

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

019-0064 Salem WNH.157

**Town/City:** Wenham

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

## Photograph



Façade (west) and south elevations.

**Address:** 7 Larch Row

**Historic Name:** Israel D. Barnes House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1841

**Source:** Deed

**Style/Form:** Greek Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Not known

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Parged brick

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** attached garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): 1-story rear addition and shed dormer (L 20<sup>th</sup> cent.) – replacement window sash (L 20<sup>th</sup>/E 21<sup>st</sup> c)

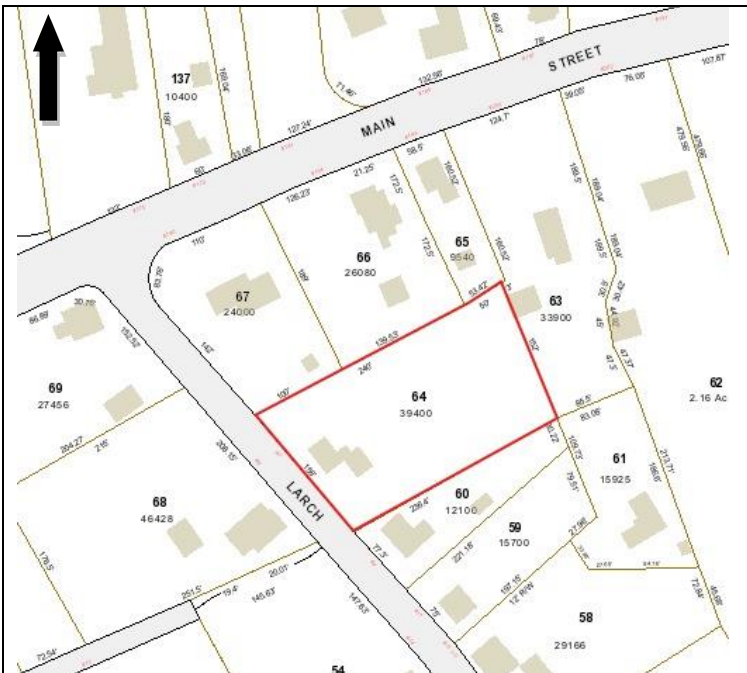
**Condition:** Very good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.9 acre

**Setting:** Densely built streetscape with small-scale residential buildings at edge of village center. Located on main cross-town thoroughfare near Main Street (Route 1A).

## Locus Map



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

**Recorded by:** Stacy Spies and Wendy Frontiero

**Organization:** Wenham Historical Commission

**Date:** June 2017

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WENHAM

7 LARCH ROW

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

WNH.157

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 Israel Barnes House stands close to the northeast side of Larch Row on a large trapezoidal lot. The parcel is maintained largely in lawn, with scattered shrubs and trees; a low wood fence lines the street edge. A paved driveway extends along the southeast side of the house. The building consists of a main block with a rear addition and an attached garage at the east corner.

Measuring 30 feet long by 23 feet deep, the five bay by two bay main block rises 1½ stories to a side gable roof with brief cornice returns and a deep center chimney at the ridge. Walls are sheathed with clapboards and trimmed with sill boards, corner boards, and a narrow cornice molding. Windows typically have 6/6 double hung replacement sash with molded casings and wood shutters.

The five bay façade (southwest elevation) has a high-post stud wall. Its center entrance contains a single-leaf paneled wood door with a channeled casing and corner blocks with inset square trim. The southeast elevation has an offset single-leaf door and side window towards the back, one window towards the front of the ground floor, and two windows symmetrically arranged in the half-story. The symmetrical northwest elevation features two windows on each floor. A modern one-story sunroom with a flat roof and balustraded roof deck is visible at the rear (northeast) of the main block; a low shed dormer connects to a similar shed dormer on the attached garage.

Positioned just to the rear of the house, the attached garage rises 1½ stories to a front gable roof with cornice returns; it appears to have a concrete foundation. The structure features clapboard walls, sill boards, and corner boards. Its symmetrical façade has two vehicle bays on the ground floor and two 6/6 windows in the half-story; the southeast elevation is blank. The garage may be an adaptation of an earlier barn.

Well preserved and well maintained, the Israel Barnes House is representative of Greek Revival period cottages in Wenham. The design is notable for its compact form, side-gable roof, conservative center-entrance form and center chimney, and vernacular yet stylish 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.*

Israel Dodge Barnes (1811-1844) purchased 95 rods (about one half-acre) of land in December of 1840 from the Town of Wenham. Barnes paid \$80 for the parcel, which was noted to be part of the "Parsonage Land." (Essex South Deed Book 321, Page 257) After Barnes' death in 1844, his wife Mary and the other executors transferred the property. By 1855, the property had been passed on to Timothy Dodge and then on to John Peabody. (Essex South Deed Book 509, Page 29). The deed mentions a dwelling house and a barn. The name "J. Peabody" appears by the house on the 1856 map. Cordwainer John Peabody, his wife Clarissa, and their six children appear in the 1855 Massachusetts census.

In 1867, Peabody sold the house to Irish-born laborer Dennis Harrigan (d. 1894). (Essex South Deed Book 701, Page 112) The 1880 census includes Harrigan, his wife Mary, and their two adult children. The 1902 city directory notes that Mary, then a widow, working as a washerwoman. The 1901 directory also notes "M. Arthur Harrigan" at this address, working as a laborer. It is possible that this was Dennis and Mary's son Matthew. In 1910, 58-year old Arthur M. Harrigan lived at 7 Larch Row with wife Nellie, age 35, and son Dennis, age 3. Harrigan was working as a truck farmer and owned his home. City directories indicate that the family lived here until the time of Arthur's death in 1930.

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WENHAM

7 LARCH ROW

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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Wenham Tax Assessor records.

## SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGE



Photo 2. Façade (west), entrance detail.

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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.*

7 Larch Row is a contributing feature of the eligible Larch Row Historic District. The neighborhood along Patch Avenue and Larch Row near Main Street is eligible as a historic district under Criterion A at the local level. Developed during the 1840s and populated nearly entirely by cordwainers in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century, this neighborhood is representative of the dramatic rise in the shoemaking trade in Wenham during the middle decades of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This densely-developed neighborhood allowed residents access to workshops and small factories on nearby Main Street in addition to ten-footer shops located on site. The buildings feature Greek Revival stylistic features popular during that time. The buildings all retain integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association.