

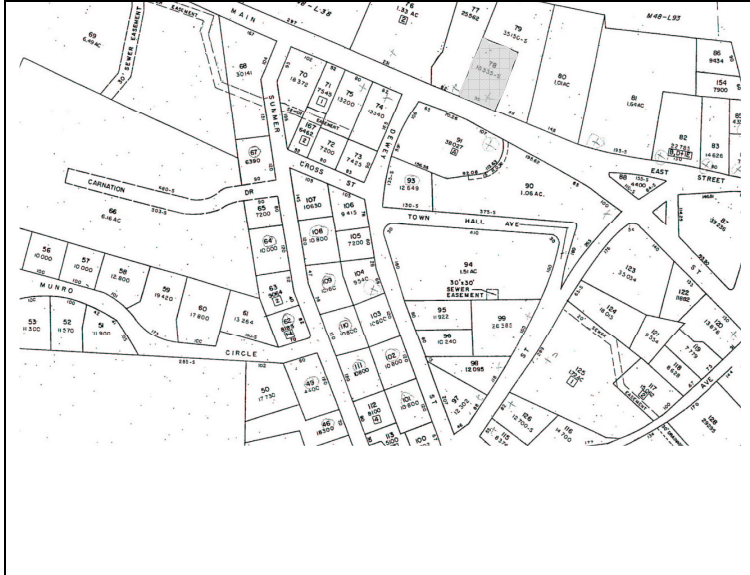
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Julie Ann Larry

Organization: ttl-architects

Date (month / year): March 2010

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

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Town: Tewksbury

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)
Tewksbury Center

Address: 970 Main Street

Historic Name: House for Enoch Foster's Farmhands

Uses: Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Worker Housing

Date of Construction: c1886

Source: Deed Research, Historic Maps & Style

Style/Form: Italianate

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Aluminum Siding

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (with dates):
Bike Store 968 Main Street (c1956)

Condition: Fair

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

Acreage: 0.38 Acres

Setting: Located in a primarily commercial area on a major travel corridor to Lowell near the village center.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

970 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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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 Italianate dwelling at 970 Main Street is two-and-a-half stories in height. The two by three bay building rests on a granite foundation. The building is rectangular in plan with a side ell at the rear of the north elevation. A one story shop is located to the north of the dwelling. The gable front roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles. A brick chimney projects from the ridge of the main roof. A second chimney is located on the exterior of the shop addition. A two story bay projects from the front façade. The main entry door is to the north of the double height bay. A projecting hood over the entrance is supported by two large decorative brackets. The walls of the dwelling are clad in aluminum siding. In the gable end is a sawn gable detail with a floral motif. The fenestration on the dwelling includes narrow 1/1 sash windows and 2/2 wood sash windows. The walls of the attached shop are constructed of concrete block. The shops large masonry openings have been filled by vertical siding and pairs of 1/1 sash windows. Above the large masonry openings is a band of wood shingles beneath a low modern baluster.

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 Property Valuations in 1890 Enoch Foster owner his own home near the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets, the Brown Tavern at 995 Main Street (TEW.05) and the "Farmer House". Foster acquired the property in 1886 from Aaron Frost.

Joel and Enoch Foster were brothers and furniture manufacturers. The brothers entered the furniture business with Nathan P Cole under the name JE Foster & Co. in 1851. The company name was later changed to Foster & Cole. The brothers also maintained a business interest in California. Joel, his wife Sarah, and their children lived in San Francisco in the 1870s. When in Tewksbury Joel Foster lived at 48 Pleasant Street. His brother, Enoch, built his house c1880 close to the corner of Main and Pleasant Streets on the site of the present day Town Hall. Enoch retired from the furniture business and operated a farm. According to census records initially he employed farm hands that resided with the family. Later it appears that the farmhands lived in a separate dwelling.

In 1900 Enoch Foster sold 970 Main Street to Julia Foristall. Members of the Foristall family operated the local post office. George Foristall was the postmaster and operated the village post office from his house opposite the Brown Tavern from 1897-1914. Edith Foristall worked as the assistant postmaster.

In the 1950s the house was occupied by Harold Hillson. Hillson operated a bike shop in the attached shop front at 968 Main Street. In the 1970s the house was owned by William and Shirley Granfield of 290 Pleasant Street and operated as Granfield's Inn. The dwelling has also been known as the Dover House Inn.

Additional owners: Julia Foristall (1900-); Edith Foristall (-1926); Mary J [Keene] Harvey (1926-1946); Philo Dewings (1946-1956); Harold Hillson (1956-1976); William Granfield (1976-1997); and Rich and Gail McDonald (1997-2009)

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.
- 1865 Map of Tewkesbury with inset.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

Tewksbury 970 Main Street

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)	Form No.

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- 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.