

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

039-0003 95-7 (Beverly)	Marblehead North	BEV.O	WNH.154 BEV.633
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Town/City: Wenham

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

Photograph



Address: 96 Dodges Row, Wenham and
346 Dodges St., Beverly

Historic Name: Dodge House

Uses: Present: Single family residence

Original: Single family residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1770-1790

Source: visual analysis

Style/Form: Georgian

Architect/Builder: not known

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone, cut

Wall/Trim: clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: detached 1-car frame garage near south elevation; small shed at rear of lawn. Stone wall post-dates assessor's records.

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Main entrance door surrounds (mid-19th C)

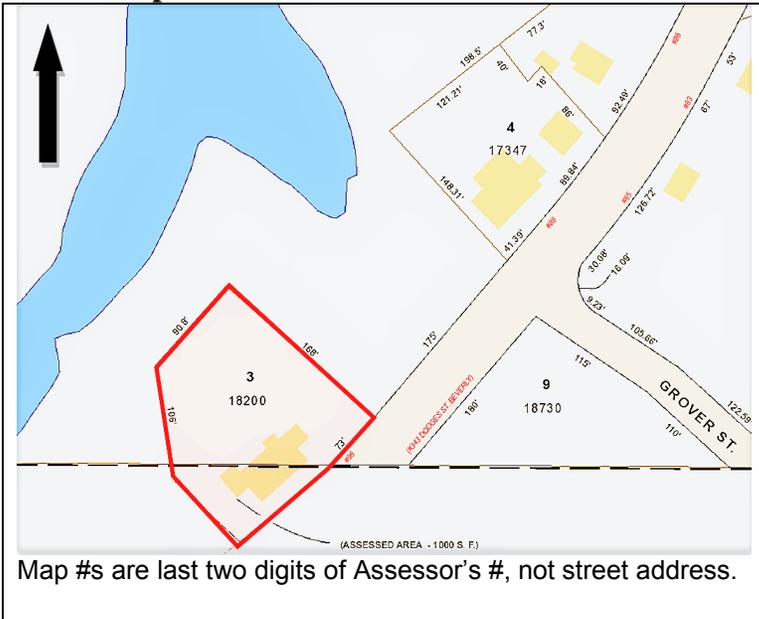
Condition: Excellent

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.42 acre + 0.07 in Beverly

Setting: The house is located on Dodges Row, which connects North Beverly to Wenham Neck and Hamilton. Much of the surrounding area is part of the Longham Reservoir and is heavily wooded. Large, wooded estates and suburban dwellings are located across the street.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Stacy Spies and Wendy Frontiero

Organization: Wenham Historical Commission

Date: June 2017

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WENHAM

96 DODGES ROW

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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.

96 Dodges Row occupies a trapezoidal parcel between the Longham Reservoir and Dodges Row. The lot straddles the Beverly/Wenham municipal boundary. The house is located parallel to the roadway separated from it by a stone wall and narrow strip of grass. An attached garage is located at the south elevation. A circular gravel drive is located in the front yard.

Measuring 18 feet wide and 46 feet long, the asymmetrical 8-bay, side-gabled main block rises two stories from a granite block foundation to a moderately-pitched, side gable roof with short gable returns. The house appears to have been constructed in two phases. The northeast section appears to have been constructed as a 5-bay, center hall house with a brick chimney centered in the west roof slope. The southwest section appears to have been added second, as indicated by the offset doorway and chimney. Walls are sheathed in wood clapboards and trimmed with cornerboards and sill boards. Windows have 6/6 wood sash with narrow molded casings and louvered wood shutters.

The two entrances on the east elevation appear to have been altered in the Greek Revival style during the mid-19th century. Each entrance has a single-leaf door, full-height sidelights, slender pilasters, high flat entablature, and a prominent cornice molding. This design is similar to others constructed in Wenham Neck. (See 14 Grapevine Road.)

A single-bay garage ell is located at the southwest elevation. The ell is clad in clapboards. A side-hinged, vertical board and batten garage door is located on the east elevation. A single-story gable-roof ell is located at the northeast elevation. The ell is covered with clapboards and contains 6/6 wood sash windows.

Well preserved and well maintained, 96 Dodges Row is a handsome example of 18th century rural housing in Wenham. It is distinguished by its unusual two-part construction, composed of a three-bay half-house and a five-bay center entrance volume, original fenestration and trim, and prominent classical door surrounds.

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 earliest portion of the house at 96 Dodges Row was likely constructed ca. 1770-1790 by a member of the extensive Dodge family that lived along the so-named street. The house was expanded at a later date to include the three-bay section at the southwest end of the building. Many of the houses along Dodges Row were passed down through members of the Dodge family; further research will be needed to determine the owners at the time of construction.

The house is notable in that its two-phase construction reflects its use as a documented multi-family home during the 19th century. The 1872 map indicates that 96 Dodges Row was the residence of "Mrs. E.C. Dodge." Elizabeth C. Dodge (1812-1888), widow of Abraham Dodge (1816-1856), lived at 96 Dodges Row during the 1860s-1880s with her children Richard, Horace, Ellen, Martha, and Charlotte. In her will of 1887, Elizabeth makes mention of the shared living arrangement in which it appears that her son Horace and his family were living in the northeast section of the house. The will states that, upon her death, Howard may have the other section of the house. (Elizabeth D. Dodge Massachusetts Probate Record #66590)

The property was passed through several branches of the extended Dodge family into the late 20th century. The 1884 map identified the property as the residence of "C. River." It appears that Charles River [a.k.a. Riva] and his wife Nancy (nee Dodge) had been living in the house for some time. Charles, a shoemaker, Nancy, and their two small children appear in the 1870 and 1880 censuses at this location. The 1910 map identifies the property as that of "H.W. Dodge *et als.*"

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In 1981, the estate of Julia Dodge Ober sold the property to Jeffery and Janet Tannebring. (Essex South Deed Book 6862, Page 231.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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Janes, Annette V. with the Wenham Museum. *Images of America: Wenham*. Charleston, South Carolina: Arcadia Publishing, 2011.

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Walling, Henry Francis. *A Topographical Map of Essex County, Massachusetts...* Smith & Worley, 1856.

Walker, George H. & Co., *Atlas of Essex County*. Boston: George H. Walker & Co., 1884.

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

Wenham Historical Association & Museum, Inc. *Wenham in Pictures and Prose*. Wenham: Wenham Historical Association & Museum. 1992.

Wenham Tax Assessor records.

SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGE



Façade (east) and north elevations. View looking west.

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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.

Well preserved and well maintained, 96 Dodges Row is a handsome example of 18th century rural housing in Wenham. It is distinguished by its unusual two-part construction, composed of a three-bay half-house and a five-bay center entrance volume, original fenestration and trim, and prominent classical door surrounds. The house is notable in that its two-phase construction reflects its use as a documented multi-family home during the 19th century.