

WEST NEWBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION
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Main Street 000's Block

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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

R1-290

Haverhill

WNB.37

Town/City: West Newbury

Place:

Photograph



Facade (southeast) and side (northeast) elevations. View looking west.

Address: 66 Main Street

Historic Name: Carr House

Uses: Present: Multiple Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

Date of Construction: Ca. 1875

Source: Visual

Style/Form: No style

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Brick

Wall/Trim: Asbestos shingle / Wood trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: none

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Paired windows and bay windows (mid-19th C); Asbestos siding (mid-20th C); replacement of porch floor (L 20th C); Construction of 2-story stair to attic (L 20th C)

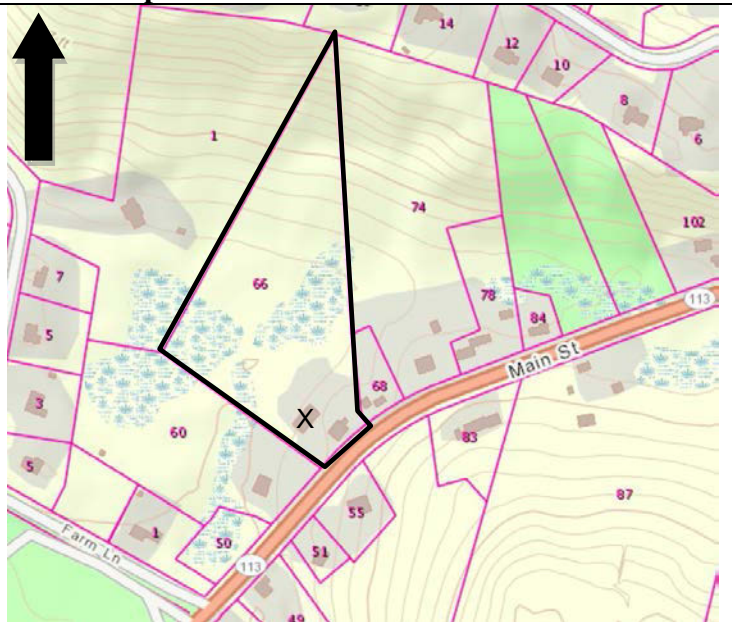
Condition: Poor

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 4.48 acres

Setting: Located along two-lane State Route 113, the property is surrounded by woodlands to the north and south. These wooded areas contain residences dating from the 18th-20th centuries.

Locus Map



X indicates that building is no longer extant.

Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: West Newbury Historical Commission

Date: June 2018

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

66 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.37

☐ 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.

66 Main Street is set very close to the street at the edge of Brake Hill where the topography rises dramatically to the south. The irregularly-shaped lot also slopes to the north to a shallow streambed. North of the stream, the topography slopes dramatically to the north and the heights above the Merrimack River. The area near the house and the north end of the lot are wooded. The remaining areas is meadows. A short, paved driveway is located at the northeast corner of the house.

Measuring 37 feet long and 32 feet deep, the three-by-two bay main block rises 2½ stories from a brick foundation to a side gabled roof with gable-end cornice returns. A pair of slender brick chimneys with corbelled tops are located at the gable ridge. The building is sheathed with asbestos shingles over narrow wood clapboards. The three-bay façade (southeast elevation) contains a pair of bay windows flanking the center entrance composed of a half-light paneled wood door. A shed-roof porch supported by turned wood posts extends from the roofs of the bay windows; the molded cornice wraps around the bay windows to the porch. The second floor contains two pairs of windows that flank a single window centered over the entrance. Windows throughout the building are typically 6/6 wood sash with exterior metal-track storm windows. A small, one-story, side-gabled ell is centered on the east elevation. The southeast elevation contains a door and paired 6/6 wood sash windows similar to those located elsewhere in the house.

The building was altered during the mid-20th century with the application of asbestos shingles. The two-story exterior staircase at the west elevation and the porch floor are constructed of pressure-treated lumber and were likely added during the late 20th century or early 21st century.

While 66 Main Street retains its 19th century volume and details, the application of asbestos shingles and the replacement of the porch floor have altered its appearance and diminished its architectural integrity.

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.

66 Main Street was likely constructed in the third quarter of the 19th century for a member of the Carr family. James Carr (1809-1879) purchased the property in 1851 and owned adjacent property.¹ James Carr was a comb manufacturer and farmer. Carr lived here with his wife, Ann (1812-1889), and their children, Enoch and Martha. Enoch Carr (1841-1891) married Nancy P. Marshall (1838-1918) in 1868 and the couple lived here with his parents, according to census data. Enoch Carr worked as a victualer and butcher.

George G. Carr (1869-1921), son of Enoch and Nancy Carr, married Anne F. Spalding (1870-) in 1887 and the couple lived at 66 Main Street. George G. Carr was a butcher and owned a slaughter house that was located behind the house. His son, George T. Carr worked as an assistant butcher to his father. George G. Carr remarried in 1920. Nellie E. Carr, George G. Carr's second wife, sold the property in 1936 to Maurice H. O'Conner, Junior, and his wife, Abbie.² O'Connor was a cattle dealer and used the property as a farm. O'Connor sold the property in 1955.³

¹ Essex Deed Book 453, p. 298.

