

FORM B – BUILDING

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

018-0026

Salem

WNH.145

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

Town/City: Wenham

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

Photograph



Façade (north) and east elevations.

Address: 35 Cherry Street

Historic Name: Ephraim Dane House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1898-1902

Source: Maps; deed

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder: Not known

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone, uncut

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding and trim

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Vinyl siding and windows (L 20th E 21st c)

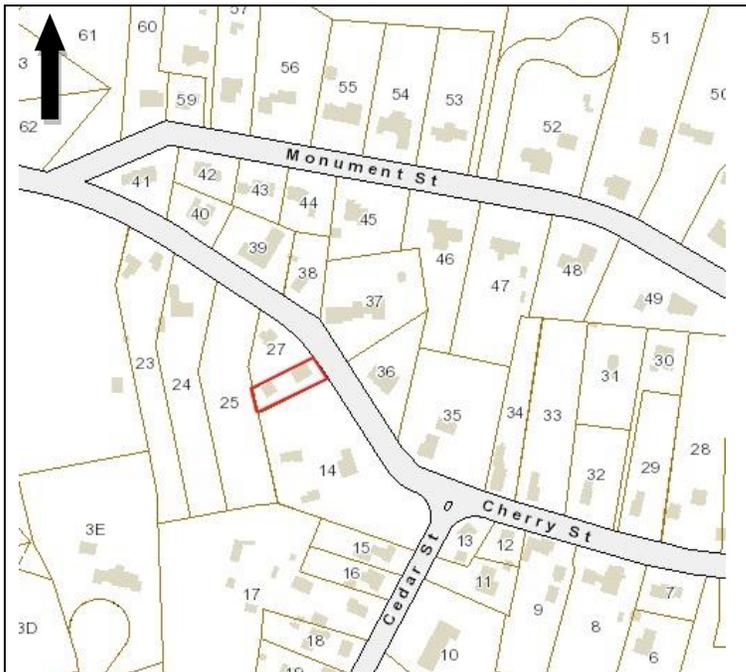
Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.18 acre

Setting: Densely built residential neighborhood, principally developed from the mid-19th through early 20th c. Located at eastern end of main thoroughfare between Wenham village and western part of town.

Locus Map



Map #s are last digits of lot #s, not street #s.

Recorded by: Stacy Spies and Wendy Frontiero

Organization: Wenham Historical Commission

Date: June 2017

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WENHAM

35 CHERRY STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNH.145

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.

35 Cherry Street occupies a small, narrow rectangular lot. Generally flat, it is maintained primarily in lawn, with perimeter trees. The small cottage is positioned behind a modest front setback, near the north property line. The property consists of the house and a modern garage at the back of the lot.

The L-shaped, side-hall plan house rises 1½ stories from a fieldstone foundation to a front gable roof with a perpendicular gabled ell projecting from the rear on the south side. Both gable ends have thin gable returns. A slender chimney rises near the ridgeline towards the back of the main gable. Walls are sheathed with vinyl siding and trim; 1/1 replacement windows are also trimmed with vinyl. An L-shaped porch with a low hip roof, turned columns, sawn brackets, and low wood railing wraps around the façade (east elevation) and south side of the house.

The façade has an offset entrance with a single-leaf door flanked by an angled bay window on the first floor. Three windows are symmetrically arrayed in the half story and a small square window is set in the attic. The south elevation has one window on the first floor of the main block; the rear ell contains an angled bay window on its gable end and a single window in the half story. The long north elevation contains three atypically small double-hung windows asymmetrically arranged at the outer ends. A narrow, shed roofed projection is visible at the rear of the building, accessed by a modern wood porch and staircase.

35 Cherry Street is a good example of modest, vernacular Queen Anne architecture in Wenham. Its design is notable for its L-shaped massing, bay windows, and simple but decorative porch. The building's historic integrity has been significantly altered by the installation of replacement siding, trim, and window sash.

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 land that now comprises 31 and 35 Cherry Street was part of a larger parcel owned by the local, and numerous, Batchelder family. The house does not appear on the 1856, 1872, or 1884 maps. In 1884, 31 Cherry Street was owned by "Mrs. G. Gage." In 1898, the Gage family sold the property to local real estate developer Lester Libby. Libby promptly sold a portion of that larger property – the portion now comprising 35 Cherry Street -- within a few months to Ephraim Dane. (Essex South Deed Book 1546, p. 556, p. 559). Hamilton resident Ephraim Dane (1847-1926) worked as a butcher, according to the 1880 census.

During the early decades of the 20th century, it appears that 31 and 35 Cherry Street were operated as a poultry farm. In 1909, Ephraim Dane sold property at the corner of Cedar and Cherry Streets to Harland J. Brown. (Essex South Deed Book 2007, p. 350). Brown appears in the 1910 census as a poultry farmer living at 35 Cherry Street with his wife Jessima. In 1902, Ephraim Dane had also sold a piece of his property to Emmeline Standley, who was married to Elbridge Standley, also a poultry farmer. (Essex South Deed Book 1680, p. 279). Both couples appear in census and city directory listings on Cherry Street near Cedar Street. Without further research, it is unclear in which house, i.e. 31 or 35 Cherry Street, each couple lived. In 1936, widow Jessima Brown sold the property to Harold and Nellie Dodd. However, it does not appear that the Dodds made either house their residence, as they appear in Beverly census records from the time.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WENHAM

35 CHERRY STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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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.