

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

02 08           

**Town:**            Tewksbury

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

## Photograph



**Address:**            386 North Billerica Road

**Historic Name:** Alexander McDonnell [McDonald] House

**Uses:** Present:    Single Family Residential

                          Original:    Single Family Residential

**Date of Construction:** c1853

**Source:**

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

**Architect/Builder:**

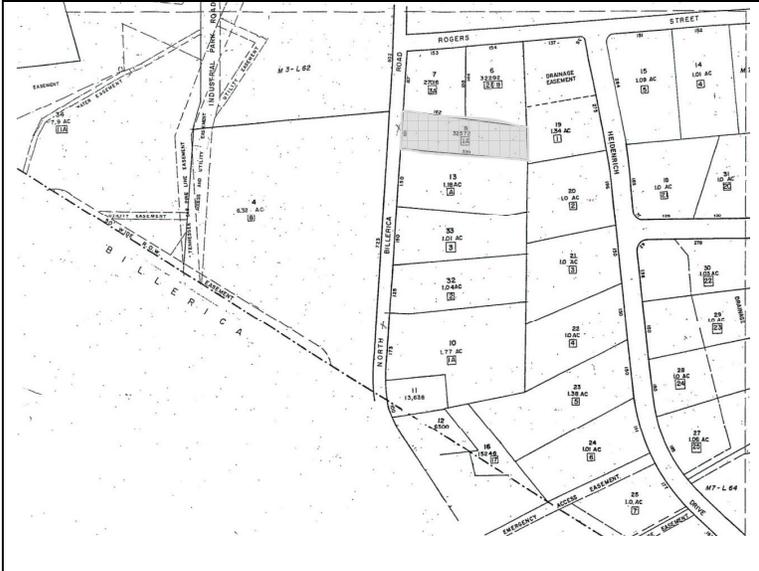
**Exterior Material:**

Foundation:    Cut Stone

Wall/Trim:        Vinyl Siding

Roof:                Asphalt Shingles

## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

Garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

Removal of the front entrance, addition of bays and rear addition (c1883)

**Condition:**            Fair

**Moved:** no | X |    yes | |    **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:**                0.75 Acres

**Setting:**                Built in a formerly rural agricultural area that was subdivided in the second half of the 20th century for residential and industrial development.

**Recorded by:** Julie Ann Larry

**Organization:** ttl-architects

**Date** (*month / year*): March 2010

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

386 NORTH BILLERICA ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

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.*

The one-and-a-half story house at **386 North Billerica Road** is a rectangular dwelling. The main form is connected to a two-story rear (east) ell with a cross gable roof. A projecting two story gable front bay is located on the south elevation of the rear ell. A one-story bay window is located on the west and south elevations. To the north of the west bay window is a small 4/4 sash window. The two by three bay dwelling rests on a cut stone foundation. The front gable roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. Narrow brick chimneys project from the southern slope of the main roof and rear ell. The walls are clad with vinyl siding. Under the two story bay, a corner cut-away shelters the main entrance. Fenestration includes 4/4, 6/6, and 1/1 sash windows grouped in bands or singularly on the facades and sliding glass doors. At the rear of the dwelling is a deck.

To the southeast of the dwelling is a one-story garage. The gable front garage features two bay overhead garage doors below a central swinging wood haymow door. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and the walls are clad in vinyl siding. To the rear (east) is a one story addition with a shed roof.

## 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.*

According to Assessor's records the house was built c 1900. However the style and form of the dwelling, as well as deeds indicate that the dwelling was probably built in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The house was part of the Alexander McDonnell Farm. McDonnell purchased the farm in 1853, and may have built a house around that time on his new land. The house has been subsequently altered with Italianate and Queen Anne influences that may be a result of a change in ownership in 1883.

In 1883 Katie and Katherine McDonnell sold the McDonnell farm to Cyrus Parsons. Cyrus was a milk dealer and operated a team of horses for delivery. In 1890 property Valuation records indicate that Cyrus owned: the house, barn, 55-acre McDonnell lot, 32 cows, a bull, 9 horses, and a carriage. In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century Cyrus also worked as an excavation, grading, and road building contractor.

In 1907 Cyrus Parsons deeded the house to Judson & Mary Parsons. Cyrus built a house at 434 North Billerica Road (TEW.XXX) that same year. Judson worked as a watchman in Lowell and a farmer. Circa 1936 the house was deeded to Marie [Parsons] Watson and her husband Thomas. Marie was born in Illinois and moved to Tewksbury as a young child. She attended the West Tewksbury and Foster Schools and later worked as an office manager and as an artist in Lowell. The Watsons owned the house until 1974. Marie Watson died in 2004.

Additional owners include: Robert K & Lynelle Lapointe (1974-1978); Paul & Leslie Paquette (1978-1986); Jeffrey & Julie Kirsch (1986-1991); and David San Clemente (1991-2009)

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

U.S. Census Records. 1790-1930.

Directories. 1896-97, 1898-99, 1900-01, 1911-12, 1913-14, 1915-16, 1919, 1927, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1937-38, 1940-41, 1942-1943, 1949 [Ancestry], 1953, 1955, 1961, and 1967.

Map of the Town of Tewksbury 1852. Henry F Walling. Boston, MA.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

TEWKSBURY

386 NORTH BILLERICA ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

|  |  |
|--|--|
|  |  |
|--|--|

- 1865 Map of Tewkesbury with inset.
- Atlas of Middlesex County 1875. FW Beers.
- Atlas of Middlesex County 1889. Geo H Walker & Co.
- List of Residents by Streets, Ages 17 years and over, In the Town of Tewksbury Mass. As prepared by the Board of Registrars (various years 1965-)
- Valuations of the Real and Personal Estate of the Town of Tewksbury.
- North Middlesex County Registry of Deeds.
- \_\_\_\_. *Ye Towne Book*. Town of Tewksbury. 1934.
- Patton, Harold J. *Ask Now of the Days that are Past*. Higginson Book Co. 1964.