² Essex Deed Book 3033, p. 81.

³ Essex Deed Book 4183, p. 516.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

66 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.37

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Anderson, Philander for Moses Pettingell. "Map of the Original Town of Newbury, now divided in Newbury, Newburyport, and West Newbury." 1830.
- Beers, D.G. & Co. *Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia: D.G. Beers and Co., 1872.
- City Directories, 1870, 1909, 1912, 1918, 1925, 1954-56.
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- Follansbee, Susan Poore and Jane Wallace Wild. *Images of America: West Newbury*. Charleston, S.C.: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.
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- Walker, George H. & Co., *Atlas of Essex County*. Boston: George H. Walker & Co., 1884.
- Walling, Henry Francis. *A Topographical Map of Essex County, Massachusetts...* Smith & Worley, 1856.
- West Newbury Tax Assessor records.

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

R1-300

Haverhill

WNB.38

Town/City: West Newbury

Place:

Photograph



Facade (southeast) elevation. View looking north.

Address: 68 Main Street

Historic Name: John Hardy House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Residence

Date of Construction: pre-1830, late 20th C

Source: Visual

Style/Form: No style

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Brick

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboard / Wood trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: none

Major Alterations (with dates): Ell expanded and gambrel roof and dormer added (post-1973); Clapboard replaced (post-1973); Brick chimney replaced (L 20th C)

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 0.25 acres

Setting: Located along a two-lane State Highway 113, the property is surrounded by woodlands to the north and south. These wooded areas contain residences dating from the 18th-20th centuries.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: West Newbury Historical Commission

Date: June 2018

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

68 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.38

☐ 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.

68 Main Street is set very close to the street at the edge of Brake Hill as the topography rises dramatically to the south. The irregularly-shaped level lot slopes down from the rear elevation of the house to a stream bed. The lot is maintained in turf with scattered trees around the perimeter. A short, paved driveway is located at the northeast corner of the house.

The 3-bay by 2-bay main block measures 23 feet long and 15 feet deep and rises 1½ stories from a brick foundation to a side-gabled roof with close eaves. An interior brick chimney is centered on the ridge. The three-bay façade (southeast elevation) contains two small, 6/9 wood sash windows on each side of the center entrance. A modern triangular pediment surmounts the unadorned architrave. A vertical-board door with strap hinges serves as a storm door. Two 6-light wood-frame windows are located in the kneewall and aligned with the first-floor windows.

An offset one-story gambrel-roof ell extends from the east corner of the house. A shed dormer extends the width of the rear (northwest) elevation. The ell contains a single 6/9 wood sash window in the southwest elevation, a picture window and a pair of vinyl-clad windows on the southeast elevation, and an entry door in the northeast elevation. The ell's gambrel roof and shed dormer are post-1973 additions. Also, the clapboard is consistent throughout the main block and ell, indicating that the house has been re-sided since the expansion of the ell (i.e. post-1973). The brick chimney also appears to date from the second half of the 20th century.

The main block of 68 Main Street is a good example of a small dwelling typical of rural West Newbury. The main block retains its original proportions and fenestration arrangement.

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.

On the 1830 map, 68 Main Street is noted as being owned by "J. Hardy." Given the proximity to Groveland, this may be a member of the Hardy family, many of whom lived on Main Street in the eastern part of Groveland during this time. In an 1853 deed, the house is mentioned as "Tappan Bailey's small house," with a boundary line that runs along the west corner of the building, as it does in the present day. The deed makes mention of Tappan Bailey's other house, which, from the deed description, appears to be present-day 74 Main Street (WNB. 39). Tappan Bailey, a comb maker, purchased land "with two dwelling houses and other buildings thereon" in 1848.¹ Tappan and Warren K. Bailey appear as co-owners of two houses in the 1856 and 1872 maps.

Deed research also indicates that the house could have been owned by Mary N. and William Giddings.² William Giddings worked as a farmer and laborer, according to census data. William and Mary's sons, Charles and Samuel W., worked as shoemakers. In 1889, Samuel W. Giddings and his wife, Flora, sold this property to Frank Hardy, who, in turn, sold it to Hannah M. Hardy (1845-1921)³ in 1902. Hannah and her late husband, Asa F. Hardy, appear to have lived in this house, according to the 1900 census.⁴ In 1946, the estate of John M. Hardy, Asa and Hannah Hardy's son, sold the property to Frederick and Evelyn Leonard.⁴ Further deed research will be required to ascertain the bounds of the several lots involved.

¹ Essex Deed Book 398, p. 247.

² Essex Deed Book 475, p. 1.

³ Findagrave.com Memorial #15985532.

⁴ Essex Deed Book 3494, p. 496.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

68 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.38

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Anderson, Philander for Moses Pettingell. "Map of the Original Town of Newbury, now divided in Newbury, Newburyport, and West Newbury." 1830.

Beers, D.G. & Co. *Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia: D.G. Beers and Co., 1872.

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Walker, George H. & Co., *Atlas of Essex County*. Boston: George H. Walker & Co., 1884.

