

WENHAM COMMUNITY-WIDE HISTORIC PROPERTIES SURVEY



For the
Wenham Historical Commission

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this project was to undertake a historic resources survey for the Wenham Historical Commission (WHC). The survey includes historic resources located in Wenham but outside of the local and National Register-listed Wenham Historic District. The objective was to research and document on standard MHC forms built prior to 1890 or, if constructed after 1890, that appeared to be historically or architecturally significant.

A target list provided by the WHC, was used as a starting point for the survey. The majority of the buildings surveyed were late 18th-, 19th-, and early 20th-century single-family dwellings of vernacular design. The survey uncovered some unexpected results, including a notable collection of ca. 1920s single-family dwellings located along Monument Street, three Mid-Century Modern dwellings of architectural interest, and, one rare International Style/Art Moderne dwelling.

Form B – Building inventory forms were prepared for 61 primary buildings and seven (7) secondary buildings and structures. Form A – Area inventory forms were prepared for five (5) areas involving 52 buildings. National Register contexts were identified in the areas of: Growth of Wenham Neck (ca. 1725-1940); Expansion of Wenham Village to Cherry Street and Cedar Street Area (ca. 1775-1925); Expansion of Wenham Village to Larch Row and Patch Avenue (ca. 1840-ca.1920); Greek Revival Domestic Architecture in Wenham (1840-1860); Apiarist and Innovator Henry Alley, Sr. (1858-1908); Gold Coast Estates (ca. 1880-1915); Philanthropy during the Progressive Period (1909-1970); Civil Engineering and Water Supply (1915-1925); Early Suburbanization (1915-1940); Education in Wenham (1906-1970); and, Mid-Twentieth Century Suburbanization (1940-1953).

As a result of the survey, we recommend six (6) historic districts and thirteen (13) individual properties as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

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1. Methodology

SURVEY OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this project was to undertake a historic resource survey of significant historical resources located outside of the local and National Register-listed Wenham Historic District. In 1972, the Wenham Historic District was created. All of the historic resources within the Historic District were researched and documented to the levels required at that time on standard Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) inventory forms and are now in the MHC's MACRIS database. Documentation outside of the Historic District is scant. Five resources outside of the historic district are listed on the National Register of Historic Places as part of the First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts Thematic Resource Nomination. (A sixth building included in this nomination was demolished in 2011.) Seven properties outside of the Historic District that are not listed on the National Register of Historic Places were documented with MHC forms in the late 1970s.

The objective of this project was to research and document on standard MHC forms approximately 92 buildings located outside of the Historic District that were built prior to 1890, as well as buildings and structures constructed after 1890 that are considered particularly significant to the history of the Town of Wenham. The objective was also to identify historic resources that meet the criteria for the National Register of Historic Places and to make recommendations for nomination of such properties.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTING PROPERTIES FOR SURVEY

Wenham Historical Commission provided the consultants with a target list of 92 properties that WHC believed to have been constructed prior to 1890 as well as several non-residential buildings and structures constructed after 1890. Construction dates were provided by the tax assessor's office and were not necessarily reliable. Included in this target list were the five buildings included in the First Period Thematic Resource Nomination. The thematic resource nomination focused on the construction and design of First Period dwellings; as a result, neither later alterations nor building histories were undertaken.

All of the pre-1890 buildings on the target list are residential; some of them include outbuildings. The predominance of single-family residential buildings included in this list is reflective of the composition of Wenham's built environment. The post-1890 buildings identified by the WHC are public in nature: schools; a canal and associated pump building; and, municipally-owned recreation land and facilities.

After discussion with MHC and the WHC, the consultants were authorized (1) to identify buildings beyond the target list that appear to fit the pre-1890 construction date profile

and (2) to identify post-1890 buildings that are of sufficient architectural or historical significance to warrant documentation.

Phase 1 involved reconnaissance survey to obtain a sense of property types and styles, architectural integrity, and geographical distribution. Buildings on the target list that did not retain sufficient architectural integrity were removed from the proposed survey list.

Initial observations of target list properties revealed:

- As anticipated, the majority of the buildings on the target list were late 18th- and 19th-century single-family dwellings of vernacular design.
- Several locations had potential as Area Forms, including Friend Court, the intersection of Cherry Street and Cedar Street, the intersection of Dodges Row and Larch Row, and Arbor Street between Bruce Lane and Main Street.
- Of the buildings included on the target list, fewer than 10 buildings had been too significantly altered to remain on the target list.
- Of the buildings on the target list, at least five were not visible from the public way.

