

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WENHAM

10 CEDAR STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNH.128

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.

10 Cedar Street occupies a narrow, nearly rectangular lot on the west side of Cedar Street, near its intersection with Cherry Street. The house is set close to the street, with an array of outbuildings in the center of the lot. Maintained chiefly in lawn, the lot is generally flat.

Measuring 31 feet wide by 20 feet deep, the main block rises 1½ stories from a brick foundation to a side gable roof with two small, steeply pitched cross-gable dormers on the front, brief cornice returns, and a single small chimney rising at the north end of the rear slope. Two small additions are located at the outer ends of the rear elevation; the south addition has a poured concrete foundation, one window bay facing south, and a shed roof. Walls are sheathed with wood clapboards and trimmed with narrow flat corner boards and a wider fascia with bed molding. Windows are comparatively small, with double-hung replacement sash and molded casings.

The five bay façade has a center entrance with a gabled hood supported on plain wood braces, double leaf French doors, and a flat casing. The assessor's property card shows a Greek Revival style enframingent with a single-leaf door and blocked-in sidelights.

The irregular south façade has two windows, not vertically aligned, on each floor; one of the windows in the half-story is a square casement sash. The assessor's property card shows a single-leaf door previously located at the back end of the first floor; its concrete stoop survives.

The closest outbuilding to the street is a 1½ story garage with a front gable roof, two vehicle bays, wood shingle siding, and a 1/1 window centered in the half-story. To its north is a small side-gabled structure with vertical wood siding; its façade (south elevation) features two bays of multi-paned windows (one single and one paired window unit) and an offset French door.

Well maintained and recently renovated, 10 Cedar Street is representative of mid-19th century vernacular housing in Wenham. Notable features include its cottage form with a conservative 5-bay façade, unusual cross-gable dormers, strong fascia board trim, and at least one early outbuilding. The integrity of this building has been significantly impacted by the modern alteration of the main entrance.

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.

Augustus Standley, or Stanley, (1813-1895) purchased one half-acre of land from John Porter in 1852 (Essex South Deed Book 470, p. 67) and built "a dwelling house and other buildings" on the lot by 1853. (See reference in Essex South Deed Book 480, p. 45). In the 1855 Massachusetts census, laborer Augustus Standley and his wife, Margaret, were living here with their five children. The 1880 census indicates that Augustus, Margaret, and daughter Matilda were still living in the house. The 1901 city directory includes Margaret and Matilda at this location.

The 1872 map of Wenham indicates several houses and workshops on the west side of Cedar Street near Cherry Street. It is difficult to ascertain, however, which building may be 10 Cedar Street. Photographer Benjamin Conant identified 10 Cedar Street as the house of Augustus Standley in an 1893 photograph. (Conant Photograph 0682, reproduced in *Wenham Pictures and Prose*, page 118.)

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In 1901, Margaret Stanley sold the property to Harriet E. Folsom and her husband, Charles. (Essex South Deed Book 1641, p. 557) The 1910 atlas identifies the property as that of the "estate of H. Folsom." During the first half of the 20th century, 10 Cedar Street was the residence of Arthur and Ina Cook, who acquired the property from John D. Cannon in 1923. (Essex South Deed Book 2573, p. 383) In 1930, Arthur, Ina, and their two children lived at this location. The 1932 city directory indicates that Arthur worked as a laborer for the Massachusetts Highway Commission. Arthur Cook was also working as a laborer at the time of the 1940 census.

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Walker Lithography and Publishing Company. *Atlas of the Towns of Topsfield, Ipswich, Essex, Hamilton and Wenham, Essex County, Massachusetts*. Boston: Walker Lithography & Co., 1910.

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Wenham Tax Assessor records.

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 Spies

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The neighborhood located at the intersection of Cherry Street and Cedar Street is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places as a historic district. The district retains integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association. Consisting of well-preserved houses dating from ca. 1790 through ca. 1915, the Cherry Street-Cedar Street district meets Criterion A for its association with the development as a neighborhood of farmers and tradespeople. Houses are typically well-preserved one and two-story frame dwellings on stone foundations. The majority of houses in the district feature vernacular Greek Revival, gable-front forms. Several of these houses retain Greek Revival details such as door surrounds. Vernacular forms of Federal, Georgian, and Colonial Revival styles are also represented. 10 Cedar Street is a contributing feature of this district.

Cherry Street developed during the 17th century as an east-west connector between two major north/south roadways: Main Street and present-day Topsfield Road. Eighteenth and nineteenth-century deeds refer to Cherry Street as "the road to Topsfield." With the growth of Wenham village during the 18th century, the village expanded westward along the "the road to Topsfield" between Main Street and present-day Monument Street. Cedar Street was laid out ca. 1825 and was known as "the road to North Beverly." The earliest residents were farmers. However, by the beginning of the 19th century, residents were more typically tradespeople, especially cordwainers, and, without a need for agricultural land, constructed their houses on small lots near the village center. During the late 19th century and into the first decades of the 20th century, residents, in addition to shoe workers, included streetcar drivers, laborers, and teamsters.