Walling, Henry Francis. *A Topographical Map of Essex County, Massachusetts...* Smith & Worley, 1852.

West Newbury Tax Assessor records.

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

R1-310

Haverhill

WNB.39

Town/City: West Newbury

Place:

Photograph



Facade (southwest) and side (northeast) elevations. View looking west.

Address: 74 Main Street

Historic Name: Ephraim and Polly Noyes House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1792

Source: marriage date

Style/Form: Federal

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Brick; Stone, cut

Wall/Trim: Brick / Wood trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Garage/Barn (2012 per assessor)

Major Alterations (with dates): Ell and deck at rear (2017 per assessor)

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 5.5 acres

Setting: Located along two-lane State Highway 113, the property is surrounded by woodlands to the north and south. These wooded areas contain residences dating from the 18th-20th centuries.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: West Newbury Historical Commission

Date: June 2018

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

74 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.39

☒ 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.*

74 Main Street is set close to the street at the base of Brake Hill, which rises dramatically to the south. The irregularly-shaped lot slopes down to the north to a shallow streambed. North of the stream, the topography slopes dramatically to the north and the heights above the Merrimack River. The area near the house is maintained in turf with scattered trees near the house. The slope north of the house is wooded. A paved driveway located at the northeast corner of the house leads to a barn/garage constructed in 2017. A pair of cut granite posts is located at the sidewalk hedgerow and are aligned with the façade entrance.

Measuring 38 feet long and 32 feet deep, the five-by-four-bay brick house rises two stories. The hipped roof features a box cornice with shallow eaves. Interior brick chimneys rise from the east and west roof slopes. The house is banked into the hill, allowing access to the basement on the west and north elevations. The foundation is constructed of brick with cut stone slabs at ground level on the façade (south) elevation. The house is laid in Flemish stretcher bond with seven rows of stretchers separated by a course of alternating headers and stretchers.

The five-bay façade (south elevation) contains a center entrance with a six-panel wood door surrounded by half-height sidelights of four lights over inset panels. The slender, reeded architrave has small corner blocks with incised square details. Windows throughout the house are 9/6 wood sash with a narrow, molded architrave.

A small, one-story, side-gabled ell (2017) is attached to the east elevation. The ell contains an entrance on the south elevation, a large, three-part window on the east elevation, and attaches to an elevated wood deck at the rear elevation.

74 Main Street is a well-preserved and well-maintained dwelling. The building's elegant form is demonstrated by its hipped roof and delicate wood moldings. The building's hipped-room form and size are shared with other houses along Main Street. However, the use of brick is an uncommon choice.

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.*

The Ephraim and Polly Noyes House was likely constructed ca. 1792, the year in which the couple were married. The bricks likely came from the Ordway and Newell brickyard, which was located a short distance west of the house near where Pentucket Middle School and High School are now located. Ephraim Noyes (1766-1822)¹ was the son of Enoch Noyes, who started the comb making industry in West Newbury in 1759. Ephraim Noyes also worked as a comb maker.

In 1827, the estate of Ephraim Noyes sold the "homestead" and three acres to his son, David Emery Noyes.² Around this time, David E. Noyes (1795-1861) constructed 78 Main Street next door (WNB.40). David E. Noyes began work as a comb maker while working for his father. At age 18, he left home to work as a tinsmith in New Hampshire, as a journeyman in Philadelphia, as a comb maker in Pittsburgh, and finally, to South America, England, and Spain to learn about comb manufacturing.³ Noyes returned to West Newbury and, in 1824 or 1825, married Mary (Polly) Brown Low.⁴

¹ Findagrave.com Memorial # 140335821.² Essex Deed Book 247, pp. 242-243.³ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 30-34.⁴ Walton, 36.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

74 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.39

Upon his return, David E. Noyes soon set up a comb-manufacturing concern in West Newbury with equipment he designed himself as well as with equipment he brought from England.⁵ In 1824, David E. Noyes invented "the clarifying press by which the [horn] clarifying process was greatly facilitated. After the horn, pressed into strips, had thoroughly cooled, it was put to soak first in cold water then in hot water and oil. When well softened it was placed between very hot irons and pressed by means of a screw lever until it became semi-transparent in color. The demand for this stock increased with the popularity of fancy combs."⁶ In 1832, David E. Noyes went into business with Charles H. Coffin and Somerby C. Noyes (See WNB.79) and set up a factory in Newburyport. During that enterprise, David E. Noyes "revolutionized one branch of the comb industry, the invention of a machine for cutting, instead of sawing, the teeth of the dressing combs. Very few of these combs were made in this country, as the supply came largely from England. The new machine could cut both the coarse and fine teeth of a comb without making a change."⁷

In 1846, David E. Noyes sold his property in Newburyport and moved to Newark, New Jersey to start another business.⁸ In that year, Noyes sold the two houses and outbuildings at 74 and 78 Main Street to Moses Newell,⁹ who, in turn, sold them to comb maker Tappan Bailey¹⁰ The 1856 and 1872 maps indicate that Tappan and Warren K. Bailey owned multiple houses and shops at this location. (Also see WNB.38.)

