

Pl. 8
USGS SOUTH
SHEET A

107

In Area no. <u>(F)</u> 11	Form no. <u>108</u>
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MISSION
Boston



NOV 78

1. Town Sturbridge 56

Address Fiske Hill Road (formerly: Fiske-Matys)

Name Matys residence 1. Price
1961 RR 2. Egan

Present use residence

Present owner William E. Matys, Jr.

3. Description:

Date In part, early 1800's or possibly earlier.

Source Tradition

Style Modern

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features _____

Altered Yes, extensively Date 1920's or 30's
in 1938

Moved Yes, back from Date at least 40
road yrs ago

5. Lot size:

One acre or less 1 acre Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 150 ft.

Approximate distance of building from street

75 ft. or more

6. Recorded by Agnes S. Wilkin

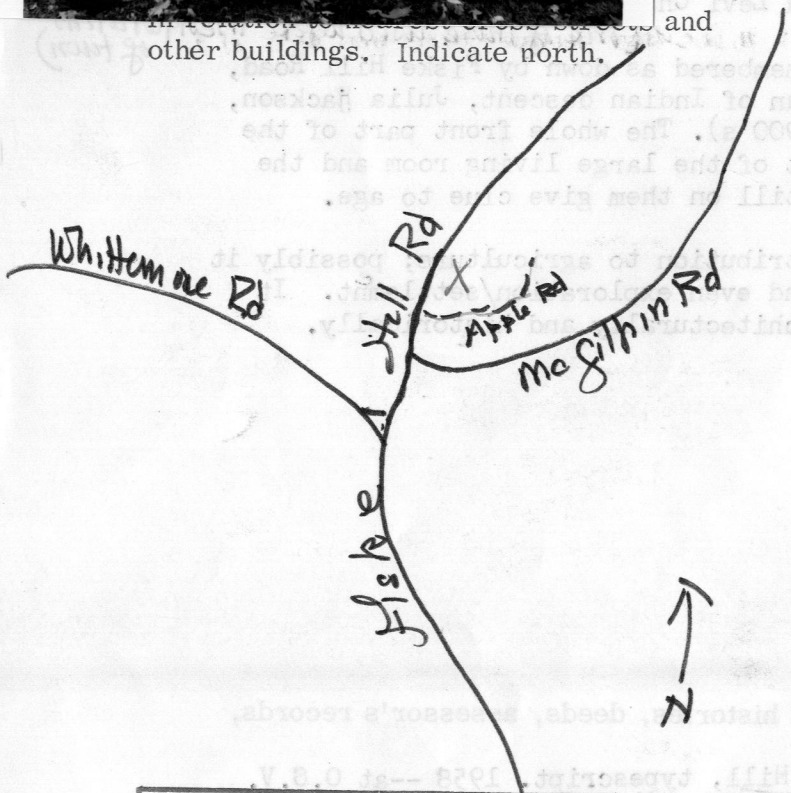
Organization Sturbridge Historical Com.

Date Nov. 23, 1973

RECEIVED

JUN 7 1974

and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant: _____

MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

Form No.	In Area No.
107	87

FORM B - BUILDING
 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

7. Original owner (if known) _____

Original use ^{of old part} farmhouse _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

This was another Fiske farm. Levins Fiske is shown there on map of 1857. The two people who know most about the hill (John Burnham and Richard McGilpin) believe the house -- or, rather, some part of it -- to be the oldest. If so, it was built before that part of Fiske Hill Road existed; but there were many trails and cart-tracks in the area, and Levi Chase says Woodstock - Brookfield Rd. went by Levins Fiske's house.

The original structure is well remembered as down by Fiske Hill Road, and there are many stories about a woman of Indian descent, Julia Jackson, who lived her last days there (early 1900's). The whole front part of the present house is modern; only rear part of the large living room and the kitchen supported by beams with bark still on them give clue to age.

(one of those used before incorporation of town)

This house may well have made contribution to agriculture; possibly it had to do with community development and even exploration/settlement. It really is cited here as a curiosity architecturally and historically.

Southbridge

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

Elvin, Joseph, Brooks Family of Fiske Hill, typescript. 1958 -- at O.S.V.
 Chase, Nellie, ~~Worcester~~ Press, May 5, 1938, "More Fiske Hill History."
 Davis, George, An Historical Sketch of Sturbridge and Southbridge, 1956, on the Fiskes.
 Hurd, compiler, History of Worcester County, 1889. Vol. I, Ch. XVI, "Sturbridge," by Levi B. Chase. p. 105
 County maps: 1857 (L. Fiske); 1870 (L. Fiske), 1898 (J. Jackson)
 Reproduction of Ms map, 1795, at O.S.V.
 MS map, possession of John Burnham -- shows Capt Henry Fiske Rd -- i.e. 1831 an extension of F. Hill Rd. to n.
 Visits with John Burnham, Richard McGilpin, Mrs. Maty -- Sept-Oct, 1973