

WEST NEWBURY HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Historic Sites Survey Table of Contents  
Bachelor Street

<b>Street Address</b>	<b>Page ##</b>	<b>Individual or Group Form</b>	<b>WN Historical Commission Comments</b>
<a href="#">25 Bachelor St</a>	1-3	Individual	
<a href="#">110-118 Bachelor St</a>	4-17	Individual	Walnut Hill Cemetery
<a href="#">144 Bachelor St</a>	18-20	Individual	
<a href="#">157 Bachelor St</a>	21-24	Individual	
<a href="#">169 Bachelor St</a>	25-29	Individual	
<a href="#">210 Bachelor St</a>	30-33	Individual	

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

0140 0000  
00010

Newburyport

WNB.376

**Town/City:** West Newbury

**Place:**

**Address:** 25 Bachelor Street

**Historic Name:** John and Mary Moody House

**Uses: Present:** Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1850

**Source:** Map, Census, Visual Assessment

**Style/Form:** Greek Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Not Known

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Parged Stone?, Concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** Garage (mid-20<sup>th</sup> c?); shed (20<sup>th</sup> c)

**Major Alterations (with dates):** Rear ell (L 20<sup>th</sup> or early 21<sup>st</sup> c); replacement windows? (L 20<sup>th</sup> c?)

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.50 acres

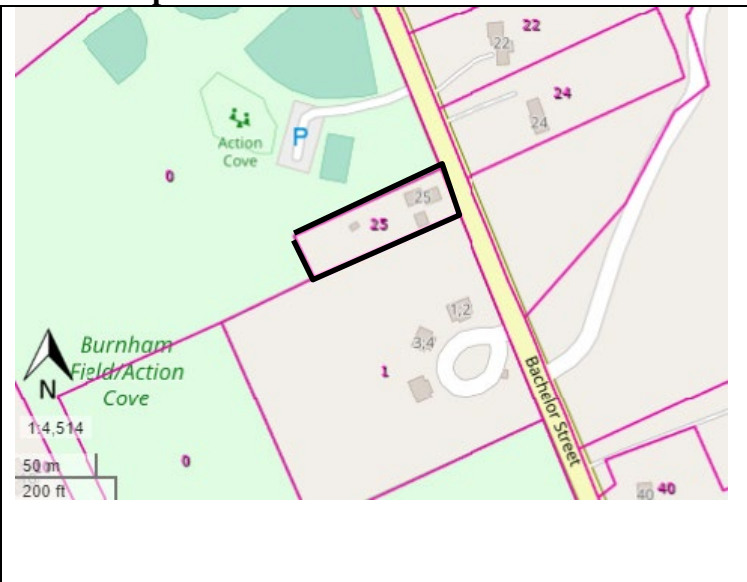
**Setting:** Located on a cross-town thoroughfare in a wooded, semi-rural residential area, characterized by irregular development of varied ages, styles, forms, and siting. Municipal recreation fields are located immediately to the north.

## Photograph



Façade (east) and north elevations.

## Locus Map



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

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2023

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

25 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.376

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:**

25 Bachelor Street occupies a narrow, relatively small rectangular lot on the west side of Bachelor Street. The house has a modest front setback and stands on a slight rise. Most of the lot is maintained in grass, with scattered trees and shrubs. A gravel driveway on the left (south) side of the house accesses a modern, 1½ story garage. The terrain slopes down gradually to the west behind the house; a small, utilitarian shed is located at the rear of the property. For ease of terminology, the house is assumed to face east, although the building is more accurately aligned northeast-southwest.

The house consists of a main block at the front and an offset rear ell. Measuring 24 feet wide by 32 feet deep, the main block rises 1½ stories to a front gable roof with no returns; a narrow chimney rises from the south slope of the roof near the ridge. The foundation has concrete parging, possibly over stone. Walls are sheathed with clapboards trimmed with flat corner and fascia boards. Windows typically have 9/6 sash and flat casings.

The façade (east elevation) has two windows and an offset doorway on the first floor and two symmetrically placed windows in the half-story. The entrance consists of a modern single-leaf door trimmed with flat casings and accessed by modern granite steps. The symmetrical left side (south elevation) has five bays with a center doorway similar to the façade. The right side (north elevation) of the main block features a rectangular bay window with a shed roof near the center of the first story and two shed-roofed dormers (having 6/6 windows) flush with the plane of the main wall at the rear.

Offset to the north of the main block and measuring virtually the same size, the rear ell rises 1 or 1½ stories from a concrete foundation to a gabled roof without gable returns; solar panels cover its south slope. On its south elevation, the ell has a single-leaf door with narrow sidelights; two 9/6 windows are visible to its west. The north side of the ell has a single-leaf doorway facing the street on its gable end, and a variety of single and grouped windows on its north elevation.

Well maintained, 25 Bachelor Street is a vernacular example of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century housing in West Newbury, lacking stylistic detail characteristic of its period. Notable features include its front-gable form, simple massing, side-hall plan, and mostly intact fenestration (although the window sash appear to be a Colonial Revival configuration).

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

The house at was likely constructed circa 1850 for members of the John and Mary Moody family, who lived nearby at 411 Main Street (WNB.90). In 1861, the couple's daughter, Betsey Moody Newell (1823-1907),<sup>1</sup> purchased the house and the ½-acre lot from her father's estate.<sup>2</sup>

In 1870, Calvin J. Stevens purchased the house.<sup>3</sup> Calvin J. Stevens (1837–1875)<sup>4</sup> lived here with his wife, Harriet Kennett Stevens (1849-1916)<sup>5</sup>. Calvin J. Stevens was a Civil War veteran and fought with Company B of the 48<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. Stevens was taken prisoner near Port Huron, Louisiana and taken to Richmond, Virginia. Stevens was paroled and discharged in 1863.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/59072159/betsey-noyes-newell>. Accessed October 13, 2023.

<sup>2</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 628, p. 19.

<sup>3</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 795, p. 259.

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/59243659/calvin-j-stevens>. Accessed April 12, 2023.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/59243776/harriet-f-stevens>. Accessed April 12, 2023.

<sup>6</sup> Information provided at Findagrave entry.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

25 BACHELOR ST

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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In 1876, Thomas Canning purchased the house from Harriet Stevens.<sup>7</sup> Shoemaker Thomas Canning (ca. 1840-1885)<sup>8</sup> and his wife, Margaret Canning (1847-1907),<sup>9</sup> lived here with their six children. "T. Canning" is identified as the owner of the property on the 1884 map.

After the Canning's residency, the house was sold to Charles L. Fowler in 1911.<sup>10</sup> Charles L. Fowler and his wife, Grace, lived here with their children. The 1916 city directory noted Charles Fowler's occupation as a butcher. The 1920 census recorded Charles Fowler's occupation as "nurseryman;" By the time of the 1930 census, Fowler had been promoted to foreman at the nursery. The family lived on Bachelor Street until at least 1920; after that time, their residence is noted as 436 Main Street. The family was active with the West Newbury Grange.<sup>11</sup> In 1941, Charles Fowler sold the house to Bernard and Helen Sargent, who owned the house until 1971.<sup>12</sup>

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

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North Elevations.



South and façade (east) elevations.

<sup>7</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 964, p. 277.

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/180221063/thomas-canning>. Accessed April 12, 2023.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/180221086/margaret-canning>. Accessed April 12, 2023.

<sup>10</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 2093, p. 407.

<sup>11</sup> "Grange Fair Opens," *Newburyport Daily News and Newburyport Herald*, 22 September 1934, p. 2.

<sup>12</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 3275, p. 393 and Book 5760, p. 761.

# FORM E – BURIAL GROUND

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

0150 0000 00050	Newburyport		WNB.809
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Town:** West Newbury

**Place** (*neighborhood or village*):

### Photograph



Photo 1. View of cemetery from south corner, looking northwest along Bachelor Street.