In 1874, Abbie C. Bailey, the wife of Warren K. Bailey, sold the property to Mary Appleton.¹¹ Mary Appleton and her husband, Charles F. Appleton (1841-1910), an expressman, lived here with their son Everard, who also worked as an express agent. In 1924, Mary Appleton sold 74 Main Street to Marion MacLaren Dawson and Mary Crowell Jones of Newton, Massachusetts.¹² The two women, who later brought in partner Ida Clifford Keay, established the Crane Neck Coffee House here. The establishment offered steak dinners, teas, and lunches, as well as offered antiques and oriental rugs for sale.¹³ In later years, the women operated the business as a rest home or sanitarium. Marion MacLaren Dawson sold the property in 1962 to William and Ruth Sullivan.¹⁴

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Anderson, Philander for Moses Pettingell. "Map of the Original Town of Newbury, now divided in Newbury, Newburyport, and West Newbury." 1830.
- Beers, D.G. & Co. *Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia: D.G. Beers and Co., 1872.
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- Walker, George H. & Co., *Atlas of Essex County*. Boston: George H. Walker & Co., 1884.
- Walling, Henry Francis. *A Topographical Map of Essex County, Massachusetts...* Smith & Worley, 1856.

⁵ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 36.

⁶ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 36.

⁷ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 37.

⁸ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 37.

⁹ Essex Deed Book 370, p. 37.

¹⁰ Essex Deed Book 398, p. 247.

¹¹ Essex Deed Book 915, p. 117.

¹² Essex Deed Book 2609, p. 230.

¹³ Scarborough Motor Guide Company, *Automobile Green Book*, 322.

¹⁴ Essex Deed Book 4934, p. 284.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

74 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.39

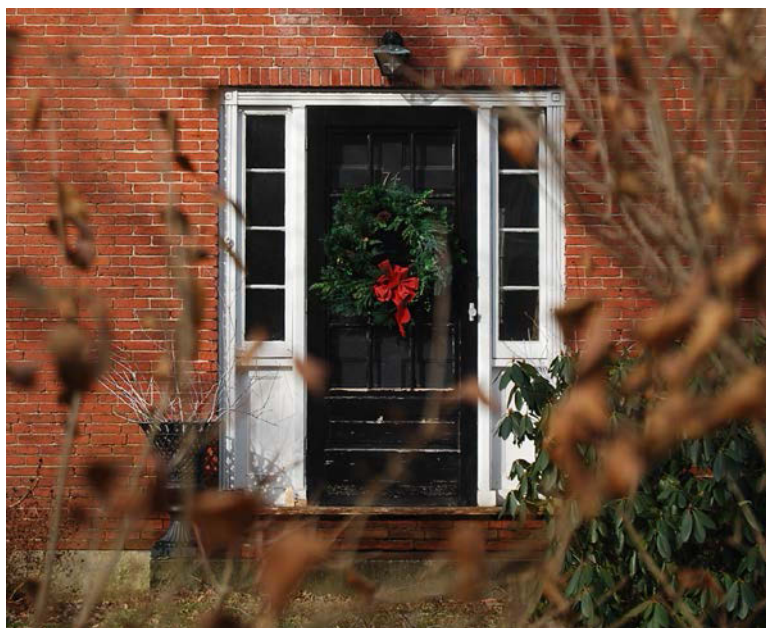
Walton, Perry. *Comb Making in America*. Leominster, Massachusetts: Privately printed for Bernard W. Walton. 1925.

<https://archive.org/stream/combmakinginamer00walt#page/n9/mode/2up>.

West Newbury Tax Assessor records.

Supplementary Images

Side (southwest) and façade (southeast) elevations. View looking north.



Entrance.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

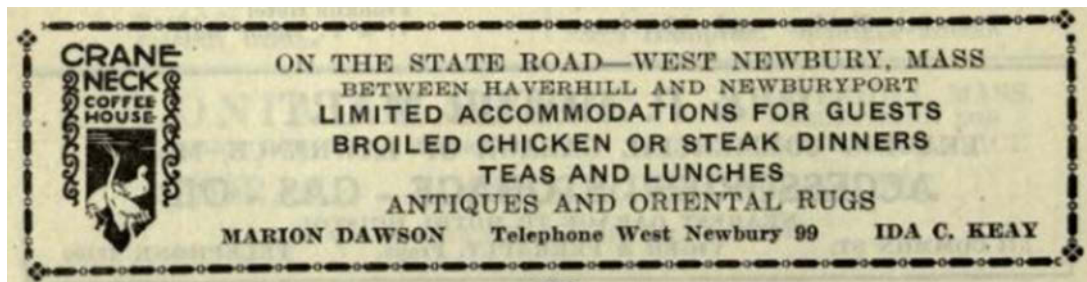
74 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.39



Advertisement in *Automobile Green Book*, page 322.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

74 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.39

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible **only** in a historic district☐ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic districtCriteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ DCriteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ GStatement of Significance by Stacy Spies*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The Ephraim and Polly Noyes House is individually eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the comb manufacturing industry in West Newbury. The building retains integrity of location, design, feeling, materials, setting, association, and workmanship. The period of significance begins ca. 1792 with the construction of the building and ends in 1846 when comb-maker David E. Noyes sold the property.