Our reconnaissance survey uncovered some unexpected results:

- A notable collection of ca. 1920 single-family dwellings located along Monument Street that appeared to have potential as a historic district.
- Three Mid-Century Modern dwellings of architectural interest and a high level of integrity.
- One rare International Style/Art Moderne dwelling.

Consideration for inclusion in the Survey was influenced by visibility, physical context, and related planning processes. Efforts to create a demolition delay by-law were defeated at Town Meeting in 2016. However, concerns about demolition and subsequent subdivision have brought land-use pressures into focus. For example, the First Period Henry Perkins House, 75 Arbor Street (WNH.112) (NRIND/NRTRA 1990) was demolished in May 2011.

Given ongoing concerns regarding demolition threats, priority was given to efforts to document the largest number of properties possible. With hopes of continuing the community discussion of a demolition delay by-law, the WHC sought a framework within which properties could be identified for demolition delay protection. Although additional information on First Period Houses is desirable, listing on the National Register of Historic Places provides *de facto* significance for the purposes of creating a demolition

delay by-law. Therefore, survey of First Period houses was deferred in favor of previously unsurveyed properties.

The following criteria for selecting properties for survey were chosen:

- Inclusion on the target list;
- Not currently listed on the National Register of Historic Places;
- Architectural quality and integrity: Higher rather than lower, given the extent of other inventoried properties; Strength and clarity of visual character are important factors;
- Historical Merit: Resources associated with themes or events that represent patterns in local history;
- Contribution to the streetscape: Visibility, prominence, relation to nearby properties that may better demonstrate historical or architectural themes as a group than as individual properties;
- Threats: Including demolition or subdivision;
- Construction date prior to 1890;
- Locally unusual or under-documented resource types: e.g. mid-century modern dwellings;
- Buildings located outside the Historic District that were inventoried during the 1970s and still retain a sufficiently high level of architectural integrity and historic significance to warrant re-surveying to present-day standards.

The buildings re-surveyed are:

WNH.111	Wenham First Baptist Church	6 Dodges Row
WNH.113	Kimball, Edmund House	20 Arbor Street
WNH.120	Center Junior High School	11 School Street

PROCEDURES AND PRODUCTS

The Survey followed the basic procedures of all inventory work: field survey; research; evaluation; and, production of inventory forms.

In Phase I, preliminary work encompassed a reconnaissance survey of the types and geographical distribution of cultural resources throughout the town of Wenham, site observation of all of the target list properties visible from the public way, and an overview of documentary research with which to establish a context for analyzing target list properties. Criteria for selecting and removing properties from the target list were developed in collaboration with the WHC and MHC. Potential additional properties were suggested as a result of field reconnaissance, where distinctive properties previously overlooked might be identified.

In Phase 2, architectural assessments and documentary research were continued, agreed-upon selection criteria were applied to the target list, and a final list of specific properties to be surveyed was developed in collaboration with the WHC and the MHC.

Draft inventory forms for different property types were produced for review and comment by the WHC and the MHC.

In Phase 3, Form B – Building inventory forms were prepared for 61 primary buildings and seven (7) secondary buildings and structures. Form A – Area inventory forms were prepared for five (5) areas involving 52 buildings. Potential National Register contexts were identified, and National Register criteria were applied to all inventoried resources.

Research sources included town directories, historic atlases, town histories, and local history resources at the Beverly Public Library and the Hamilton-Wenham Public Library, and professional journals. When merited and where possible, state and federal censuses and genealogical information were consulted through Ancestry.com. Additional information was acquired through online sources such as Findagrave.com and Babel.Hathitrust.com. When merited, the Essex County Registry of Deeds was also consulted.

In Phase 4, inventory forms were finalized and numbered according to MHC requirements. National Register Criteria Statements were finalized, and a final base map and street index of all inventoried properties was prepared. Copies of the final report and inventory forms are on file with the Massachusetts Historical Commission and Wenham Town Hall.