**Address or Location:** 0 Bachelor Street

**Name:** Walnut Hill Burial Ground

**Ownership:**  Public  Private

**Approximate Number of Stones:** 308 stones and 2 tombs

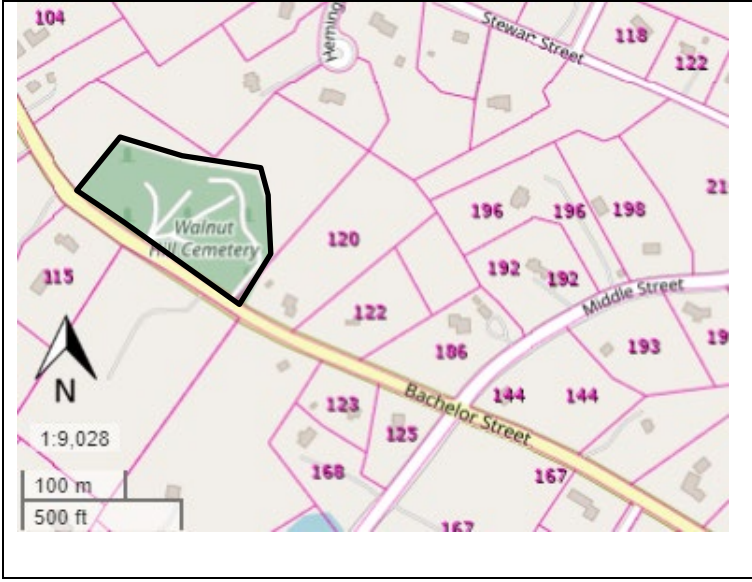
**Earliest Death Date:** 1725

**Latest Death Date:** Early 21<sup>st</sup> Century

**Landscape Architect:** None

**Condition:** Good to Fair

### Locus Map



**Acreage:** 7.84 acres

**Setting:** Located near the intersection of two cross-town thoroughfares, in a rural area of town. Surrounded by widely scattered residential development on large lots.

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

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2023

**INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.809

 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.***VISUAL/DESIGN ASSESSMENT***Describe landscape features, gravestone materials, designs, motifs, and symbols that are either common. Note any known carvers.*

Walnut Hill Cemetery is located on the northeast side of Bachelor Street, near its intersection with Middle Street. The L-shaped parcel contains nearly 8 acres of undulating land, with a low point roughly in the center that runs southwest/northeast. The property measures approximately 832 feet along Bachelor Street. The landscape of the burial ground is maintained in lawn in the eastern section, rougher turf in the middle section, and overgrown with volunteer trees and underbrush in the western section. Several mature trees appear to be conscientiously planted, most notably a row of three along the center driveway. The cemetery is traversed by curvilinear driveways that create petal-shaped sections; the drives are surfaced with gravel or packed turf. A dry-laid fieldstone wall lines the street edge, interrupted for a main entrance in the center and secondary entrances at the north and south ends of the property. Positioned near the center of the cemetery, close to the center entrance, is a modern flagpole.

Walnut Hill Cemetery contains approximately 380 stones,<sup>1</sup> one receiving tomb, and one family tomb. These objects date from the early 18<sup>th</sup> through early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries and represent the full range of materials, shapes, and motifs common to funerary art across three hundred years. The most recent stones are found along the street edge and in the south corner of the site. The majority of stones are slab shaped and arranged in rows, with the stones facing southwest. The cemetery contains a large number of obelisks, most prominently at the eastern and western ends. Many of the obelisks mark family plots, lined with granite curbing or marked by low granite corner posts, which often contain additional markers for individual burials.

The eastern end of the cemetery has irregularly and widely spaced stones, mostly of grey granite and typically dating from the early 20<sup>th</sup> through early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. Occasional late 19<sup>th</sup> century stones also occur here. Stones in this section are typically simple granite slabs with little ornament, facing the street; several elaborate obelisks are prominently sited. At the back of the center driveway are lines of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century stones facing both east and west. A gentle hillside ascending from the northwest side of the center drive is crowded with slate and marble gravestones that are closely spaced, both side-by-side and between rows. The stones in this section face the street and are typically slabs with round-headed tops and shoulders. They form an outstanding collection of 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century carving, ranging from skulls to cherubs to urn and willow motifs.

At the rise of the hill, the burials begin to transition to mid- and late 19<sup>th</sup> century styles. Many stones in the western section are arranged in single lines that face both the street and the back of the property; modest obelisks anchor numerous family plots. Marble is unusually prevalent in this section, although granite is also common. Notable examples of early 19<sup>th</sup> century carving occur here, along with simpler and more severe Victorian designs. A family tomb is located in the hillside facing the rear of the cemetery, while a receiving tomb is located in the far western corner, near the northwest entrance. Several mature tree specimens appear to be deliberately planted throughout this section, but much of it is overgrown with volunteer trees.

Carvers' names were found on seven stones dating from the first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century: "Brown, Hav'l"; "F.A. Brown, Hav'l"; "N. Davis"; "J. Marble, Bradford" (three stones); "Webb & Payne, Boston." Given the similarity in designs of many other gravestones in the Walnut Hill Cemetery, it is likely that dozens may be attributable to known carvers.

<sup>1</sup> Count provided by West Newbury Historical Commission member Elisa Grammer.

## INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

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WNB.809

Representative and Notable Individual StonesMrs. Ruth Hale (d. 1735) (Photo 7)

The gravestone for the wife of Mr. Ezekiel Hale is a schist tablet with a round head and round shoulders. The tympanum contains a highly abstract face framed by two geometric rosettes; the shoulders have flower-like rosette carving. Elaborate scrolls ornament the side bars. The tablet records that "HERE LYES BURIED the BODY OF MRS. RUTH HaLe..." and gives her death date and age at death. Lettering is informal, with a mix of capital and lower case lettering (sometimes in the same word), all serified.

Jacob Tewksbury (d. 1779) (Photo 8)

The slate marker for 7-month-old Jacob Tewksbury has a round head and round shoulders. The tympanum contains an abstract image of a child with an intense expression inside an arch, flanked by abstract flourishes, all bordered by a line of wedge-shaped dashes. The tablet is almost entirely occupied by large, elegant italic text stating the names of the boy and his parents, and his date of and age at death.

Rev. Mr. William Johnson A.M. (d. 1779) (Photo 9)

One of the largest and most stately of the 18<sup>th</sup> century memorials in Walnut Hill Cemetery, the marker for Rev. Johnson is round-headed with round shoulders; the stone is red and black. The tympanum contains an abstract, winged cherub above foliate scrolls that continue onto the shoulders. Framed by concentric molded bands, the tablet relates a history of Johnson's life (in 19 lines of text), including his education at Harvard College, his service as first pastor of the Third Church in Newbury, and a litany of his personal virtues: "He was a Gentleman of good understanding. . . & a benevolent & faithful friend." The text is expertly carved, mainly employing initial capitals and upright, serified letters.

Nancy Bartlett (d. 1829; N. Davis, carver) (Photo 10)

The gravestone for Nancy Bartlett, wife of John E. Bartlett, is a tall, rectangular, slate slab. The top of the marker is ornamented with an urn and willow tree amidst a picked background. The inscription is very deeply carved on an architectural motif that suggests a wall with a molded base and an entablature decorated with ovals and stars. The text records not only the usual information of Nancy's name, her death date and age at death, and her spouse's name, but also the name of her father, "Michael Walsh, A.M." Serified lettering with curlicue flourishes displays a variety of all capitals, initial capitals, upright, and italic writing. The name of the carver, N. Davis, is inscribed in italics at the bottom of the stone.

Mr. Simeon Chase (d. 1829; J. Marble, carver) (Photo 11)

Mr. Chase is memorialized with a tall slate slab with a round head and square shoulders. The tympanum features an urn and a weeping willow within a picked background. The tablet is ornamented with a pair of classical columns supporting a simple entablature. The inscription reports that Mr. Chase was a graduate of Harvard College and provides his death date and age at death. The lettering includes all capitals, initial capitals, and both upright and italics. J. Marble is identified as the carver at the base of the stone.

Mary A. ---- (d. 1832; Webb & Payne, carver) (Photo 12)

Commemorating the 21-year-old wife of Charles Todd (his name is difficult to decipher due to weathering), this unusual gravestone is tall and narrow, with a small round head and round shoulders. A ribbon-like border ornaments the top of the stone, framing a deeply carved weeping willow tree, an urn on a pedestal, and the figure of a grieving woman; floral rosettes decorate the shoulders. The mid-section of the stone contains Mary's name, her spouse's name, and her date of and age at death, written within an incised oval framed by sunburst motifs. Below the oval is a four-line epitaph. The carver's name, "Webb & Payne, Boston," is carved at the bottom of the stone. Lettering is a variety of all-capital block letters, serified initial capitals, and upright and italic forms.

Anna Newell (d. 1843; Brown, carver) (Photo 13)

Commemorating the wife of Joseph Newell, Esq., this tall slate stone has a round head and square shoulders. The tympanum contains a large urn and over-scaled branches of a weeping willow within a picked background. The tablet displays classical columns supporting an elaborate entablature. The text states only the names of Mrs. Newell and her husband, and the date of and her age at death. The lettering is deeply carved in serified letters, with a variety of all capitals, initial capitals, upright

## INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

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220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.809

lettering, and italics. The word "Died" is decorated with an extra flourish of scrolls. The carver is identified at the base of the stone as "Brown, Hav'l."