Ephraim Noyes worked as a comb maker as was also the son of Enoch Noyes, who started the comb making industry in West Newbury in 1759. In 1827, the estate of Ephraim Noyes sold the "homestead" and three acres to his son, David Emery Noyes (1795-1861), an inventor whose innovations contributed to the growth of West Newbury as a center of comb manufacturing in the United States. David E. Noyes began work as a comb maker while working for his father. At age 18, he left home to work as a tinsmith in New Hampshire, as a journeyman in Philadelphia, as a comb maker in Pittsburgh, and finally, to South America, England, and Spain to learn about comb manufacturing. Noyes returned to West Newbury circa 1820 and set up a comb-manufacturing concern in West Newbury with equipment he designed himself as well as with equipment he brought from England. In 1824, David E. Noyes invented "the clarifying press by which the [horn] clarifying process was greatly facilitated. After the horn, pressed into strips, had thoroughly cooled, it was put to soak first in cold water then in hot water and oil. When well softened it was placed between very hot irons and pressed by means of a screw lever until it became semi-transparent in color. The demand for this stock increased with the popularity of fancy combs."¹⁵

In 1832, David E. Noyes went into business with Charles H. Coffin and Somerby C. Noyes and set up a factory in Newburyport. During that enterprise, David E. Noyes "revolutionized one branch of the comb industry, the invention of a machine for cutting, instead of sawing, the teeth of the dressing combs. Very few of these combs were made in this country, as the supply came largely from England. The new machine could cut both the coarse and fine teeth of a comb without making a change."¹⁶

In 1846, David E. Noyes moved to Newark, New Jersey to start another business. In that year, Noyes sold the two houses and outbuildings at 74 and 78 Main Street.

¹⁵ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 36.¹⁶ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 37.

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

R1-320

Haverhill

WNB.40

Town/City: West Newbury

Place:

Photograph



Façade (south) and side (east) elevations. View looking west.

Locus Map



Note: detached outbuilding shown on map is not extant, and marked with an X.

Address: 78 Main Street

Historic Name: David E. Noyes House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1827

Source: Deed

Style/Form: Federal

Architect/Builder: Not determined

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone, cut (façade); Brick (side elevation)

Wall/Trim: Vinyl siding and trim/ Wood siding and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: none

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Vinyl siding and vinyl windows (L 20th C); Tripartite window on façade removed (post-1989); Carriage house moved and attached to house; Carriage house openings altered and infilled (pre-1989--20th C); Garage door replaced (L 20th C)

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☐ yes ☒ **Date:** Carriage house, post-1885

Acreage: 1.0 acres

Setting: Located along two-lane State Highway 113, the property is surrounded by woodlands to the north and south. These wooded areas contain residences dating from the 18th-20th centuries.

Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: West Newbury Historical Commission

Date: June 2018

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

78 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.40

☐ 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.

78 Main Street is set close to the street at the base of Brake Hill, which rises dramatically to the south. The irregularly-shaped lot slopes down to the north to a shallow streambed. The area near the house is maintained in turf with scattered trees near the house. The slope north of the house is wooded. The house is located at the southwesternmost corner of the lot. A paved driveway is located at the southeast corner of the house.

Measuring 40 feet long and 19 feet deep, the five-by-two-bay frame house rises two stories. The hipped roof features a box cornice with shallow eaves. Large parged-brick chimneys rise from the east and west roof slopes. The house is banked into the hill, allowing access to the basement level on the east and north elevations. The foundation is constructed of cut stone slabs at the façade and brick at the side (east) elevation.

The five-bay façade (south elevation) features a bay of paired windows located above the center entrance. The entrance contains a vertical-board wood door surrounded by half-height sidelights of three lights over inset panels. The pilastered surround has a projecting flat cornice above an elliptical arch transom. A traceried fanlight fills this elliptical arch. Windows throughout the house are vinyl replacement sash with a faux 6/6 grille. A narrow, molded architrave surrounds the windows.

A 1½-story offset lateral ell is attached to the east elevation of the house. This ell was originally a detached carriage house that was moved to this location, likely around the time the garage was constructed in the first quarter of the 20th century.¹ The side-gabled ell is clad with clapboards. The carriage house/ell is 30 feet wide and 20 feet deep. A multi-light picture window centered on the first floor of the south elevation infills the former carriage doorway. An infilled elliptical arch, still defined by its wood frame, surmounts the picture window. A vertical board door with a shed-roof shelter is located at the west end of the south elevation. Four small rectangular fixed (or slider) windows are located in the kneewall. An interior brick chimney (mid-20th century) is located at the east gable peak. The ell's foundation is not visible.

A lateral garage ell (ca. 1925) forms the building's east elevation. The approximately 21-foot by 21-foot garage rests on a concrete block foundation and features a half-hip roof. The garage is clad with wood clapboards with a sill board. A 1-bay overhead metal garage door fills the south elevation. Two 6/6 windows with molded surrounds are located at the east elevation.