2. Inventoried Properties

AREA FORMS			Survey Number	Block/Lot
Arbor Street		WNH.E		
11	Arbor St	Henry H. Demsey House	WNH.179, NRHD#73000852	19-0027
14	Arbor St	Sarah J. Brewer House	WNH.180	19-0087
16	Arbor St	Samuel P. Fowler House	WNH.181	13-0027
17	Arbor St	Charles Elliott House	WNH.182	13-0026
19	Arbor St		WNH.183	13-0025
19	Arbor St	Carriage House / Shop	WNH.184	13-0025
20	Arbor St	Kimball-Clark House	WNH.113	13-0038
20	Arbor St	Kimball-Clark Barn	WNH.185	13-0038
22	Arbor St	John J. Center House	WNH.186	13-0039
24	Arbor St	Webster Dodge House	WNH.187	13-0041
26	Arbor St	Alonzo C. Perkins House	WNH.188	13-0042
27	Arbor St		WNH.189	13-0020
28	Arbor St	Otis Brewer House	WNH.190	13-0046
32	Arbor St	Dickinson House	WNH.191	13-0047
33	Arbor St	George B. Dodge House	WNH.192	13-0018
34	Arbor St	Herbert Whiting House	WNH.193	13-0048
36	Arbor St	Hiram Clay, Jr. House	WNH.194	13-0049
Friend Court		WNH.F		
8	Friend Court	Harry and Lena Pulsifer House	WNH.195	019-0041
9	Friend Court	Simeon Dodge House	WNH.196	019-0043
10	Friend Court		WNH.197	019-0040
11	Friend Court	William Porter House	WNH.198	019-0044
13	Friend Court	Arthur Stanton House	WNH.199	019-0045
15	Friend Court	W.L. Barker House	WNH.200	019-0046
16	Friend Court	Henry Moulton House	WNH.201	019-0039
17	Friend Court		WNH.202	019-0047
20	Friend Court	Charles Trowt House	WNH.203	019-0038
21	Friend Court	Fred and Mary Stanton House	WNH.204	019-0048
22	Friend Court		WNH.205	019-0037
23	Friend Court		WNH.206	019-0049
25	Friend Court	Alexander Begg House	WNH.207	019-0050
29	Friend Court		WNH.208	019-0051

Iron Rail Vacation Home WNH.G

91	Grapevine Rd	Iron Rail Vacation Home Gymnasium	WNH.209	031-0001
91	Grapevine Rd	Iron Rail Vacation Home Barn	WNH.210	031-0001
91	Grapevine Rd	Iron Rail Vacation Home Garage	WNH.211	031-0001

Monument Street WNH.H

10	Cherry St.	William and Emma Ludden House	WNH.212	019-0010
1	Monument St.	J. Porter Brown – Kennard House	WNH.23; NRHD#73000852	019-0012
7	Monument St.	Jennie M. Kennard House	WNH.213	019-0013
11	Monument St	Mary L. Case House	WNH.214	019-0014
15	Monument St.		WNH.215	019-0015
19	Monument St.	Jonathan and Mary Preston House	WNH.216	018-0049
20	Monument St.	Orpheus and Alice Woodbury House	WNH.217	019-0017
25	Monument St.	William Arthur Trowt House	WNH.218	018-0048
26	Monument St.	Benjamin M. Smith House	WNH.219	018-0051
29	Monument St.	Benjamin and Ethel Waggott House	WNH.220	018-0047
30	Monument St.	Ralph and Ella Smith House	WNH.221	018-0052
33	Monument St.	John Whittier House	WNH.222	018-0046

Wenham Neck WNH.I

201	Larch Row	Andrew Dodge House	WNH.223	0021-0002-000A
201	Larch Row	Andrew Dodge Barn	WNH.224	0021-0002-000A
201	Larch Row	Andrew Dodge Barn	WNH.225	0021-0002-000A
204	Larch Row	Adeline P. Cole House	WNH.226	030-0005
211	Larch Row	John L. Curtis House	WNH.227	021-0022
6	Dodges Row	Wenham Neck Baptist Church	WNH.111	029-0007
6	Dodges Row	Wenham Neck Baptist Church Parish Hall	WNH.228	029-0007
10	Dodges Row	Abraham Dodge House	WNH.229	029-0006
14	Dodges Row	Abraham Dodge House	WNH.230	029-0008
14	Dodges Row	Abraham Dodge Screen House	WNH.231	029-0008