Richard Heath (d. 1846; F. A. Brown, carver) (Photo 14)

Rectangular in shape, the gravestone for Richard Heath is a tall slate slab. The top of the stone contains a willow tree flanked by tapering obelisks; flowers ornament the corners, and the background has a picked finish. This motif stands atop a fancifully-decorated, double entablature supported by classical columns in light relief. The center of the stone contains Heath's name, date of death, and age at death, written in a combination of deeply incised, all-capitals and initial capital letters, and upright and italic lettering. The word "Died" is written in italics with decorative flourishes. The carver's name, "F. A. Brown, Hav'l" is carved at the bottom of the stone.

Poore family plot (d. 1853 et seq) (Photo 15)

Members of the Poore family occupy a large plot facing northwest, consisting of a simple granite obelisk fronted by a line of regularly spaced, segmentally arched, individual markers. The obelisk is comprised of a low pedestal, a tall base on which is modestly inscribed "POORE / OF / INDIAN HILL", and a tapering shaft with a pyramidal top. The plain individual markers at the front edge of the plot have smooth stone slabs mounted on granite bases. One of these markers is dedicated to Benjamin Poore, who was lost at sea in 1855, and "His Devoted Wife," Mary Perley Dodge, who died at Indian Hill in 1861. There is no ornament other than the text, which is carved in all capitals for the names and with initial capitals for birth and death dates and brief biographical details.

Mary C. (d. 1861), Edward (d. 1868), and Louisa M. (d. 1872) Hills (Photo 16)

Edward Hill and his two wives are memorialized in a trio of marble stones. The round-headed slabs rise from what appears to be a continuous granite base mounted flush with the ground. Each stone has a circular recess at the top, within which is a sentimental bas-relief carving: sheaves of wheat for Edward and floral bouquets for Mary and Louisa. Their first names are carved in bas-relief in all capital letters within a rectangular bar at the top of the stone; their death date and age at death are recorded below.

Thurlow family plot, (d. 1879, 1896, 1912) (Photo 17)

Stephen C. Thurlow (d. 1879), his wife Lois H. (d. 1896), and Lydia Thurlow (d. 1912) are commemorated by an uncommon, High Gothic Revival style monument. The granite sculpture consists of a two-tiered molded base, a tablet framed by two ornate columns at the front corners, and a gabled and cross-gabled cap with dentil molding. A peaked plaque on the front face of the monument has molded borders and contains the words "FATHER" and "MOTHER" in block letters. The name "THURLOW" is inscribed in serified letters on the top stage of the base. The simpler rear face of the monument has a smooth surface without moldings, and contains the names, death dates, and age at death of the three individuals buried here. Lettering is a combination of all-capital block letters for the names and serified, initial capitalization for most of the remainder of the text.

Campbell (d. 1894) and Mary A. (d. 1921) MacDonald (Photo 18)

The married couple's substantial granite monument has rock-faced surfaces, a shaped base, and a pyramidal top. The shaft has dressed borders on all sides; its front face is ornamented with 'MACDONALD' inscribed across the bottom, a three-dimensional scroll containing the couple's names and birth and death dates, and leafy branches framing the scroll in high relief.

Brown family plot (1899 et seq.) (Photo 19)

A monumental granite obelisk dominates the large Brown family plot, which is set on a rise and defined by square granite corner posts. The ornate obelisk comprises a four-tiered base; a tapered, square-section shaft; and a three-tiered cap with heavily carved moldings and cross gables. Granite surfaces are both natural and polished; lettering is a variety of bas relief and incised carving and serified and block styles. The primary face of the shaft is inscribed with the names of Haydn Brown (1819-1899) and his wife Harriet Emery (1819-1906).

Mary Hills (d. 1925) and William Carr (d. 1919) Stanwood (Photo 20)

Husband and wife are commemorated in a delicately carved stone employing an uncommon, Edwardian—almost Art Deco—style. A granite base with a shaped top supports a rectangular tablet (possibly marble) with cut-away top corners. The attenuated lettering uses a combination of sizes, serifs, and block letters. The face of this stone is divided into two sections by a vertical band in the center that is ornamented with a stem of leaves and two flowers at the top. The interred are described on separate sides by their role as parent, their first and middle names, and their years of birth and death.



**INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET**

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220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.809

Newell Family Tomb (1858) and Receiving Tomb (1860) (Photos 21 and 22)

These two tombs, located in the northwestern end of the burial ground, are similar in design and materials. The face of each tomb has a central metal door, flanked by a vertical granite slab on each side, and a lintel with a peaked top and the year of construction inscribed in the center. The Newell Family Tomb, the more decorative of the two, has dressed margins on all three of its face stones. Its metal door has raised bands around the perimeter and, in the center, an ornamental knocker comprised of a lion holding a wreath in its mouth. Names of three members of the Newell family—Hon. Moses Newell, d. 1858; his wife Sally Moody, d. 1884; and Charles Newell, d. 1858—are carved into the side slabs on the face of the tomb.

The Receiving Tomb is located at the northern entrance to the cemetery, terminating a long section of fieldstone wall along the street edge. The three stones comprising the face of this tomb have no decorative finish except for the date carved into the lintel. The center door is attached to the side slabs with prominent metal strap hinges and a metal latch.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

*Explain religious affiliations, major period of use, and evaluate historical association of this burial ground with the community.*

In 1724, the Assessors of the West Precinct of the town of Newbury purchased land from Abel Merrill for the purposes of creating a burial ground.<sup>2</sup> The earliest stone in the cemetery contains the date 1725. The cemetery was expanded in 1800.<sup>3</sup> In 1855, the West Newbury Second Parish transferred to the Walnut Hill Cemetery Association.<sup>4</sup> The cemetery contains gravestones created by a number of known carvers. Blachowicz has identified carvers for 115 stones in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground.

Francis A. Brown (1820-1893),<sup>5</sup> Haverhill, Mass.

Blachowicz identified 24 stones by Francis A. Brown in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground and 17 in other West Newbury cemeteries.<sup>6</sup> Born in Providence, Rhode Island, Francis A. Brown married Hannah A. Roby in Lowell, Massachusetts in 1842 and lived in Derry, New Hampshire circa 1842 to 1845. By 1847, Brown and his family were living in Haverhill. The birth record for Brown's son, George Henry Brown, in Haverhill in that year notes Francis A. Brown's occupation as "gravestone cutter."<sup>7</sup> The 1850 census recorded Brown and family in Haverhill, where his occupation was recorded as "marble cutter." Haverhill city directories indicate that Brown continued to work into the 1880s.<sup>8</sup> Brown's work is included in MACRIS in the Old Byfield Parish Cemetery, Georgetown and Newbury (GEO.803 and NEW.801) and Fairview Cemetery, Westford (WSR.806).

Alpheus Cary, Jr. (1788-1869), Boston

Blachowicz attributed one stone to Alpheus Cary, Jr. in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground. Cary's work is included in MACRIS in the Forest Hills Cemetery, Boston (BOS.818), Market Street Burying Ground (BOS.812), Old North Burying Ground, Ipswich (IPS.803), Brigham Cemetery (MBR.806) and Wilson Cemetery (MBR.804), Marlborough, Vine Lake Cemetery in Medfield (MED.999), Newton Cemetery (NWT.804) and West Parish Burying Ground in Newton (NWT.802), Southborough Old Burial Ground (SBR.801), Pine Grove Cemetery in Truro (TRU.806), and 11 monuments in Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Watertown (WAT.J).

Nathaniel Davis (1801-1867), Newburyport, Mass.

Blachowicz identified 6 stones by Nathaniel Davis in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground and four in other West Newbury cemeteries.<sup>9</sup> Born in Groton, Mass., Nathaniel Davis moved to Newburyport circa 1826 to work for his brother, gravestone cutter Abel Davis. After his brother's death, Davis continued the work alone (ca. 1835).<sup>10</sup> Davis had a shop at 73 Merrimac Street in Newburyport and census records note his occupation as "marble-worker." "77 percent of Davis' business was gravestone work...the rest of

<sup>2</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 49, p. 79.

<sup>3</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 171, P. 217.

<sup>4</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 535, p. 31.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/250384439/francis-a-brown>. Accessed May 24, 2023.

<sup>6</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 291 with accompanying thumb drive of additional data and images

<sup>7</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 288.

<sup>8</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 289.

<sup>9</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 203 with accompanying thumb drive of additional data and images

<sup>10</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 202.

## INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.809

his business included door sills and steps, hearths, cistern covers..."<sup>11</sup> By 1855, Davis returned to Groton where he worked as a farmer.