78 Main Street demonstrates features of the Federal style, such as its fanlight, hipped roof and tall, slender, proportions. The replacement windows diminish the building's architectural integrity. The presence of the carriage house outbuilding, although substantially altered, is notable.

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.

In 1827, the estate of Ephraim Noyes sold his "homestead" at 74 Main Street and three acres to his son, David Emery Noyes.² David E. Noyes (1795-1861) likely constructed 78 Main Street around this time. David E. Noyes began work as a comb maker while working for his father. At age 18, he left home to work as a tinsmith in New Hampshire, as a journeyman in Philadelphia,

¹ Ca. 1885 photograph of the house in the collection of the Museum of Old Newbury shows the detached carriage house.

² Essex Deed Book 247, pp. 242-243.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

78 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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as a comb maker in Pittsburgh, and finally, to South America, England, and Spain to learn about comb manufacturing.³ Noyes returned to West Newbury and, in 1824 or 1825, married Mary (Polly) Brown Low.⁴

Upon his return, David E. Noyes soon set up a comb-manufacturing concern in West Newbury with equipment he designed himself as well as with equipment he brought from England.⁵ In 1824, David E. Noyes invented "the clarifying press by which the [horn] clarifying process was greatly facilitated. After the horn, pressed into strips, had thoroughly cooled, it was put to soak first in cold water then in hot water and oil. When well softened it was placed between very hot irons and pressed by means of a screw lever until it became semi-transparent in color. The demand for this stock increased with the popularity of fancy combs."⁶ In 1832, David E. Noyes went into business with Charles H. Coffin and Somerby C. Noyes (See WNB.79) and set up a factory in Newburyport. During that enterprise, David E. Noyes "revolutionized one branch of the comb industry, the invention of a machine for cutting, instead of sawing, the teeth of the dressing combs. Very few of these combs were made in this country, as the supply came largely from England. The new machine could cut both the coarse and fine teeth of a comb without making a change."⁷

In 1846, David E. Noyes sold his property in Newburyport and moved to Newark, New Jersey to start another business.⁸ In that year, Noyes sold the two houses and outbuildings at 74 and 78 Main Street to Moses Newell,⁹ who, in turn, sold 78 Main Street on a one-acre lot to David Smith, also a comb maker.¹⁰ 74 Main Street was sold to Smith's in-laws, Hannah and Tappan Bailey. David Smith (1813-1883) lived here with his wife, Emily (1814-1898)¹¹, and their three children. In 1850, using horse power, David Smith's comb factory produced 3,000 grosses of horn combs worth \$6,750.¹² Ten years later, Smith's factory produced just 1,200 grosses worth \$2,000,¹³ reflecting the local trend in which smaller comb factories were outpaced by H.G.O. & T.M. Chase and S.C. Noyes & Co. comb factories. In 1870, David Smith was working in a shoe factory.

The Smith estate sold the house in 1898 to Caleb H. Allen, an engineer.¹⁴ The house sold several times through the 1920s. In 1928, the house was sold to Ethel and H. Winthrop Pierce.¹⁵ H. Winthrop Pierce (1850-1935) was a landscape and portrait painter and wood carver. Pierce was a member of the inaugural class of the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, in 1877. "In 1881, Pierce studied in Paris and had two works accepted to the Paris Salon.... In the 1890s, Pierce exhibited works at the Boston Academy, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts and the Art Institute of Chicago."¹⁶ Ethel Pierce's estate sold the property in 1939.¹⁷

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³ Walton, *Comb Making in America*, 30-34.

⁴ Walton, 36.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Ibid.

⁷ Walton, 37.

⁸ Ibid.

⁹ Essex Deed Book 370, p. 37.

¹⁰ Essex Deed Book 398, p. 244.

¹¹ Findagrave.com Memorial #140348333.

¹² United States Census Manufacturing Schedule, 1850.

¹³ United States Census Manufacturing Schedule, 1860.

¹⁴ Essex Deed Book 1553, p. 106 and City directory, 1909.

¹⁵ Essex Deed Book 2759, p. 380.

¹⁶ <https://preservation.mhl.org/36-morton-street>. Accessed May 11, 2018.

¹⁷ Essex Deed Book 3204, p. 15.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

78 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.40

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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

R1-330

Haverhill

WNB.41

Town/City: West Newbury

Place:

Address: 84 Main Street

Historic Name: Sarah Richardson Ames House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1797

Source: Deed

Style/Form: Federal/Cape

Architect/Builder: Undetermined

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone, uncut

Wall/Trim: Clapboard and Wood Shingle / Wood trim

Roof: Wood Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Prefabricated shed (L 20th C); woodshed (L 20th C); granite post at southeast corner of lot.

Major Alterations (with dates): Ell constructed (ca. 1990 per assessor's records; not extant in 1989 MHC survey photo)

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 0.25 acre

Setting: Located along two-lane State Highway 113, the property is surrounded by woodlands to the north and south. These wooded areas contain residences dating from the 18th-20th centuries.

