

WEST NEWBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
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Bailey's Lane

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# FORM B – BUILDING

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

Assessor's Number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

R13-73

Newburyport  
West

WNB.260

**Town/City:** West Newbury

**Place:**

**Address:** 11 Baileys Lane

**Historic Name:** George B. and Eliza T. Gordon House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1845

**Source:** Deed

**Style/Form:** Greek Revival / Italianate

**Architect/Builder:** Not determined

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Granite Block and Brick

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** Stone well (early 20<sup>th</sup> C)

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): Right side and rear additions (mid-late 20<sup>th</sup> C)

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no ☐ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 3.04 acres

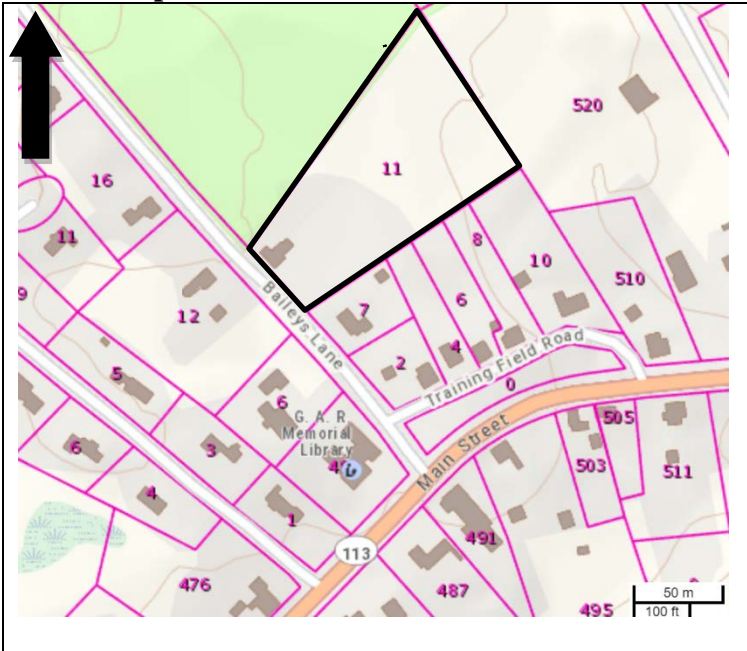
**Setting:** Located in a semi-rural residential neighborhood, surrounded by open fields. Nearby development is a heterogeneous mix of styles, forms, and construction eras.

## Photograph



View looking north.

## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Stacy Spies and Wendy Frontiero

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2020

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

11 BAILEYS LANE

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.260

☐ 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.*

11 Baileys Lane is located on the east side of the street, at the northwest corner of a large, trapezoidal parcel, with a moderate front setback. The house stands on a slight berm, with shrubs and foundation plantings in front of the house. The parcel is generally flat and is maintained chiefly in lawn. Mature street trees are scattered throughout the site. A gravel driveway is located to the left (north) of the house. Standing near the northern property line is a large, circular well that is constructed of fieldstone with a pair of substantial fieldstone piers supporting a metal hoisting mechanism. (A similar well is located at 11 Church Street; see WNB.270.) The building consists of a 2 ½ story main block with an original or early 2 or 2-½ story rear ell and smaller side and rear additions.

The main block of the building rises 2 ½ stories from a low, granite block foundation to a side gable roof with pronounced gable returns. One brick chimney is located near the ridge line of the 2 ½ story rear ell. Walls are sheathed with wood clapboards and trimmed with wide flat corner boards and flat fascia boards with narrow bed molding. Windows typically contain 6/6 double-hung sash with flat casings. The façade windows are trimmed with a narrow cap molding, and the segmentally-arched window in the half-story on the right (south) side of the main block is trimmed with a bold drip molding.

The five-bay center entrance plan features a prominent front entry with a single-leaf (replacement) door, half-height sidelights, wide flat pilasters and fascia board, and a narrow molded cornice that projects deeply over the front and sides of the entry. A granite block step accesses this entrance.