William Farnsworth (1780-1828), Groton, Mass. and Burlington, Vermont

Blachowicz identified 2 stones by William Farnsworth in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground. Born in Harvard, the peripatetic Farnsworth worked for Newton carver Nathan Hastings ca. 1803, for Salem carver Benjamin Day ca. 1813, and for Bradford carver John Marble ca. 1820 (See below).<sup>12</sup> Farnsworth's work is included in MACRIS in the Old South Burial Ground, Bolton (BOL.800), the Dunstable Central Burial Ground (DUN.802), the Bradford Burial Ground, Haverhill (HVR.801), and Spring Hill Cemetery in Marlborough (MRB.800).

Robert Fowle (1743-1805), Newburyport and Boston, Mass.

Blachowicz identified 4 stones by Robert Fowle in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground. Robert Fowle "appears to have been a full-time carver with a decade of work to his credit; Born in Boston, Fowle appears to have worked in Charleston with carvers Joseph and John Lamson 1769-1773 before moving to Newburyport in 1775. Much of Fowle's work had been misattributed<sup>13</sup> as that of the Lamsons, but Chase and Gabel<sup>14</sup> and Blachowicz have documented Fowle's work in the Newburyport area.<sup>15</sup> Fowle returned to Newburyport after serving in the Revolutionary War before moving back to Boston circa 1789. Fowle later entered into a partnership with Caleb Lamson II.<sup>16</sup> Fowle's work is included in MACRIS in the Charter Street Burial Ground, Salem (SAL.806), Old Sturbridge Burial Ground, Sturbridge (STU.801), and the Old Burying Ground, Watertown (WAT.9170).

John Marble (1764-1844), Bradford, Mass., Quincy, Mass. and Portsmouth, N.H.

Blachowicz identified 46 stones by John Marble and 3 stones attributed to his workshop in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground. Blachowicz identified 27 stones by John Marble in other West Newbury burial grounds.<sup>17</sup> John Marble appears to be the carver of the slate stone for Mr. Simeon Chase (d. 1829) (See photo 11.) Born in Bradford, Mass., John Marble learned stone carving from his father, Joseph Marble, who worked in the Merrimack Valley Style. (See below.) John Marble "was apparently sent away for his apprenticeship as his stones are well carved and lettered in urban styles on a good slate..." in a style quite different than that of his father.<sup>18</sup> He moved to Quincy, Mass. in 1798 and to Portsmouth, New Hampshire, in 1801. In 1807, Marble returned to Bradford, where he resided until his death in 1844. "Stones by John Marble are concentrated in northern Essex County and Southern New Hampshire, dated between 1780 and 1831. Marble's early work (in the 1780s and 1790s) featured winged faces and faces in niches. In 1795, his repertoire changed to an unusually wide variety of distinctive urns, a motif he used into the 1830s<sup>19</sup> and which is present in the Simeon Chase stone. John Marble "frequently signed his stones, often adding 'sculptor'."<sup>20</sup> Blachowicz identified 46 stones by John Marble and 3 stones attributed to his workshop in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground. John Marble's work is included in MACRIS in the Old Byfield Parish Cemetery, Georgetown and Newbury (GEO.803 and NEW.801), the Bradford Burial Ground, Haverhill (HVR.801, NR), and the Dodge Burial Ground BEV.802).

Joseph Marble (1726-1805), Bradford, Mass.

Blachowicz identified one stone by Joseph Marble in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground, that of Solomon Holman. Joseph Marble, father of John Marble, lived and worked in Bradford. Marble is considered part of the Merrimack Valley carvers active in the second half of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. Marble's technique has been described as "more akin to engraving than carving" and is characterized by a "line death head" that uses "triangular noses, eyes sometimes have pupils added, and straight or oval mouths" and "simple borders."<sup>21</sup> Joseph Marble's work is included in MACRIS in the Bradford Burial Ground, Haverhill (HVR.801, HVR.X, NR).

<sup>11</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 203, citing Kelleher (1999).

<sup>12</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, pp. 237-241, pp. 281-283 with accompanying thumb drive of additional data and images

<sup>13</sup> See Ralph Tucker, "The Lamson Family Gravestone Carvers of Charleston and Malden, Massachusetts," *Markers X*, 1993, pp. 151-217.

<sup>14</sup> Blachowicz citing Chase and Gable, *Gravestone Chronicles*. Vols. 1 and 2. Boston: New England Genealogical Society, 1997.

<sup>15</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 51.

<sup>16</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, pp. 51-53.

<sup>17</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 267 with accompanying thumb drive of additional data and images

<sup>18</sup> Ralph Tucker, 1989.

<sup>19</sup> Frontiero and Hartford, BEV.802, 2016.

<sup>20</sup> Ralph Tucker, 1989.

<sup>21</sup> Ralph Tucker, 1989.

## INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.809

Enoch Noyes (1773-1832), Newburyport, Mass.

Blachowicz identified 13 stones by Enoch Noyes in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground and 8 stones elsewhere in West Newbury.<sup>22</sup> Born in Newburyport to gravestone carver Paul Noyes, Enoch Noyes of Newburyport “took over the lion’s share of the gravestone production of [his father’s] shop from about 1796” while also operating a paint shop.<sup>23</sup> Noyes began carving at age 46 in 1787.<sup>24</sup> Noyes “produced tree and urn stones similar to those of his father and others. This type of stone is so standardized that it can only be attributed to a given carver when signed or probated.”<sup>25</sup>

Paul Noyes (1741-1810), Newburyport, Mass.

Blachowicz identified one stone by Paul Noyes (and one by Noyes’ workshop) in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground. Paul Noyes generally worked as a “carver” [i.e., wood carver] and “stone cutter,” according to property transactions. The earliest stone that Blachowicz was able to attribute to Paul Noyes was the signed stone Noyes created for his father in 1787.<sup>26</sup> Benes notes that Paul Noyes’ introduction of cherub designs, “essentially extinguished the local vernacular tradition” of the Merrimack school carvers. “Notable is the maze design of the border as well as the design of the spirit symbol that is carved in a stylized primitive manner and shows a downturned mouth – the distinguishing feature of the Merrimack school. Stones bearing this mark by Newbury, Haverhill, Rowley, and Bradford gravestone makers were the only type placed in fourth and second parish burying grounds in Newbury until” Noyes began carving cherubs.<sup>27</sup> After Robert Fowle’s departure from Newburyport (see above), Paul Noyes appears to have taken up gravestone carving in Newburyport. Paul Noyes’ work is included in MACRIS in the Colonial Burying Ground, Salisbury (SLS.801).

Samuel S. Warren (1821-1913) and his brother, Theodore Warren (1819-1913).

Blachowicz attributed one stone each in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground. Born in Fall River, Theodore Warren moved to Lowell after 1843 and operated the “Middlesex Monumental Yard” there, where he sold marble bureau tops and fireplace fronts in addition to gravestones and monuments, until about 1856.<sup>28</sup> Samuel Warren appears as a co-signer on stones with his brother in the late 1830s and early 1840s. Samuel Warren moved from Fall River to Providence, R.I., where he worked as a “printer” and “calico printer,” according to census records. Theodore Warren’s work is included in MACRIS in the North Acton Cemetery (ACT.S), the Old Burying Ground, Bedford (BED.800), Green Cemetery, Carlisle (CAR.801), Forefathers’ Cemetery, Chelmsford (CLM.804), Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, Concord (CON.DY), Old Byfield Parish Burying Ground, Georgetown (GEO.803), the Bradford Burial Ground, Haverhill (HVR.801), Lowell Cemetery (LOW.AK), Spring Hill Cemetery, Marlborough (MBR.800), West Parish Burying Ground, Newton (NWT.802), Riverside Cemetery, North Reading (NRE.802), Tyng Family Cemetery (TYN.801) and Flint Cemetery (TYN.805), Tyngsborough, and Westlawn (WSR.807), Wright (WSR.804), and Fairview Cemeteries (WSR.803) in Westford.

Calvin H. Weeks (1834-1907), Harvard, Mass. and Lowell, Mass.

Blachowicz attributed 2 stones in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground to Weeks. Born in Canaan, Vermont, Weeks moved to Harvard, Massachusetts at the age of 15 with his family. Weeks and three of his brothers are included as “Marble Workers” in the 1860 Harvard census. Weeks went on to work for carver David Nichols and later entered a partnership with Francis A. Brown in 1867 in Haverhill. After the partnership dissolved in 1876, Weeks established his own shop Haverhill. From 1884 until 1886, Weeks served as Mayor of Haverhill.<sup>29</sup> Beyond his work with marble gravestones, Weeks became known for monumental sculpture. Among his works are the 1869 Civil War Monument in Haverhill (HVR.948), the Hannah Duston monument in G. A. R. Park, Haverhill (HVR.926), and the Fireman’s Monument in Linwood Cemetery, Haverhill (HVR.952), and the Daniel Ryan monument in St. James Cemetery, Haverhill (HVR.951).