Photograph



View looking northeast. West (left) and façade (right) elevations.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Stacy Spies and Wendy Frontiero

Organization: West Newbury Historical Commission

Date: June 2018

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

84 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.41

☒ 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.*

84 Main Street is set very close to the street on a level lot at the edge of Brake Hill, which rises dramatically to the south. The trapezoidal lot is level and contains shrubbery and a fence at the south (roadside) property line. A short gravel driveway is located at the southeast corner of the house.

Measuring 26 feet long and 19 feet deep, the four-bay-by-two-bay main block rises from a fieldstone foundation to a side-gambrel roof. The one-story building features a saltbox extension along the north elevation. A 1½-story offset ell (constructed ca. 1990) is located at the northeast corner of the main block. A pair of interior brick chimneys with brick caps rise from the rear roof slope. The building is sheathed with clapboards on the façade (south) elevation and with wood shingles on the east and west elevations. The façade contains an off-center six-panel wood door with 2 small lights in the top panels. One window bay is located west of the door and two window bays are located east of the door. Windows throughout the first floor of the main block are 9/6 wood sash with external metal-frame storm windows. Attic windows are 6/6 wood sash. The ell is two-over-three bays wide and two bays deep with a doorway abutting the main block. Windows are 9/6 wood sash. An exterior brick chimney is centered in the east elevation.

The building's gambrel roofline and wood sash windows are noteworthy features. The building's small size is a modest example of vernacular architecture typical of rural Essex County.

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.*

84 Main Street was likely constructed before 1797 for a member of the Richardson family. The Richardson family owned more than 100 acres near the boundary between Newbury (now West Newbury) and Bradford (now Groveland).¹

Sarah Richardson (1753-) married joiner Nathan Ames in Bradford in 1775 and the couple moved to New Boston, New Hampshire.² After Nathan's death, Sarah Ames returned to Newbury and in 1797, her brother, Joseph Richardson, sold her this ¼ acre parcel of land and the buildings upon it.³ Sarah Richardson appears to have lived here for the next thirty years, as evidenced by census data.

In 1825, Sarah Richardson sold the property to comb-maker David E. Noyes.⁴ Noyes purchased the properties at 74 and 78 Main Street three years later. In the late 1840s and early 1850s, 84 Main Street was owned and occupied by the extended families of Tappan Bailey and Warren K. Bailey. In 1854, the Bailey family sold the property to Fordyce H. Noyes and his wife, Mary Noyes.⁵ Fordyce Noyes worked as a shoemaker and farm laborer and Mary worked at a paper box factory, according to census data.

In 1889, Fordyce H. Noyes sold the property to Alvah H. Loring and his wife, Lydia. Alvah Loring worked in a shoe factory as a wood heeler. Alvah Loring died in 1911; Lydia Loring's estate sold the property in 1920.

¹ Vinton, *The Richardson Memorial*, 827.

² *Bradford, [Mass.] Vital Records to 1850*. Ancestry.com.

³ Essex Deed Book 161, p. 297.

⁴ Essex Deed Book 238, p. 111.

⁵ Essex Deed Book 491, p. 71.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

84 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.41

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SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES

Façade (south), at left, and east elevations.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

84 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.41

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

☒ Individually eligible ☐ **only** in a historic district☐ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic districtCriteria: ☒ **A** ☐ **B** ☒ **C** ☐ **D**Criteria Considerations: ☐ **A** ☐ **B** ☐ **C** ☐ **D** ☐ **E** ☐ **F** ☐ **G**Statement of Significance by Stacy Spies*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The Sarah Richardson Ames House is eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion A for its association with the early settlement of West Newbury. Into the last quarter of the 17th century, present-day West Newbury was known as the "Upper Commons" or "Upper Woods" of Newbury, and was to be held perpetually in common for all residents of Newbury. However, a "road to Bradford" (i.e. Main Street) was in use by the 1650s and houses began to be constructed near the road in this common area. Pressures mounted to open the upper commons to development and in 1686, the town voted that each freeholder would be allotted a 20-acre lot between the Artichoke River and the Merrimack River by the Bradford (Groveland) line. By the end of the 17th century, approximately 300 people lived within the bounds of present-day West Newbury.

The Sarah Richardson Ames House is also eligible for listing on the National Register under Criterion C as an excellent example of Colonial-period architecture in Essex County.

The building retains integrity of location, design, feeling, materials, setting, association, and workmanship.

FORM B – BUILDING

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

R2-280

Haverhill

WNB.42

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

Town/City: West Newbury**Place:****Photograph**

Façade (northwest) elevation and southwest elevation.

Address: 87 Main Street**Historic Name:** Alonzo P. Jaques House**Uses:** Present: Vacant

Original: Residence

Date of Construction: Mid-18th C**Source:** Visual**Style/Form:** Colonial**Architect/Builder:** Undetermined**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Stone, uncut

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle / Wood trim

Roof: Wood Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Outbuilding (2013); Screen House (1990); Sheds (1970 and 1986). Shop and barn noted in 1973 MHC survey form are no longer extant.**Major Alterations (with dates):** Half-house to four-bay façade (L 18th C); slender chimney replaced original chimney (mid-19th C); wood shingles (mid-20th C); exterior chimney (1948); windows removed; 1-story rear ell added (post-1973)**Condition:** Deteriorated**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:****Acreage:** 10.14 acres**Setting:** Located along two-lane State Highway 113, the property is surrounded by woodlands to the north and south. These wooded areas contain residences dating from the 18th-20th centuries.**Locus Map****Recorded by:** Stacy Spies**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission**Date:** June 2018

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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87 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

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WNB.42

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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.

