

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SWN.15
Historic Name:	Wood, Alpheus House
Common Name:	
Address:	973 Wood St
City/Town:	Swansea
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	66;
Year Constructed:	C 1879
Architectural Style(s):	Gothic Revival;
Use(s):	Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House;
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture;
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials:	Wall: Wood Clapboard; Foundation: Brick;
Demolished	No



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

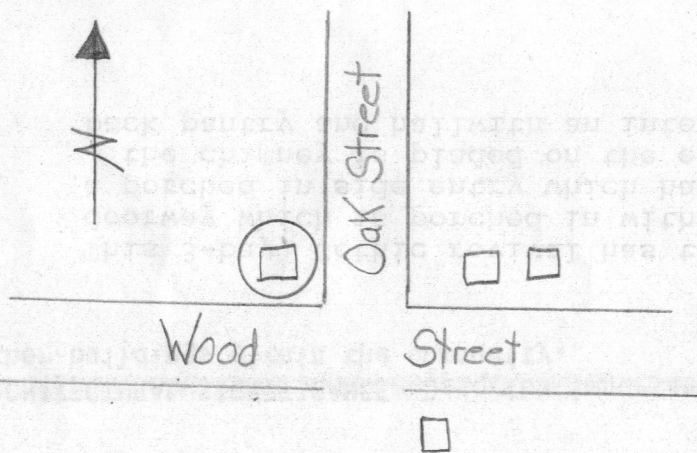
Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Monday, June 27, 2022 at 8:06 PM



between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north



UTM REFERENCE _____
USGS QUADRANGLE _____
SCALE _____

PL -
USGS - SOMERSET

AREA _____ FORM NO. 15

Town SWANSEA

Address 973 Wood Street

Historic Name Alpheus Wood House

Use: Present Farmhouse

Original Farmhouse

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1879

Source Owners records

Style Gothic Revival

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric Wooden clapboard

Outbuildings Corn crib, 1908 stone hen-house, saw mill, barn, sheds

Major Alterations (with dates) Bow window, Enclosed porch and chimney 1973

Condition _____

Moved No Date _____

Acreage Over one acre

Setting This house sits on the corner of a major state road, with a modern, suburban shopping mall 3/4 of a mile west of it.

Recorded by Kim Valente/H. Pierce *79 V. Frost

Organization Swansea Historical Commission

Date March, 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

This 3-bay, Gothic revival has two bay windows flanking the central doorway which is porched in with fluted - squared posts. There is also a porched in side entry which has turned posts. The foundation is brick, the chimney is placed on the exterior of the house. There is an added back pantry and hall with an interior chimney as well.

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

Alpheus Wood built this house for his bride before they were married in 1880. He was of the ancient Wood family who came first to Plymouth, then Little Compton and finally settled in Swansea about 1690. Mr. Wood owned and trained fine oxen for use on the farm. Alpheus Wood's farm was part of their vast holdings over most of the length of Wood Street. The Wood family was also very active in town politics.

Alpheus Woods son, Henry, lived in the house as well, but chose to work in Providence, R.I. At his death, he left the house to the present occupants. Except for a few minor changes, the present owners, the Souza's have completed extensive repairs to the house and aim to keep all buildings in their original state.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Town Maps
Town Reports
Documents owned by the Souza family

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.

Form no.

66 15



1. Town Swansea

Address 973 Wood Street

Name Alpheus Wood House

Present use Farm

Present owner John Souza Jr. & Rose

3. Description:

Date c. 1879

Source Owners Records

Style Late Victorian, story & 1/2

Architect Unknown

Exterior wall fabric Wooden Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) Corn crib, 1908 stone henhouse, saw mill, barn, sheds
Other features 2 porches, 2 sets of

bay windows on front of house.

Altered Bow window, enclosed porch and chimney Date 1973

Moved No Date

5. Lot size:

One acre or less Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 440 feet

Approximate distance of building from street

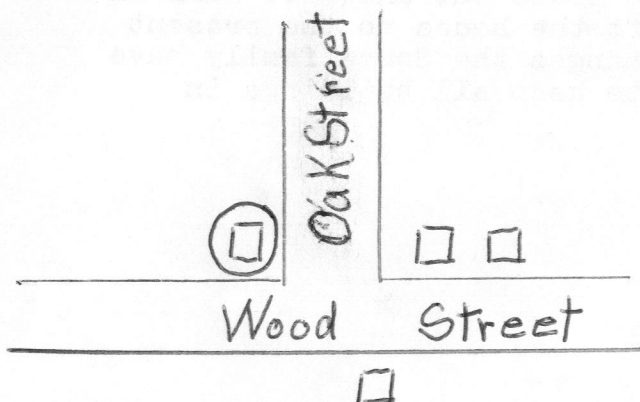
40 feet

6. Recorded by Helen Pierce Virginia Frost

Organization Swansea Historical Soc.

Date Sept. 21, 1979

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



RECEIVED

OCT 17 1979

MASS. HIST. COMM.

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Alpheus Wood

Original use Farmhouse

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Alpheus Wood built this house for his bride before they were married in 1880. He was of the ancient Wood family who came first to Plymouth, then Little Compton and finally settled in Swansea about 1690. Alpheus Wood's farm was part of their vast holdings over most of the length of Wood Street. This family was always active in town politics. Mr. Wood owned and trained fine oxen for use on the farm.

His son Henry lived in the house but chose to work in Providence, R.I. At his death he left the house to the present occupants. Except for a few minor changes the Souza family have completed extensive repair and aim to keep all buildings in their original state.

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

Town Maps
Town Reports
Documents owned by the Souza family