<sup>22</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 157 with accompanying thumb drive of additional data and images

<sup>23</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 153.

<sup>24</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 155.

<sup>25</sup> Ralph Tucker, 1989.

<sup>26</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, p. 149.

<sup>27</sup> Benes, p. 45.

<sup>28</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, pp. 307-309.

<sup>29</sup> Blachowicz, Vol. 2, pp. 290-291.

**INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.809

Other Carvers

Blachowicz also attributed one stone each in the Walnut Hill Burial Ground to:

- Abel Davis (1798-1834)
- Ira L. Davis (1824-1921)
- George T. Hope (ca. 1781-1826)
- David Nichols (ca. 1823-1895)
- Ebenezer Soule III (1786-1845)
- Webb & Payne, Boston

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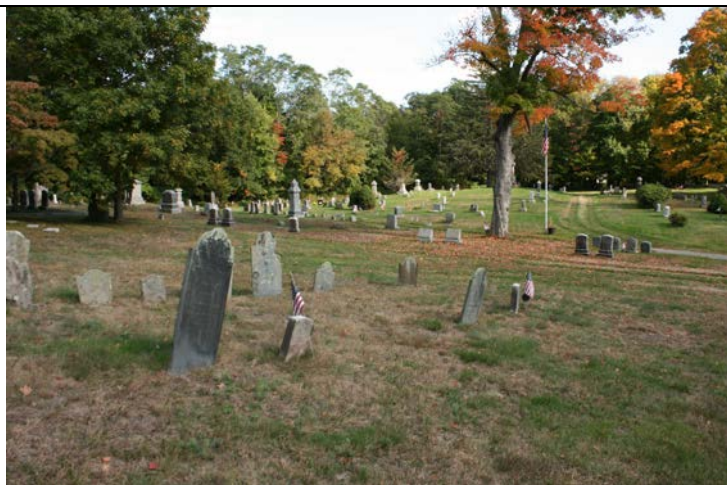


Photo 2. View of cemetery from center, looking southeast.

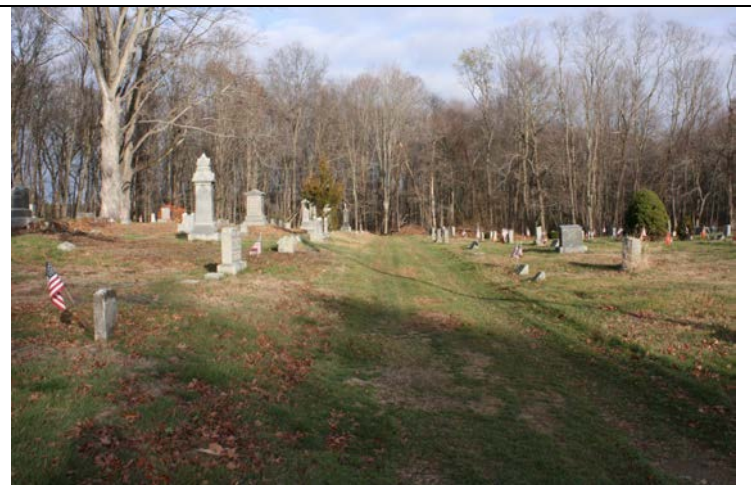


Photo 3. View of center drive, looking northeast from Bachelor Street.

**INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	WNB.809
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Photo 4. View of cemetery from center, looking southeast.



Photo 5. Center section of cemetery with concentration of 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> c. stones, looking northeast.



Photo 6. Northwestern section of cemetery, looking southeast.



Photo 7. Marker for Mrs. Ruth Hale.

INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.809



Photo 10. Marker for Nancy Bartlett; N. Davis, carver.



Photo 11. Marker for Mr. Simeon Chase; J. Marble, carver.



Photo 12. Marker for Mary A. [Todd?]; Webb & Payne, carver.



Photo 13. Marker for Anna Newell; ---- Brown, carver.

**INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.809



Photo 14. Marker for Richard Heath; F. A. Brown, carver.



Photo 15. Poore family plot, looking southeast.



Photo 16. Markers for Mary, Louisa, and Edward Hills.



Photo 17. Thurlow family monument.

# INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	WNB.809
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Photo 18. MacDonald family monument.



Photo 19. Brown family monument.



Photo 20. Marker for Mary and William Stanwood.



Photo 21. Newell family tomb.



**INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	WNB.809
--	---------



Photo 22. Receiving tomb.

**INVENTORY FORM E CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY WALNUT HILL BURIAL GROUND

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.809

**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 district

Criteria:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**Criteria Considerations:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**     **E**     **F**     **G**Statement of Significance by Stacy E. Spies and Wendy Frontiero*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The Walnut Hill Burial Ground is recommended for listing on the National Register of Historic Places with significance at the local level under Criteria A and C. The Walnut Hill Burial Ground is significant for its association with the early history and development of West Newbury from the early 18<sup>th</sup> century into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. The burial ground is also important as a well-preserved and distinctive display of New England funerary art in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. The burial ground includes a number of stones crafted by known local carvers, including Francis A. Brown, Alpheus Cary, Jr., Abel Davis, Ira L. Davis, Nathaniel Davis, William Farnsworth, Robert Fowle, George T. Hope, John Marble, Joseph Marble, David Nichols, Enoch Noyes, Paul Noyes, Ebenezer Soule III, Samuel S. Warren, Theodore Warren, Calvin H. Weeks, and Webb & Payne. The property meets Criteria Consideration D because of its age, distinctive design features, and craftsmanship of its gravestones, and its association with the history of West Newbury. The cemetery retains integrity of location, design, feeling, materials, setting, association, and workmanship.

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

0150 0000 00830	Newburyport		WNB.377
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Town/City:** West Newbury

**Place:**

## Photograph



Façade (southwest) and southeast elevations.

**Address:** 144 Bachelor Street

**Historic Name:** Mary G. Davis House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1931

**Source:** Deed; Visual Assessment

**Style/Form:** Bungalow

**Architect/Builder:** Not Known

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: Fieldstone and brick

Wall/Trim: Wood shingles and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** shed (L 20<sup>th</sup> c?)

**Major Alterations (with dates):** Replacement windows (late 20<sup>th</sup> c?)

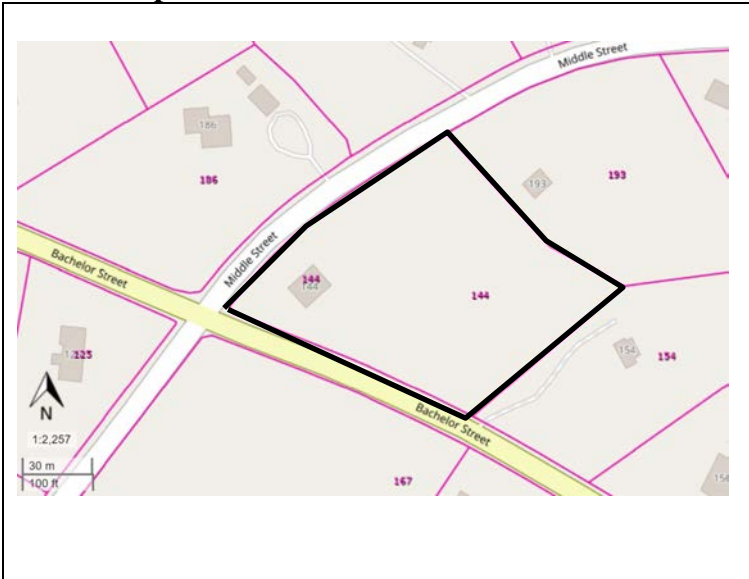
**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 2.60 acres

**Setting:** Located at the intersection of two cross-town thoroughfares, in a semi-rural residential neighborhood. Surrounding development is evenly and frequently dispersed and heterogeneous in age, form, style, and siting.

## Locus Map



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

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2023

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

144 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.377

 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:**

144 Bachelor Street prominently occupies a large corner lot, bordered by dry-laid fieldstone walls at the street edges. The terrain is generally flat in front of the lot, sloping slightly down to the north behind the house. The Bachelor Street side of the property is maintained chiefly in lawn, with ornamental shrubs and trees planted near the perimeter of the house. A paved driveway is located to the right side (southeast) of the building.