87 Main Street is set close to the street at the edge of Brake Hill, which rises immediately to the south behind the house. The irregularly-shaped lot is open fields near the house with woodlands beyond. A paved driveway leads past the east elevation of the house to the outbuildings behind the house.

Measuring 30 feet wide and 26 feet deep, the four-by-three bay main block rises two stories from a fieldstone foundation to a side-gabled roof with close eaves. A slender brick chimney is centered at the gable peak. An exterior brick chimney is centered on the west elevation. The building is sheathed with wood shingles with cornerboards. The asymmetrical façade (northwest elevation) contains a center entrance with two bays to the east and one bay to the west. The entrance is flanked by full-height sidelights consisting of six lights. Paired flat pilasters support a segmental-arch pediment. A shallow pent roof shelters the entrance. The door itself is boarded over with plywood and is not visible. Two 6/6 wood sash with delicate muntins remain in the west elevation windows; the remaining window sash has been removed except for the exterior metal-frame track storm windows. A bulkhead opening is located at the north end of the west elevation. A one-story ell, constructed after 1973, extends along the rear (south) elevation.

Four outbuildings are located near the house. At the southwest corner of the house is a frame shed with a gable roof that was constructed in the 1970s or 1980s, per assessor's records. The shed has vertical board walls and an asphalt shingle roof. A hexagonal screen house (ca. 1990) constructed of pressure-treated wood is located immediately south of the house. A front-gabled frame barn with a raised concrete block foundation (ca. 1970s or 1980s) is located at the southeast corner of the house on the far side of the driveway. The barn is clad with board-and-batten vertical boards. The barn has a large opening centered on the north gable end. Three window bays are located on the east and west elevations. A two-story dwelling (ca. 2011) that resembles a barn is located uphill from the house, to the south. The dwelling has a poured concrete foundation, vinyl windows, and is covered with clapboard.

Although deteriorated, 87 Main Street retains the volume and fenestration arrangement reflecting its original three-bay, half-house, side-hall plan and subsequent lateral expansion to the west by one bay. The building's deep gable ends are typical of 18th-century houses in West Newbury houses of the 18th century. The segmental-arch pediment likely dates from the 1840s.

Interior inspections were beyond the scope of this survey, but a closer examination of surviving framing, floorplans, and interior features and finishes by an architectural historian with expertise in early Massachusetts building technology could provide additional insights into a likely original construction date and on the physical evolution of the building over time.

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.

87 Main Street was likely constructed in the mid-18th century, based on its appearance. One source states that the house was constructed circa 1700 for the Jaques family, which owned property that extended westward into present-day Groveland.¹ By the beginning of the 19th century, the house was owned by Moody and Maria Jaques, who were married in 1819. Moody Jaques (1789-1857) farmed the property and worked as a shoemaker. Their son, Alonzo P. Jaques, was born in 1820 and would live the rest of his long life in this house.

¹ Massachusetts Historical Commission Form WNB.42, 1973.

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Alonzo P. Jaques (1820-1922) married Mary Ann Bartlett (1819-1903) in 1842. Alonzo Jaques mortgaged the property for a modest \$360 in 1843, perhaps to update the house with contemporary features such as the segmental-arch pediment.² Alonzo P. Jaques farmed the land and worked as a comb maker and as a shoemaker. Alonzo and Mary Ann lived in the house with their four children and Alonzo's father, Moody Jaques. (Maria Jaques died in 1827.) Alonzo P. Jaques was known as "an ardent abolitionist and steadfast advocate of the enfranchisement of women."³ Jaques is reported to have been a friend of abolitionist and poet John Greenleaf Whittier. Jaques wrote for the local newspapers on a breadth of topics over many decades, beginning as early as the 1850s.⁴ Alonzo P. Jaques died in 1922 at the age of 101.

Alonzo and Mary Ann's daughter, Jessie B. Jaques (1856-1939) lived here with her father after her mother's death and, in 1917, he sold the property to her.⁵ Jessie Jaques was known as a naturalist and taxidermist. Jessie Jaques bequeathed the property to Lila Bartlett Smith, a neighbor who had rented 78 Main Street in the 1920s and 1930s. Lila Smith and her husband, Ned, moved to 87 Main Street in 1940.⁶

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² Essex Deed Book 340, p. 161.

³ Follansbee and Wild, *Images...*, p. 72.

⁴ Poor, 244.

⁵ Essex Deed Book 2516, p. 154.

⁶ Massachusetts Historical Commission Form WNB.42, 1973.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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87 MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.42

SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES

View looking southeast from Main Street. Left to right: Jaques House, Screen House, Dwelling, Shed.



View looking south from Main Street. Barn (left) and Jaques House (right). Shed partially visible behind house, at right.