

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SWN.155
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Kingsley, Benjamin House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	121 Old Fall River Rd
<b>City/Town:</b>	Swansea
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	68;
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1838
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Greek Revival;
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House;
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture;
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials:</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Wall: Wood Shingle;
<b>Demolished</b>	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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USGS - Somerset

AREA

FORM NO.

155

Town SWANSEA

Address 121 Old Fall River Road

Historic Name The Benjamin Kingsley Road

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

# DESCRIPTION

Date 1838

Source Fall River Registry of Deeds

Style Greek Revival Cottage

Architect Unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric Wood Shingle was

originally clapboard

Outbuildings Modern garage

Major Alterations (with dates) Ell and

porch - date unknown

Condition

Moved No Date

Acreage Over one acre

Setting The house now sits comfortably

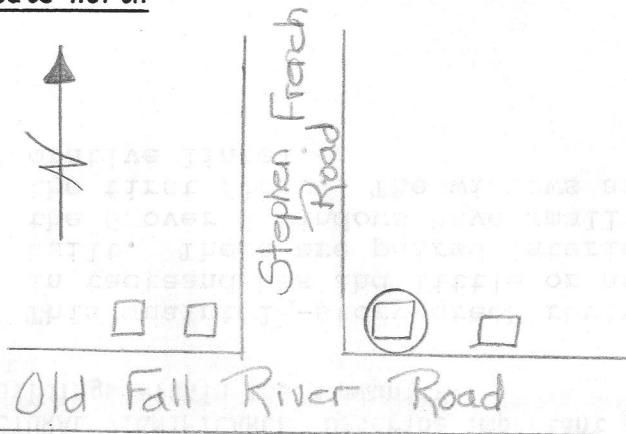
off the major road, since RT.6 has re-  
placed the Old Fall River road as the  
major throughfare from Swansea to Fall  
River. Across the street is the farm  
land which once was part of the land  
the house sits upon as well.

Recorded by Kim Valente/V. Frost '79

Organization Swansea Historical  
Commission

Date April, 1986

intersection(s).  
Indicate north



UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE

**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)****ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

This quaint 1½-story greek revival cottage has all its original fabric in tact and has had little or no change to it in over 140 years since built. There are paired interior chimnies, which are in finished brick; the 6 over 6 windows have small mirrors as do the shed dormer windows above the first floor. The windows are simple with a plane sill, and no decorative lintel.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

Since 1838 the Benjamin Kingsley, later Benjamin Rounds house, has changed ownership only four times in 141 years. Apparently its occupants appreciated and truly cared for this 19th century 1½-story cottage. In early years, a dairy business and farming was carried on here. During the late 70's a former selectman of the town, and who also works at Southeastern Massachusetts University, resides here with his family.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Town Maps  
Town Reports  
Fall River Registry of Deeds  
Mrs. James Murphy

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

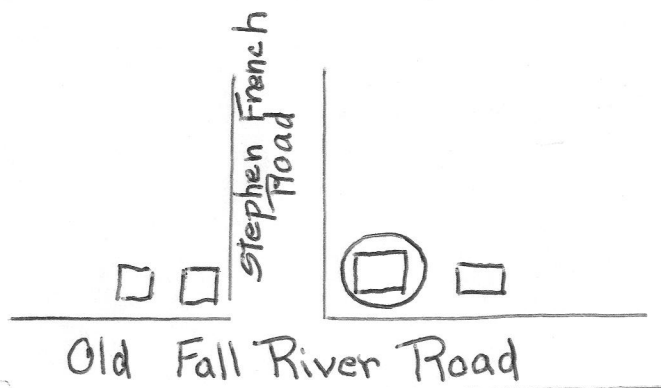
In Area no.

Form no.

68155



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



1. Town Swansea, Mass.

Address 121 Old Fall River Road

Name The Benjamin Kingsley House

Present use Residence

Present owner James C. Murphy et al.

3. Description:

Date 1838

Source F.R. Registry, Bk.33, p.142.

Style 2 Story cape with dormer and 2 chimneys

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Wood shingle, was originally clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) Modern garage

Other features Believe to have original front door with bullseye glass in transom above.

Altered El & Porch Date Unknown

Moved No Date

5. Lot size:

One acre or less  Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 475 feet

Approximate distance of building from street 30 feet

6. Recorded by Virginia W. Frost

Organization Swansea Historical Soc.

Date June 20, 1979

RECEIVED  
OCT 17 1979  
MASS. HIST. COMM.

(over)



7. Original owner (if known) Benjamin Kingsley

Original use Farmhouse

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Residence

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input 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)

Since 1838 the Benjamin Kingsley, later Benjamin Rounds house, has changed ownership only four times in 141 years. Apparently its occupants appreciated and truly cared for this 19th century two story cape. In early years a dairy business and farming was carried on here. Today, a former selectman who works at Southeastern Massachusetts University, resides here with his family.

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

Town maps  
Town Reports  
Fall River Registry of Deeds  
Mrs. James Murphy