The main block measures 32 feet wide by 42 feet deep, with a small entry porch appended to the rear, east corner. The building rises 1 story above a raised basement to a hip roof; the rear entry porch has a shed roof. The foundation is part fieldstone and part brick. A tall brick chimney rises from the east slope of the roof. Windows typically have 6/6 replacement sash and narrow molded trim; they occur singly and in pairs, and in a variety of sizes.

The roof eave flares out over the façade, which has a recessed entry porch at its west corner and four closely-spaced windows across its eastern end. The porch features wood steps, railings with square-section balusters and paneled posts, and a square, molded corner post supporting the corner of the roof. Within the porch, one window faces Bachelor Street; the entry door faces the side. The left (northwest) side of the house has a combination of single and paired windows. The rear (northeast) elevation has utilitarian fenestration, with a variety of window sizes and a bulkhead cellar entry. The right (southeast) side of the house is distinguished by an angled bay window in the middle. The rear entry vestibule is mostly glazed, with a wood lattice screen at the base and a single-leaf door with brick steps facing Bachelor Street.

Well preserved and well maintained, 144 Bachelor Street is a rare, handsome example of Bungalow design in West Newbury. Notable features include its modest scale, hip roof with a front flare, recessed and well-detailed corner porch, shingled walls, and plentiful and multifarious windows.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

The house was likely constructed circa 1931, the year in which Mary G. Davis of Weston, Massachusetts purchased 200 acres of land at the intersection of Middle Street and Bachelor Street from the Edward Salkins estate.<sup>1</sup> (The sale included 210 Middle Street, WNB.150.) At the Middle Street property, Mary G. Davis (ca. 1883- ) operated a stable and worked as a riding instructor. Davis was active with the Myopia Club of Hamilton and hosted equestrian events in West Newbury.<sup>2</sup> Davis also opened her stables to local high school equestrian groups.<sup>3</sup>

In 1944, Mary G. Davis sold the house to Mark H. Fennelly.<sup>4</sup> Mark H. Fennelly worked as the assistant manager of a grocery store and lived here with this wife, Marjorie. The couple owned the house until 1963.<sup>5</sup>

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

City Directories.

Essex County Registry of Deeds.

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<sup>1</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 2895, p. 162.

<sup>2</sup> "Run Starts Here," *Newburyport Daily News and Newburyport Herald*, 5 October 1931, p. 2.

<sup>3</sup> "High School Notes," *Newburyport Daily News and Newburyport Herald*, 12 May 1944, p. 8.

<sup>4</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 3392, p. 12.

<sup>5</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 1963. 5133, p. 521.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WEST NEWBURY

144 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	WNB.377
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Massachusetts Vital Records. Ancestry.com.  
 "Run Starts Here." *Newburyport Daily News and Newburyport Herald*. 5 October 1931: 2.  
 Town of West Newbury. Tax Assessor records.  
 United States Census. Ancestry.com.



Façade (southwest) elevation.



Northwest and northeast (rear) elevations.

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

0080 0000  
00020

Newburyport

WNB.2  
WNB.422

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

**Town/City:** West Newbury

**Place:**

## Photograph



Right side (southeast) and façade (northeast) elevations.

**Address:** 157 Bachelor Street

**Historic Name:** District No. 8 Schoolhouse / Reed House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Residence

Original: School

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1850

**Source:** Ladd

**Style/Form:** Greek Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Not Known

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: Fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** Barn (L 19<sup>th</sup> c?)

**Major Alterations (with dates):** Bay window on façade, dormers, exterior chimney, rear wings and additions (20<sup>th</sup> century)

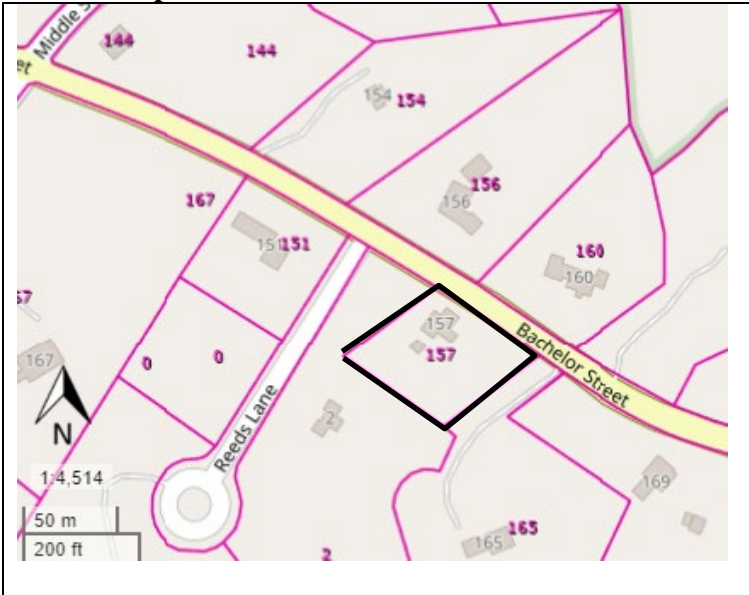
**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:** ca. 1910

**Acreage:** 1.0 acres

**Setting:** Located on a cross-town thoroughfare in a semi-rural, residential neighborhood. Nearby development is evenly and frequently dispersed and heterogeneous in age, form, style, and siting.

## Locus Map



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

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2023

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

157 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

	WNB.2
	WNB.422

 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:**

157 Bachelor Street is located on the south side of Bachelor Street. The house occupies the north corner of its parcel, with a modest setback from the road, and stands on a slight rise. The lot descends gradually toward the back of the property and is maintained chiefly in lawn, with ornamental shrubs and trees planted near the perimeter of the house. A paved driveway is located on the east side of the house. The property consists of a house with irregular wings and additions and a barn.

Measuring 24 feet wide by 36 feet deep, the main block of the house rises 1½ stories from a fieldstone foundation to a front-gable roof with a low-pitched roof and minimal gable returns. A concrete block chimney rises from the ridge at the rear, and a fieldstone chimney rises up the exterior of the right side (northwest elevation). Walls are sheathed with clapboards and trimmed with flat corner boards and fascia boards, with a simple bed molding at the eaves. Windows typically have 6/6 sash, occur singly, and are trimmed with flat casings.

The facade (northeast elevation) has an offset entrance and an angled bay window with a hip roof on the first story. The entrance features a single-leaf door framed by pilasters, a high entablature, and a pronounced cornice. The asymmetrical left side (northeast elevation) has single and ganged windows. A shed-roofed dormer, flush with the main wall, has paired windows towards the front and a single window towards the back. A 1½ story, shed-roofed addition extends from the back corner of this elevation and is itself fronted by a 1-story shed-roofed addition with a side entrance. The two additions each have a single window.

The right side (northwest elevation) of the main block has a single window forward of the exterior stone chimney. A 1½ story addition at the back of this elevation is not clearly visible from the public way. A single window faces the street, and the gable end has two windows at the first story and one in the second story. A one-story, shed-roofed extension is visible across the rear of the main block and north ell.

A barn (WNB.422) located near the back of the house is barely visible from the street; it appears to be an historic structure. The barn rises 1½ stories to a front gable roof without gable returns; it is clad with vertical board siding and asphalt shingles at the roof. The front (southeast elevation) appears to have an offset, hinged barn door at grade. The rear (northwest) elevation has a hayloft door or window (now boarded over) in the half-story and a multi-pane window or pedestrian door offset at the first story.

The house is well maintained and preserves important historic features despite significant alterations. Notable architectural elements include the simple massing of the original block and its low-pitched roof, the historic door frame at the main entrance, and possibly historic sash. The bay window on the façade, large dormer window, exterior chimney, and ad hoc rear additions detract from the integrity of the design. The 1973 survey form shows the façade with the offset entrance and a single window at the first floor.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

The house is reported to have been originally constructed circa 1850 as Schoolhouse Number 8 on the northeast side of Bachelor Street, across the street from its present-day location. A schoolhouse appears in that location on the 1856, 1872, and 1884 maps. In 1910, Central School was constructed and the schoolhouses were no longer needed. At a special town meeting on November 3, 1910, the town voted to sell off the schoolhouses and some of the land upon which they were located.<sup>1</sup> Around that time, a "Dr. Boyd" moved the house across the street.<sup>2</sup> (More research is needed to ascertain Dr. Boyd's identity.)

<sup>1</sup> Town of West Newbury, *Annual Statement of Receipts and Expenditures...for the Year Ending Jan. 31, 1911*, p. 134.

<sup>2</sup> "West Newbury Houses That Were Moved."

