

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

70 11

Town: Tewksbury

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)
Shawsheen

Address: 200 Shawsheen Street

Historic Name: Foster Farm Outbuildings

Uses: Present: Storage

Original: Agriculture

Date of Construction: c1894

Source: *Foster Genealogy*, 1899

Style/Form: No Style

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingles, Vertical Boards

Roof: Asphalt Shingles, Metal

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: Good

Moved: no | X | yes | | **Date** _____

Acreage: 1.03 Acres

Setting: Located in a formerly rural area developed in the second half of the 20th century as a suburban residential area. The Heath Brook School (1957) is located on the opposite side of Shawsheen Street on land formerly associated with the farm.

Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Julie Ann Larry

Organization: ttl-architects

Date (*month / year*): August 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

200 SHAWSHEEN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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___ 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 connected outbuildings at **200 Shawsheen Street** are the only historic resources that remain from a farmstead near the corner of Foster Road and Shawsheen Street. The southeastern facing assemblage of building includes a large central side gable barn flanked by two shed roof additions to the north and two gable additions to the south. The southernmost addition is an open air carport.

The rear (north) sheds have metal roofs and vertical board siding, while the gable roof outbuildings have asphalt shingle roofs and wood shingle siding. The central barn features a gable roof dormer above the large central sliding door.

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 barns are part of a former Foster family farm at the corner of Shawsheen Street and Beech Road. The farm was owned by Amos Foster (1785-1863). Amos and his wife Rhoda (1787-1846) had three children Hannah, Oliver, and Rhoda. Oliver Foster (1818-1882) inherited his father's farm married in 1842 to Abigail Hill (1821-1879). They had four children: Martha, who married Jacob Burt, George Oliver (1848-1880), Charles Amos (1852-1940), and Frank Mace (b1857), who married Anna Harnden in 1880.

Charles A Foster owned the large farm in 1890. The farm included a house, 150-acres, and a barn with four horses, nine cows and a heifer. The farm was inherited by Charles A Foster's son, Herbert Lewis Foster (b.1889) c1940.

From the *Foster Genealogy* "the old home...it was a large square, white house with green blinds, shaded by lovely great elms, atypical New England home, with its brick oven and open fireplace." In 1893 a large barn connected to the house was struck by lightning and burned the barn, house, connecting ell, and carriage barn. The extant barns were probably built to replace the destroyed barns c1894.

Owners of the farm buildings include: Charles A Foster (c1894-1940); Herbert & Ida Foster (1940-1963); Miles & Gertrude Record (1963-1966); Rolland & Rita Roy (1966-2002); and Roy Family Trust (2002-2009).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Pierce, Frederick Clifton. *Foster Genealogy*. Chicago: WB Conkey Press, 1899.
- 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.
- 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.