Photograph



Address: 246 Rte 6A

Historic Name: Hamblin, Thomas House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: 1797

Sources: Nye family records; Mass. Marriages, 1633-1850

Style/Form: Federal (altered)

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: granite

Wall/Trim: shingles

Roof: ridge

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: garage, barn, spring house (built over stream)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

2-story ell added (early 1800s)

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 1.76

Setting: Spring Hill is an upland area on Sandwich's north side, located between the Shawme and Scorton Marshes. The recorded area includes the arc of Spring Hill Road and the portion of Route 6A embraced by it, extending from Quaker Meetinghouse Road (E) to Great Island Road (W). This early-settlement area, includes approximately 46 historic (pre-1930) buildings, and 67 non-historic buildings, along with several important agricultural landscapes that play a major role in defining its special historic character.

Locus Map



Recorded by: D. Bayley, B. Daley

Organization: Sandwich Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): Nov / 2011

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.

The house has had an extended history of major reconstruction, as documented by a collection of snapshots assembled and passed on to successive owners. The oldest portion of the house facing east became a salt box and the roof line of the salt box still remains. Inside, the original chimney and fireplace are gone and new room arrangements have been made. The entrance is on the east side with a fan ornament over the door (not original). There is a large 2-story ell along one side (added in the early 1800s), the door has been moved to the left edge of the house, and a picture window installed in the center. The grounds are extensive and beautifully maintained, but the house is so crowded by trees and bushes that it is difficult to capture the facade and roof line in one photograph. A newer glassed-in "plant room," which is temperature-controlled, was added on to the house in the 1970s and at one time contained an extensive orchid collection. The paneling in the barn came from the Keith Car Works.

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.

According to the Nye family records, the first recorded owner of the land here was Shubel Smith (1653-1734) in 1678. Smith "lived near the mouth of Gully Lane." The Nye's owned the land by 1790. The house was built by Peleg Nye II (1743-1825) for his daughter, Sylvia Nye (1774-1856), upon her marriage to Thomas Hamblin (1775-1855) on 28 Sep 1797. Mr Nye lived nearby (see SDW.71). The house passed to their son, William Hamblin (1818-1874) on 20 May 1853 as shown in Barnstable Register of Deeds: book 49/page 345. It was shown as a Hamblin house on the maps of 1857 and 1880. In 1903 it was owned by Ida Hamblin, the great granddaughter of Peleg Nye II. She was the last family member to own the home. After Ida's death it passed through several hands, including Eugene Perrote in 1907, the Toolas family in 1913 and in 1946, Robert Swain who was from an old Nantucket family.

Swain ran a dairy business here known as "Spring Hill Farm" with 15 cows producing 72 quarts of milk per day. A special "spring house" was constructed with a stream running through to keep the milk chilled. When the federal government initiated pasteurization requirements, Swain sold the business in the 1950s to a competitor (Robert Dairy) and converted the property back to a single family residence.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1850 United States Federal Census [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2009.

Coastal Life, Volume 5, Issue 5

Cross, Timothy A., Sandwich Historical Commission, Massachusetts Historical Commission Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS) Form B, 3/28/1972

Decoy Realty, Real Estate Listing, 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.L: Spring Hill

SDW.R: Old King's Highway Regional Historic District

SDW.Y: Spring Hill Historic District

Massachusetts Marriages, 1633-1850 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005.

Register of Deeds (ROD), Barnstable County, Massachusetts, Book 49, page 345

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