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

157 BACHELOR ST

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	WNB.2
	WNB.422

In 1912, the land on which the building now rests was purchased by T.C. Thurlow's Sons, Inc.<sup>3</sup> In 1922, T. C. Thurlow's Sons, Inc. sold the land and buildings (the deed does not specify a house) to schoolteacher Charles L. Reed of Boston.<sup>4</sup> Charles L. Reed (ca. 1869-1950)<sup>5</sup> and his wife, Rosa (ca. 1871- ), lived here with their adult daughters. It appears that Charles L. Reed continued teaching while establishing "Schoolhouse Orchards" here. (The 1930 census noted his occupation as teacher; the 1940 census noted his occupation as an "orchardist" with his own orchard.) The Reed family owned the house and orchard until 1952.<sup>6</sup>

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Façade (northeast elevation).



Façade (northeast) and right side (northwest) elevations.

<sup>3</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 2138, p. 513 and p. 517.

<sup>4</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 2509, p. 445.

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/58561187/charles-l-reed>. Accessed April 11, 2023.

<sup>6</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 3879, p. 204.



**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

157 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	WNB.2 WNB.422
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Barn: Northwest elevation.



Barn: Southeast (front) elevation.

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

0080 0000 00010	Newburyport		WNB.3 WNB.423 WNB.424
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

**Town/City:** West Newbury

**Place:**

## Photograph



**Address:** 169 Bachelor Street

**Historic Name:** John and Harriet Shute House

**Uses: Present:** Single Family Residence

**Original:** Single Family Residence

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1880

**Source:** Visual Appearance

**Style/Form:** Italianate

**Architect/Builder:** Not Known

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Brick

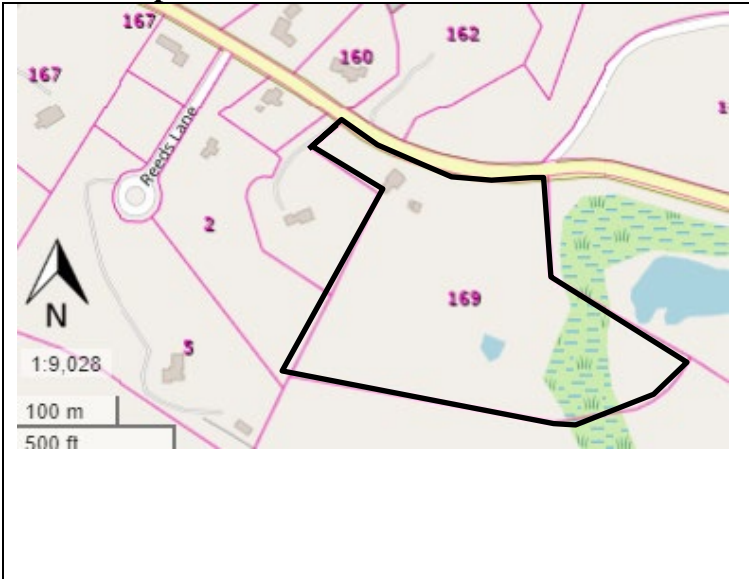
Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** Two barns (L 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries?)

**Major Alterations (with dates):** Front porch (early 20<sup>th</sup> c?)

## Locus Map



**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no     yes     **Date:**

**Acreage:** 13.50 acres

**Setting:** Located on a cross-town thoroughfare in a semi-rural, residential neighborhood. Heterogeneous surrounding development is widely dispersed east of this property and more thickly settled to the west, near the intersection with Middle Street.

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

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2023

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

169 BACHELOR ST

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)	Form No.
	WNB.3
	WNB.423
	WNB.424

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:**

169 Bachelor Street is located on the south side of Bachelor Steet, set well back from the road and on a steep rise above the street. The house stands in the northwest corner of a large, irregularly-shaped parcel and faces southeast, away from the street. A gravel driveway extends to two barns located to the southeast of the house. The open land around the house and barns is maintained chiefly in lawn, with scattered trees and shrubs; most of the parcel is occupied as woodland. A dry-laid fieldstone wall runs parallel to the street along one of the back property lines.

The house consists of a five by four bay main block, measuring 38 feet long by 32 feet deep, with a large side ell measuring 32 feet long by 20 feet deep. Both volumes rise 2½ stories from a brick foundation to a side gable roof with a small chimney set at the ridge. Walls are sheathed with clapboards and trimmed with corner pilasters, a molded entablature, and gable returns. Windows typically have 2/2 sash, flat casings, and bracketed hoods (except on the second floor of the ell).

The five by four bay main block has a center entrance on its façade (southeast elevation) and a flat-roofed porch spanning nearly the entire first floor of the façade. The entrance is elaborated by an unusually deep hood supported by delicately carved and sawn braces and spokes. The porch consists of square posts and railings with square-sectioned balusters. Wood steps access the center bay of the porch. The symmetrical right side of the main block (northeast elevation) has loosely-paired windows.

Not clearly visible from the public way, the substantial ell has at least four and likely five window bays across the front. Its center entrance is ornamented with a small hip-roofed hood with brackets similar to the main entrance.

At the end of the driveway, an early barn (WNB.423) rises 1½ stories to a front gable roof. Its clapboard walls are trimmed with flat corner boards and fascia boards, and slender but pronounced gable returns. The symmetrical façade contains a pair of vertical board sliding barn doors at the ground floor and a large 2/2 window centered in the half story. A small chimney rises from the northwest slope of the roof. A small adjacent barn (WNB.424) is one-story high with a front gable roof, wood clapboards and trim, and a sliding wood door. The age of this barn has not been determined and merits further investigation.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

The house was likely constructed circa 1880 for the Shute family. Harriet B. Davis Shute (1824-1905)<sup>1</sup> purchased the property, with a dwelling house on it, in 1877.<sup>2</sup> Based on the building's appearance, the existing house was likely constructed to replace the earlier building. Harriet Shute and her husband, Joseph B. Shute (1825-1907), were married in 1844 in Newburyport and lived here with their three children. Joseph B. Shute worked at the "Exchange Eating-house" in Haverhill<sup>3</sup> and later worked as a farmer. The 1900 census recorded at this residence Harriet and Joseph B. Shute and their extended family.

After Harriet Shute's death, the property was sold in 1912 to Michael Nolan,<sup>4</sup> a physician from Lynn. It appears that Nolan only lived here for a few years; by the time of the 1920 census, Nolan was living on Garden Street. Nolan retained ownership of the building until 1933.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "Aged Resident is Dead," *Newburyport Daily News*, 9 October 1905, p. 2.

<sup>2</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 975, p. 205.

<sup>3</sup> Haverhill City Directory, 1865.

<sup>4</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 3323, p. 359.

<sup>5</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 2960, p. 342.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

169 BACHELOR ST

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.3  
WNB.423  
WNB.424

Maine natives Don C. Sylvester and his wife, Ethel, owned the house from 1943 until 1958.<sup>6</sup> Don Sylvester worked as a farmer and as a carpenter. Among his jobs was the demolition of District Schoolhouse No. 9 in 1941<sup>7</sup> and repairs to town hall in 1954.<sup>8</sup> The Sylvesters also owned pastureland and a house at the east end of Main Street near the river. (Sylvester's 1942 World War II draft card notes his residence at 941 Main Street, West Newbury.) The Sylvesters sold the house in 1958 to John H. and Sylvia S. Elliot, who owned the house until 1975.<sup>9</sup>

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Side (northeast) and rear (northwest) elevations.



Rear (northwest) elevations of main block and ell.

<sup>6</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 4465, p. 131.

<sup>7</sup> "Old School Being Razed," *Newburyport Daily News and Newburyport Herald*, 29 May 1941, p. 2.

<sup>8</sup> Barbara Soucy, "West Newbury: Notes," *Newburyport Daily News*, 28 October 1954, p. 2.

<sup>9</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 4465, p. 131 and Book 6177, p. 62.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

169 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)

Form No.

WNB.3  
WNB.423  
WNB.424



Detail of hood at main entrance.



Barns: Façade (northeast) elevations.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

169 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.3  
WNB.423  
WNB.424**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 district

Criteria:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**Criteria Considerations:     **A**     **B**     **C**     **D**     **E**     **F**     **G**Statement of Significance by Stacy E. Spies, Historic Preservation Consultant*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The Harriet and John Shute House is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A at the local level for its association with West Newbury's agricultural history. The property on which this well-preserved and well-maintained house is located was farmed from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. The house retains integrity of location, design, feeling, materials, setting, association, and workmanship. Information on the integrity of the interior and the nature and extent of modern alterations would be needed to confirm this recommendation.