INDIVIDUAL FORMS

Address		Survey Number	Block/Lot
55 Arbor St	Robert and Dorothy Bliss House	WNH.124	013-0017
14 Burnham Rd	Elaine and Mayer Weisman House	WNH.125	035-0032
6 Cedar St	Benjamin and Elvira Putnam House	WNH.126	018-0016
8 Cedar St	George and Martha Parsons House	WNH.127	018-0017
10 Cedar St	Augustus and Margaret Standley House	WNH.128	018-0018
12 Cedar St	Kenneth and Bernice Cook House	WNH.129	018-0019
14 Cedar St	Howard and Hannah Goodale House	WNH.130	018-0020
14 Cedar St	Howard Goodale Shop	WNH.131	018-0020
15 Cedar St	George and Judith Jones House	WNH.132	018-0004
18 Cedar St	Edmund and Elizabeth Batchelder House	WNH.133	018-0021
26 Cedar St	Batchelder House	WNH.134	018-0022
14 Cherry St	Brown-Corbett-Lord House	WNH.135	019-0009
17 Cherry St	John Caves House	WNH.136	018-0008
18 Cherry St	Elbridge and Mary Gerry House	WNH.137	018-0028
20 Cherry St	Lizzie and Langdon Phillips House	WNH. 138	018-0029
21 Cherry St	Thomas Kimball House	WNH.139	018-0009
22 Cherry St	Horace and Bessie Caves House	WNH.140	018-0032
24 Cherry St	Samuel and Elizabeth Plummer House	WNH.141	018-0033
26 Cherry St	George and Elizabeth Howe House	WNH.142	018-0034
30 Cherry St	Joseph and Mary Cook	WNH.143	018-0035
31 Cherry St	Batchelder House	WNH.144	018-0014
35 Cherry St		WNH.145	018-0026
42 Cherry St	William and Ellen Tucker House	WNH.146	018-0038
44 Cherry St	Edmund and Charlotte Batchelder House	WNH.147	018-0039
69 Cherry St	Durland-Hoyt House	WNH.148	018-0002
130 Cherry St	Currier-Hayes Farm	WNH.149	017-0014-000A

72	Dodges Row	Dodge-Babcock House	WNH.150	039-0006
77	Dodges Row	Philip S. Young House	WNH.151	039-0008-000A
86	Dodges Row	Julia Young House	WNH.152	039-0005
88	Dodges Row	Philip and Pamela Young House	WNH.153	039-0004
96	Dodges Row	Dodge House	WNH.154	039-0003
14	Grapevine Rd	Charlotte and Nicholas Dodge, Jr. House	WNH.155	030-0007
349	Grapevine Rd	Samuel and Mary Preston House	WNH.156	048-0009
7	Larch Row	Israel D. Barnes House	WNH.157	019-0064
13	Larch Row	Francis W. Merrill House	WNH.158	019-0058
14	Larch Row	Henry Alley, Sr. House	WNH.159	019-0054
14	Larch Row	Henry Alley, Sr. Plaque	WNH.908	019-0054
19	Larch Row	Moses and Lydia Wilkins House	WNH.160	019-0057
173	Larch Row	Susan DeForest Parker House	WNH.161	029-0004
	Old Town Way	Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board Pumping Station	WNH.162	005-0001
	Old Town Way	Salem and Beverly Water Supply Wenham Canal	WNH.909	005-0001
8	Patch Ave	Austin and Mabel Patch House	WNH.163	019-0052
10	Patch Ave	Henry and Elizabeth Patch House	WNH.164	019-0053
13	Perkins St	Nathan and Nancy Jones House	WNH.165	013-0032
24	Perkins St	William Cummings House	WNH.166	013-0029
40	Perkins St	Henry and Louise Woodason House	WNH.167	013-0125
16	Pleasant St	Sargent and Sarah Knowlton House	WNH.168	012-0022
16	Pleasant St	Sargent and Sarah Knowlton Barn	WNH.169	012-0022
75	Pleasant St	Herbert and Betty Cheeseman House	WNH.170	012-0008
1	Porter St	Ira and Sarah Trask House	WNH.171	013-0082
1	Porter St	Ira and Sarah Trask Carriage House	WNH.172	013-0082
7	Porter St	Everett and Blanche Sears House	WNH.173	013-0080
5	School St	Bessie Buker School	WNH.174	013-0044
11	School St	Center School	WNH.120	013-0044
212	Topsfield Rd	Joseph T. and Lydia Haskell	WNH.175	009-0004

