

William Pomeroy House
West side of Main Street, just
south of center
Northfield
Franklin County
Massachusetts

HABS No. MASS-654

HABS
MASS
6-NORTH
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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Eastern Office, Division of Design and Construction
143 South Third Street
Philadelphia 6, Pennsylvania

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

WILLIAM POMEROY HOUSE

Location: Northfield, Franklin County, Massachusetts.
(West side of Main Street, just south of center).

Present Owner: Horace F. Field, Jr.

Present Occupant: Horace F. Field, Jr.

Present Use: Residence.

Brief Statement of Significance: A representative house of the 1820's.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Original and subsequent owners: Thought to have been built for William Pomeroy. Purchased in 1839 by Phineas Wright. (Notes obtained in interview with Miss Elsie S. Scott, Northfield, Mass., August 1959.)
2. Date of Erection: About 1820.
3. Builder, suppliers, etc.: Calvin Stearns, builder-architect. (Note: Calvin Stearns and his son, George, were active builder-architects who did a great deal of work in and around Northfield, during the first half of the 19th century.)
4. Original plans, construction, etc.: None known to be in existence.

- B. Sources of Information: Interview with Miss Elsie S. Scott, Northfield, Mass., August 1959.

Prepared by Harley J. McKee, Architect
National Park Service - August 24, 1960

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: A relatively unpretentious temple-type house, with details showing the transition from Adam to Greek influence. Free-standing "spiral" stairway. Two-story, rectangular house with rear wing.
2. Condition of Fabric: Good.

B. Technical Description of Exterior

1. Foundations: Granite.
2. Wall construction: Wood frame, clapboards.
3. Porches, stoops, bulkheads, etc.: Two-story portico on front, with four slender columns, unfluted, of uniform diameter. Capitals somewhat like Greek Doric; bases resemble Tuscan, resting on square granite plinth. Granite floor. Two one-story porches, one on north side and one on south side; railings have balustrades with slender turned balusters.
4. Chimneys: Brick. One near center of main section, one in two-story wing.
5. Openings
 - a. Doorways and doors: Main entrance has simple pilasters, cornice, elliptical fan with slats, side lights. Door and side lights appear to be replacements of late 19th century.
 - b. Windows and shutters: Double-hung sash, 2/2 -- probably replacements. Louvred shutters. Simple window trim.
6. Roof
 - a. Shape, covering: Gable roofs.
 - b. Cornice, eaves: Front gable treated as pediment, faces street; horizontal elliptical fan in pediment. Delicate entablature, which carries around main section as the cornice.
 - c. Dormers, cupolas: none.

C. Technical Description of Interior

1. Floor plans: Entrance and stair hall at corner.

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2. Stairways: Free-standing "spiral" type, with simple rail and turned spindles.
3. Wall and ceiling finish: Plastered.

D. Site

1. Orientation and general setting: House faces toward east, to street.
2. Outbuildings: Barn at rear, connecting with rear wing of house.
3. Landscaping, gardens, etc.: Simple, informal.

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