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

0160 0000 0004A	Newburyport		WNB.4
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**Town/City:** West Newbury

**Place:**

## Photograph



West and façade (south) elevations

**Address:** 210 Bachelor Street

**Historic Name:** Thurlow House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

**Date of Construction:** c. 1884

**Source:** 1884 map; Visual Assessment

**Style/Form:** Victorian Eclectic

**Architect/Builder:** Not Known

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Fieldstone, concrete block

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** Barn (20<sup>th</sup> c)

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): Removal of front entrance and new side entrance porch (early 21<sup>st</sup> C); 2<sup>nd</sup> story of side ell (early 21<sup>st</sup> C); replacement window sash (early 21<sup>st</sup> c?); rear ell (20<sup>th</sup> c – early 21<sup>st</sup> c?)

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 2.00 acres

**Setting:** Located on a cross-town thoroughfare in a rural setting, with widely dispersed development. Stands near the southern end of Bachelor Street at its intersection with Mouton and Cherry Hill streets, near Indian Hill Reservoir.

## Locus Map



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

**Organization:** West Newbury Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2023

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

210 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

WNB.4

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:**

210 Bachelor Street is located on the north side of Bachelor Street, at the base of a steep, wooded hill across the road from a large, open field. The house has a modest setback from the road; a small barn is located to its northeast. The irregularly-shaped parcel is generally flat and maintained in lawn, with scattered shrubs and trees. The house consists of a main block with side and rear ells. A paved driveway to the east of the house leads to a modest garage/barn.

Measuring 18 feet wide by 26 feet deep, the rectangular main block rises 1½ stories from a fieldstone foundation to a front-gable roof with a low-pitch and minimal gable returns. A small chimney rises from the center of the ridgeline. Walls are sheathed with wood clapboards and trimmed with flat corner and fascia boards, with a simple bed molding at the roof eave. Windows typically have 2/2 replacement sash and flat trim and occur singly, in pairs, and in trios.

The façade of the main block has three ganged windows on the first floor and two symmetrically placed windows in the half-story. Extending across most of the east elevation, a modern shed-roofed entry porch is fully glazed and has a single-leaf door toward the back. The 1973 survey form and accompanying 1989 photo show that the original volume had casement windows and an offset door with a small bracketed hood on the first floor of the façade. The assessor's property card indicates that the porch-less east elevation was previously blank with the exception of a window or door at the north end.

The ell on the west side of the main block rises 1½ stories from a concrete block foundation to an asymmetrical side-gable roof with a shed dormer across the front and a garrison-style overhang at the rear of the half-story. The side ell has a utilitarian fenestration on its façade and side elevation. The 1973 survey form shows the side ell as previously having one-story with a traditional side-gable roof and three irregularly-spaced, 2/2 windows. The small ell projecting from the rear of the main block is not clearly visible from the street. It rises one story to a gabled roof with small brick chimney at the ridgeline and has paired windows in the center of its east elevation.

Measuring approximately 22 feet wide by 24 feet deep, the gambrel-roofed barn/garage rises one story to a front-gambrel roof; it is sheathed with board-and-batten siding and flat corner boards. A 10-foot wide shed has been appended to its east elevation. The façade of the barn's main block features a modern garage bay and a single-leaf pedestrian entrance with modern doors. The west elevation has two 6/6 windows with flat casings. The utilitarian shed addition has a mélange of materials and fenestration.

Well maintained, the house at 210 Bachelor Street has lost its historic architectural integrity through major changes to fenestration, entrances, and massing. The most notable surviving features are its prominent siting close to the road and its still-rural setting.

**HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

The house was constructed circa 1884 for the Thomas C. Thurlow family, who owned and operated the company that would become Cherry Hill Nurseries.<sup>1</sup> It is unclear who made this house their residence; the Thomas C. Thurlow family owned 43 acres in this area and, at the time this building was constructed, lived next door at 6 Cherry Hill Street (WNB.11). Thomas C. Thurlow (1832-1909)<sup>2</sup> married Sarah Kimball Hathaway (1845-1927)<sup>3</sup> in 1879.<sup>4</sup> Thomas C. Thurlow worked as a nurseryman in

<sup>1</sup> The house does not appear on the 1884 map.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27373183/thomas-chase-thurlow>. Accessed April 20, 2023.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27375480/sarah-kimball-thurlow>. Accessed April 20, 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Follansbee and Wild, p. 53.



**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

210 BACHELOR ST

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.4

the family business that came to be known as Cherry Hill Nurseries. In 1917, widow Sarah Thurlow sold the house to the family business, T.C. Thurlow's Sons, Inc.<sup>5</sup>

Thomas C. Thurlow's father, George Thurlow (1805-1879)<sup>6</sup> established the business in 1832. "According to an early catalog, [Thurlow] planted seeds obtained from 'cider' or natural apples. The little trees that grew from these he budded and planted...[H]e started selling trees to his neighbors because he had budded more than he needed."<sup>7</sup> George Thurlow began adding other fruit trees, including cherry, plum, pear, and peach before transitioning over to planting ornamental trees and shrubs and smaller fruit-bearing shrubs such as currant, strawberry, raspberry, and blackberry. Thomas Chase Thurlow (1832-1909)<sup>8</sup> joined the business in 1856 and introduced Norway spruce into the catalog.

After Thomas Chase Thurlow's death in 1909, his sons Winthrop Hale Thurlow (1887-1967)<sup>9</sup> and George C. Thurlow (1881-1952)<sup>10</sup> carried on the business and incorporated the endeavor as T. C. Thurlow's Sons, Inc. They were succeeded by George's son, G. Harold Thurlow. In the 1910s, David Stranger came to work for the Thurlow brothers and worked his way up in the business. (See 66 Indian Hill St., WNB.26.) In 1930, the business was renamed to Thurlow's and Stranger, Inc.<sup>11</sup> After Stranger's death in 1938, the business was returned to family control under the supervision of G. Harold Thurlow.

Peonies were a specialty of the nursery. Thomas Chase Thurlow began to collect and study peonies around 1880.<sup>12</sup> "For many years these colorful plants attracted hundreds of visitors in early summer" and if one called ahead, the nursery would send a carriage to collect visitors from the trolley stop.<sup>13</sup> "Until World War II, each season there would be a special peony exhibit on the ground floor of the main office."<sup>14</sup> Winthrop Hale Thurlow, Thomas Chase Thurlow's son, "continued their cultivation...the nursery did its own crossing of peonies, raising them from seed and creating new varieties... By 1906 there were more than 600 varieties and in the 1920s the nursery had a new planting of 10,000 roots each year."<sup>15</sup> Cultivation of peonies was discontinued in 1968.

In 1966, the corporate name was changed to Cherry Hill Nurseries, Inc. The following year, the company sold the house to Roger G. and Barbara A. Coggeshall.<sup>16</sup> At that time, Roger Gibbs Coggeshall (1927-2013)<sup>17</sup> worked as president of Cherry Hill Nurseries. Coggeshall was graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts and had previously worked as a propagator for the Arnold Arboretum in Boston<sup>18</sup> before coming to work for Cherry Hill Nurseries in 1958. Coggeshall specialized in the propagation of woody plants, trees, and shrubs. He served as president of the New England Nursery Association and received the Jackson-Dawson medal from the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and the Award of Merit from the International Lilac Society. Cherry Hill Nurseries closed in 2000 and Barbara A. Coggeshall sold the house in 2014.<sup>19</sup>

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<sup>5</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 2370, p. 92.

<sup>6</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27382992/george-thurlow>. Accessed April 20, 2023.

<sup>7</sup> Janes, "A business..."

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/27373183/thomas-chase-thurlow>. Accessed April 20, 2023.

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/44473480/winthrop-hale-thurlow>. Accessed April 20, 2023.

<sup>10</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/44472878/george-chase-thurlow>. Accessed April 20, 2023.

<sup>11</sup> Thurlow, "Cherry Hill Nurseries."

<sup>12</sup> Janes, "A business..."

<sup>13</sup> Babendreier, "Cherry Hill Nurseries."

<sup>14</sup> Janes, "A business..."

<sup>15</sup> Janes, "A business..."

<sup>16</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 5501, p. 449.

<sup>17</sup> <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/233749539/roger-gibbs-coggeshall>. Accessed May 24, 2023.

<sup>18</sup> "Increasing Plants' Lecture, Tuesday," *The Boston Globe*, 29 April 1956, p. 141.

<sup>19</sup> Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 33301, p. 136.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

WEST NEWBURY

210 BACHELOR ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNB.4

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Façade (south) and east elevations of main block.



Garage/barn: façade (south) and east elevations.