		House		
212	Topsfield Rd	Iori West Poultry Barn	WNH.176	009-0004
212	Topsfield Rd	Iori East Poultry Barn	WNH.177	009-0004
10	Walnut Rd	Wentworth and Eleanor Fay Kennard House	WNH.178	014-0030

3. National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Recommendations

A. Historic Contexts

Context: *Growth of Wenham Neck (ca. 1725-1940)*

Consisting of well-preserved domestic and ecclesiastical designs dating from the 18th and 19th centuries, Wenham Neck is associated with the development of Wenham from a rural manufacturing and agricultural community to a suburban community. This crossroads village was established during the 18th century at the intersection of the Beverly to Hamilton road (Dodges Row and Walnut Road) and the Wenham to Manchester Road (Larch Row and Grapevine Road). Agriculture and animal husbandry were the main occupation of Wenham residents and grain and corn were the primary production. Mills were in operation in Wenham Neck in the 18th century, including the Josiah Dodge grist mill and the John Dodge saw mill on the Miles River at Dodges Row. During the early 19th century, the village expanded with the construction of the First Baptist Church in 1826. The agricultural community was active through the 19th century with large farms surrounding the village. Beginning at the turn of the 20th century, the large farms became attractive to wealthy businessmen and their families as summer or retirement properties. Resources recommended under this context have local significance.

Wenham Neck Area (WNH. I)

Dodge-Babcock House, 72 Dodges Row (WNH.150)

Dodge House, 96 Dodges Row (WNH.154)

Context: *Expansion of Wenham Village to Cherry Street and Cedar Street Area (ca. 1775-1925)*

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. With the growth of Wenham village during the 18th century, the village expanded westward along the “the road to Topsfield,” i.e. Cherry Street. Early residents such as Israel Batchelder and Solomon Caves were farmers with large tracts surrounding their dwellings (e.g. 18 Cedar Street). Cedar Street was laid out ca. 1825 and was known as “the road to North Beverly.” 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 also included streetcar drivers, laborers, and teamsters. The majority of houses in the Cherry Street / Cedar Street district feature vernacular Greek Revival, gable-front forms. Vernacular forms of Federal, Georgian, and Colonial Revival styles are also represented. Resources recommended under this context have local significance.

Benjamin and Elvira Putnam House, 6 Cedar St. (WNH.126)
 George and Martha Parsons House, 8 Cedar St. (WNH.127)
 Augustus and Margaret Standley House, 10 Cedar St. (WNH.128)
 Howard and Hannah Goodale House & Shop, 14 Cedar St. (WNH.130, WNH.131)
 George and Judith Jones House, 15 Cedar St., (WNH.132)
 Edmund and Elizabeth Batchelder House, 18 Cedar St. (WNH.133)
 Batchelder House, 26 Cedar St. (WNH.134)
 Brown-Corbett-Lord House, 14 Cherry St (WNH.135)
 John Caves House, 17 Cherry St (WNH.136)
 Elbridge and Mary Gerry House, 18 Cherry St. (WNH.137)
 Lizzie and Langdon Phillips House, 20 Cherry St. (WNH.138)
 Thomas Kimball House, 21 Cherry St. (WNH.139)
 Horace and Bessie Caves House, 22 Cherry St. (WNH.140)
 Samuel and Elizabeth Plummer House, 24 Cherry St. (WNH.141)
 George and Elizabeth Howe House, 26 Cherry St. (WNH.142)
 Joseph and Mary Cook House, 30 Cherry St. (WNH.143)
 Batchelder House, 31 Cherry St. (WNH.144)
 William and Ellen Tucker House, 42 Cherry St. (WNH.146)
 Edmund and Charlotte Batchelder House, 44 Cherry St. (WNH.147)

Context: *Expansion of Wenham Village to Larch Row and Patch Avenue (ca. 1840-ca.1920)*

The neighborhood along Larch Row developed during the 1840s as an extension of the historic Wenham village core along Main Street. Larch Row served as the connecting road from Wenham to Manchester. Populated nearly entirely by cordwainers in the mid-19th century, this neighborhood is representative of the dramatic rise in the shoemaking trade in Wenham during the middle decades of the 19th century. This densely-developed neighborhood contained ten-footer shops in side yards but also allowed residents access to workshops and small factories on nearby Main Street. The buildings feature Greek Revival stylistic features popular during that time. Resources recommended under this context have local significance.