The two-bay right side (south) elevation of the main block extends to a 2 or 2-½ story gabled rear ell that is flush with the main block. A one-story addition (possibly an enclosed porch) with a hip roof extends across the entire first floor of the main block and half of the right side (south) elevation of the ell. The street-facing wall of this addition contains a single-leaf door; 4 banded casement windows illuminate its right (south) side, along with a pair of small modern casement windows towards the rear of the addition. The right side of the two-story ell has regularly spaced single windows on the second floor, and a modern, angled bay window towards the back of the first floor. A one-story addition with a shallow pitched roof and banded windows on the sides is visible at the rear of the ell. The symmetrical left (north) elevation of the main block has no windows on the first floor, two on the second floor, and one in the half-story.

Well preserved and well maintained, the house is a handsome example of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century residential development in outlying areas of West Newbury. Modestly ambitious, the house is notable for its conservative center entrance plan, relatively large size and L-shaped form, simple but boldly detailed main entrance and segmentally-arched attic window, and modest cap moldings on the façade windows.

**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.*

George Bartlett Gordon (1815-1892)<sup>1</sup> married Eliza T. Robinson Colley (1804-1868)<sup>2</sup> in 1841. Four years later, George B. Gordon purchased a 3.5-acre lot at this location from his parents.<sup>3</sup> The house was likely constructed between 1845 and 1851.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/109570082>, Accessed Nov. 11, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/109570158/eliza-t\\_-gordon](https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/109570158/eliza-t_-gordon), Accessed Nov. 11, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Essex South Deed Book 356, p. 77.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

11 BAILEYS LANE

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(The 1851 West Newbury tax roll notes that George B. Gordon owned one house, one barn, and 3.5 acres of land.)<sup>4</sup> After Eliza's death, George B. Gordon married again in 1870 to Abby Drake. George B. Gordon worked as a horse car driver, an expressman, and as a farmer. Gordon acquired additional land over the years and by 1870, owned 34 acres of improved land.<sup>5</sup>

In 1889, Abby's son, Eugene H. Drake (1866-1943) married Ida M. Merrill (ca. 1865-1934) and the couple lived with his mother and step-father. Like his step-father, Eugene worked as an expressman and as a teamster. At the time of the 1900 census, Eugene and Ida lived here with their three daughters and his mother, Abbie Drake Gordon. As an adult, their daughter, Ora Drake, worked as a bookkeeper for a shoe factory. In 1942, Eugene H. Drake sold the house and 3-acre property to his daughter, Mildred Drake Winchester, who had been living with her father for several years.<sup>6</sup>

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

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- West Newbury Tax Assessor records.

<sup>4</sup> Town of West Newbury. "An Invoice and valuation of the rateable polls and estates, within the town of West Newbury, taken... 1851...and 1852." West Newbury: Indian Hill Press. 1852. Library of Congress. P. 9. <https://archive.org/details/invoicevaluation00west.org>. Accessed Nov. 11, 2019.

<sup>5</sup> U.S. Federal Census. Agricultural Schedule. 1870.

<sup>6</sup> Essex South Deed Book 3321, p. 141.



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220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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

R13-68

Newburyport  
West

WNB.261

**Town/City:** West Newbury

**Place:**

**Address:** 16 Baileys Lane

**Historic Name:** John and Lizzie Follansbee House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1874

**Source:** Deed

**Style/Form:** No style

**Architect/Builder:** Not determined

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Brick

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** None visible

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): Side and rear additions, door hood at main entrance, replacement sash (late 20<sup>th</sup>-early 21<sup>st</sup> C)

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no ☐ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** .956 acres