Israel D. Barnes House, 7 Larch Row (WNH.157)
 Francis W. Merrill House, 13 Larch Row (WNH.158)
 Henry Alley, Sr. House, 14 Larch Row (WNH.159)
 Moses and Lydia Wilkins House, 19 Larch Row (WNH.160)
 Austin and Mabel Patch House, 8 Patch Ave. (WNH.163)
 Henry and Elizabeth Patch House, 10 Patch Ave. (WNH.164)

Context: *Greek Revival Domestic Architecture in Wenham (1840-1860)*

Between 1830 and 1870, Wenham's population grew by 61%, largely as a result of the new shoemaking industry. The resultant increase in residential construction resulted in many Greek Revival style dwellings, the most popular stylistic choice in Wenham during this period. Most houses were restrained in use of ornament and typically retained conservative, side-gabled plans. 24 Perkins Street is an unusual example in Wenham of the use of flushboard on the façade. The building contains Greek Revival features found in other examples locally, however, the flushboard treatment is a rare survivor. 24 Cherry Street is a carefully detailed example of small-scale, early 19th century housing in Wenham. Well preserved and largely intact, 24 Cherry Street is modest in scale and style, yet clearly represents an ambitious aesthetic intent. The design is notable for its compact front-gable form, recessed main entrance, bold trim, tri-partite facade window sash, and monumental granite block foundation. 26 Cherry Street is a fine example of a modest Greek Revival cottage in Wenham. The ambitious design at 26 Cherry Street is notable for its front gable form and side-hall plan, brick foundation, its attentively detailed and recessed entrance, robust wall trim, period window moldings, and original or early ell. Resources recommended under this context have local significance.

Samuel and Elizabeth Plummer House, 24 Cherry St. (WNH.141)

George and Elizabeth Howe House, 26 Cherry St. (WNH.142)

William Cummings House, 24 Perkins St. (WNH.166)

Context: *Apiarist and Innovator Henry Alley, Sr. (1858-1908)*

Henry Alley, Sr. (1835-1908) was an innovator, author, and educator with wide-ranging influence in the field of apiculture. Although Alley was employed as a shoemaker into the 1870s, his affinity lay with bee keeping as early as the age of 23 when he acquired his first hive (circa 1858). By the mid-19th century, a market for young queen bees had developed. By 1861, Alley was one of just three beekeepers in the United States producing queens for sale. By 1880, Alley had established his Bay State Apiary and was working full time as an apiarist.

Alley eagerly shared his knowledge with apiarists worldwide. Alley wrote extensively on apiculture. For ten years beginning in 1883, Alley was a regular contributor to "The American Apiculturist," a journal published in Salem, Massachusetts. Alley's books on the subject include: *The beekeeper's handy book; or, Twenty-two years' experience in queen-rearing.* (1883); *Thirty years among the bees.* (1893); *The national beekeepers' directory.* (1889); and, *Improved queen-rearing or how to rear large, prolific, long-lived queen bees* (1903). Alley was also a prolific inventor. Among his inventions are: the Alley Drone Trap, the Alley Shipping Cage, the Alley Smoker, and the Bay State Bee Hive. Resource recommended under this context has state and regional significance.

Henry Alley, Sr. House, 14 Larch Row (WNH.159)

Context: Gold Coast Estates (ca. 1880-1915)

During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, North Shore communities experienced a dramatic shift away from rural agricultural and manufacturing uses toward the use of the land for lavish “summer home” estates. While coastal properties such as those at Prides Crossing in adjacent Beverly experienced the most lavish estates, nearby inland communities such as Wenham experienced similar pressures. Wenham’s open farmland and picturesque villages were fertile ground for upper-class patrons seeking to transform quaint farms into pastoral summer estates. In Wenham, large estates were generally constructed outside the town center. Examples include *Princemere*, now the admissions building at Gordon College, and *Penguin Hall*, now a private girls’ school, as well as the Burnham estate on Topsfield Road and the former Sias estate on Walnut Road. Smaller, less ostentatious properties were created in Wenham Neck and along Cherry Street west of the village center. In Wenham, many of these properties retained some aspect of agricultural use in a romantic nod to country life. However, work on the farm was not undertaken by the owners, but rather by hired staff and farmers.

The Currier-Hayes Farm (Elmwood Farm), is an example of a working ancestral farm that was transformed into a weekend home. The Currier-Hayes House was constructed on ancestral land of farmers Samuel and Emily Ober. Shortly after the destruction of the 17th century Ober house in 1889 due to a fire, Emily Currier, the Obers’ granddaughter, constructed the house at 130 Cherry Street. Emily and her husband, Benjamin Currier, lived very different lives than those of her grandparents; Benjamin Currier was a wholesale clothing dealer and manufacturer for a chain of clothing stores. 130 Cherry Street was intended to be a summer home. Resource recommended under this context has local significance.

The Currier-Hayes Farm (Elmwood Farm), 130 Cherry Street (WNH.149)

Context: Philanthropy during the Progressive Period (1909-1970)

Against the backdrop of Social Register recreation by Gold Coast residents lay an awareness, by some, of the difficulties inherent in the industrial economy that made possible their wealth. The early decades of the twentieth century saw an outreach by upper-class women to assist working-class women in the mill towns and inner cities through the creation of settlement houses and respite homes. The Iron Rail Vacation Home was part of a social movement to provide recreation for working women in a morally-uplifting setting. In 1909, steel magnate Henry Clay Frick purchased the Iron Rail property for his 20-year-old daughter, Helen Clay Frick, so that she could establish the Iron Rail Vacation Home. Helen Clay Frick established the retreat for girls and

young women who worked in the mills in Lowell, Lawrence, and elsewhere in northeastern Massachusetts. Women visited for two weeks each summer. In 1954, the property was transferred to the Girls' Clubs of America and the property was used as a summer camp, among other uses. Helen Frick made financial contributions until the 1970s. Resource recommended under this context has statewide significance.

Iron Rail Vacation Home, 91 Grapevine Street (WNH.G)

Context: Civil Engineering and Water Supply (1915-1925)

Wenham Canal is a distinctive example of large-scale water supply design of the early 20th century. By the mid-19th century, the growing cities of Beverly and Salem sought new sources of water. In 1850, the City of Salem petitioned the state legislature to use Wenham Lake as a water source. Through an 1864 state act, Beverly and Salem were allowed to use the lake and water use began in 1868. Beverly built a system for its own use in 1868-1867, and thereafter, both cities independently drew their supplies from Wenham Lake. As water consumption increased, the water board dammed Miles River in Wenham Neck in 1895 to create the Longham Reservoir, located west of Dodges Row in Wenham. By that time, 140 acres in Wenham were in use to supply water to Salem and Beverly.

By 1912, the prospect of a water shortage had become so critical that the Massachusetts legislature appointed a special commission to examine the question of water supply for Salem and Beverly. In December of 1914, the Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board applied to the State Department of Health to divert water from the Ipswich River to Wenham Lake. The Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board engaged Hazen & Whipple, Consulting Engineers, to prepare plans for the new system. The contract to dig the canal and build the pumping station was let in the spring of 1915 and work was completed in 1915.

Wenham Canal and Pumping Station (WNH.162 and WNH.909)

The Wenham Canal and Pumping Station should be considered for National Register eligibility as part of the Salem and Beverly Water Supply Waterworks Historic District in Beverly. (BEV.Q and BEV.937, BEV.938, BEV.939, BEV.940, and, BEV.941)

Context: Early Suburbanization (1915-1940)

During the first half of the twentieth century, Wenham was gradually transformed from an agricultural community to a wealthy suburb. Early in this period, rail service to Beverly and Boston, as well as regional trolley service, provided commuting opportunities. After decades of nearly stagnant population growth, these factors helped Wenham's population to increase 110% from 1,068 residents in 1915 to 2,245 residents

in 1955. A lack of proximity to major through routes during this period inhibited manufacturing and large-scale retail in Wenham. Developers began to subdivide farmland and create visually cohesive residential neighborhoods in the popular Craftsman, Colonial Revival, Dutch Colonial Revival and Tudor Revival styles. Monument Street is a representative example of such a neighborhood. While the first two houses on Monument Street were constructed ca. 1910 for a fruit grower and truck farmer, the remaining neighborhood houses were purchased by professionals -- brokers, attorneys, manufacturers, and salesmen -- who commuted to jobs outside of Wenham.