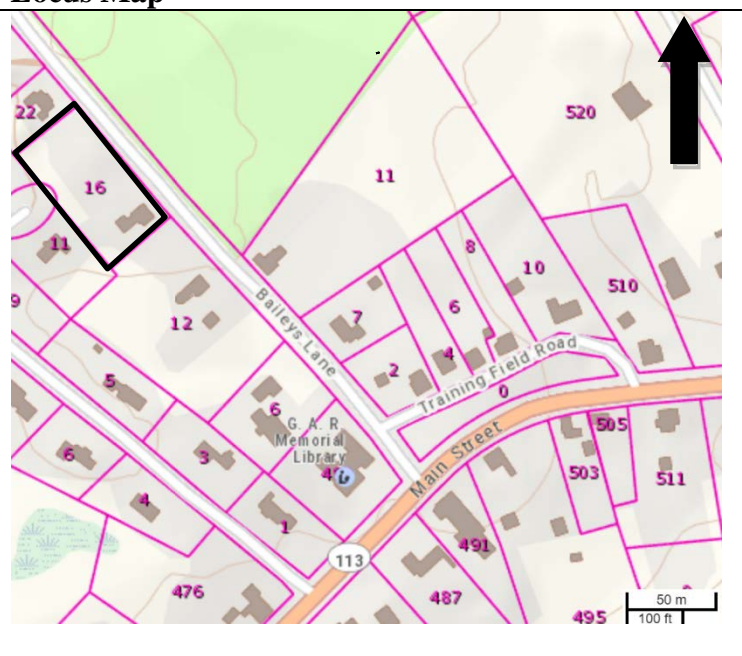
**Setting:** Located in a semi-rural residential neighborhood. Nearby development is a heterogeneous mix of styles, forms, and ages.

## Photograph



View looking south.

## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Stacy Spies and Wendy Frontiero

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2020

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

16 BAILEYS LANE

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.261

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*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.*

16 Baileys Lane is located on the west side of the street, roughly centered between the side lot lines of its long, nearly rectangular parcel (almost two acres), with a moderate front setback. A picket fence extends north from the face of the main block. The parcel is generally flat and maintained chiefly in lawn. The main block of the house stands on a very low berm, accented by small foundation plantings and shrubs. A row of mature street trees lines the front edge of the parcel. The building consists of a 1 ½ story original block, a narrow side addition, and a small connector to a large rear addition.

The main block rises 1-½ stories from a low brick foundation to a front gable roof with slender gable returns. A narrow brick chimney rises from the south slope of the main roof. Walls are sheathed with wood clapboards and trimmed with flat corner boards and flat fascia boards with narrow bed molding. Windows typically contain 6/6 double-hung replacement sash with flat casings.

The side hall plan features a three-bay façade. The offset entrance contains a single-leaf door with flat casing and a small pedimented hood supported on carved brackets.

The left (south) elevation has a one-story, shed-roofed addition along its entire length. One bay deep, it has a single 6/6 window on the facade (east elevation), two polygonal windows centered on its long side (south) elevation, and a large chimney rising up its rear wall. A low, shed-roofed dormer is situated toward the rear on the main block. The asymmetrical right (north) elevation has a typical 6/6 window near the center of the wall and a small 6/6 window towards the rear. A one-story connector with French doors attaches the main block and a large, one-story gabled addition at the rear of the building. This addition is distinguished by a symmetrical pair of tall, 21-light sash with quarter-circle transoms on the right (north) gable end.

Well maintained, the house is a modest example of vernacular mid-19<sup>th</sup> century development in West Newbury. It is notable for its small scale, modest detailing, and impressive street trees. Alterations to window sash, main entrance trim, and form compromise the historic character of the original cottage, but the side and rear additions are sensitively scaled.

**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.*

16 Bailey's Lane was likely constructed shortly after John A. Follansbee purchased this parcel of land in 1874.<sup>1</sup> John Abbott Follansbee (1838-1916)<sup>2</sup> married his second wife, Lizzie (Elizabeth) Parker (1852- ) in 1872 and lived here with his young son, Davis, from his first marriage. John Follansbee worked as a shoe cutter in a factory.

John and Charlotte Bradley purchased the house in 1917 from the Follansbee estate.<sup>3</sup> John Bradley worked as a farmer and poulterer. Cora M. Sharples and her husband, William, owned the house from 1921 to 1964.<sup>4</sup> William Sharples worked in a shoe factory and as a farm laborer.

<sup>1</sup> Essex South Deed Book 915, p. 257.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/58708738>, Accessed Nov. 11, 2019.

<sup>3</sup> Essex South Deed Book 2363, p. 147.

<sup>4</sup> Essex South Deed Book 2476, p. 152 and Book 5311, p. 656.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

16 BAILEYS LANE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Area(s) Form No.

WNB.261

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**SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES**

View looking west.