Other houses in Wenham are representative of this trend, although on a smaller scale, and in manners far less common to Wenham. One example, the 1933 Everett and Blanche Sears House at 7 Porter Street, is an excellent example of a kit house sold by the Sears Roebuck Company during the 1920s and 1930s. Although unconventional in their delivery, kit houses such as this one were traditional in design and style.

In sharp stylistic contrast to the Sears house, the 1936 Wentworth and Eleanor Fay Kennard House is one of a small group of modernist 20th century houses in Wenham and the only known example of the International Style in the vicinity. Wentworth Kennard worked as an electrical engineer at Raytheon and at the Radiation Laboratory at MIT. Eleanor pursued graduate work in mathematics and astronomy at Radcliffe. The Kennard house is an early representative of a small, but notable, trend in the suburban north shore after World War II away from traditional, Colonial Revival-style dwellings. A high number of these innovative designs were built for scientists, engineers, and academics. Resources recommended under this context have local significance.

Monument Street Area (WNH.G)

Everett and Blanche Sears House, 7 Porter Street (WNH.173)

Wentworth and Eleanor Fay Kennard House, 10 Walnut Road (WNH.178)

Context: Education in Wenham (1906-1970)

In keeping with trends in education of the period favoring leveled grades and centralized instruction at the turn of the 20th century, Wenham citizens began to discuss the creation of a central school to consolidate the existing small school districts.

Construction of Center School began in 1906 and the four-room, two-story building opened for students in the fall of 1907. In 1945, the Wenham school committee recognized the need for a larger school amid the rapid growth of families after World War II. The report anticipated that Center School, although expanded in 1920, would not be of sufficient size to accommodate the growing number of children projected over the following 20 years. In 1951, the Bessie Buker School was constructed next door for grades 1-6. Grades 7 and 8 remained at Center School and it became a junior high school. Resources recommended under this context have local significance.

Bessie Buker School, 5 School Street (WNH.174)
Center School, 11 School Street (WNH.120)

Context: Mid-Twentieth Century Suburbanization (1940-1953)

The extension of Route 128 north of Danvers after World War II precipitated increased suburbanization of the North Shore. However, unlike other areas such as nearby North Beverly, which experienced the construction of large-scale residential subdivisions in the immediate post-war years, Wenham's subdivisions modest in scale. Construction in Wenham during this period tended toward small-scale subdivisions or individual infill homes. Wenham experienced a small, but notable, trend away from traditional, Colonial Revival-style dwellings. A high number of these innovative designs were built for scientists, engineers, and academics. The use of natural materials and colors and emphasis on the horizontal plane are representative of modern design of the mid-20th century. Resources recommended under this context have local significance.

Robert and Dorothy Bliss House, 55 Arbor Street (WNH.124)
Herbert and Betty Cheeseman House, 75 Pleasant Street (WNH.170)

B. Properties Recommended for Listing on the National Register of Historic Places

We recommend six (6) historic districts and thirteen (13) individual properties as eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places.

Historic Districts

Block and Lot numbers included here represent recommended district boundaries. Boundaries do not necessarily conform to boundaries explored in Area Forms.

Iron Rail Vacation Home

91	Grapevine Rd	Iron Rail Vacation Home Gymnasium	WNH.209	031-0001
91	Grapevine Rd	Iron Rail Vacation Home Barn	WNH.210	031-0001
91	Grapevine Rd	Iron Rail Vacation Home Garage	WNH.211	031-0001

Monument Street

10	Cherry St.	William and Emma Ludden House	WNH.212	019-0010
1	Monument St.	J. Porter Brown – Kennard House	WNH.23; NRHD#73000852	019-0012
7	Monument St.	Jennie M. Kennard House	WNH.213	019-0013
11	Monument St	Mary L. Case House	WNH.214	019-0014
15	Monument St.		WNH.215	019-0015
19	Monument St.	Jonathan and Mary Preston House	WNH.216	018-0049
20	Monument St.	Orpheus and Alice Woodbury House	WNH.217	019-0017
25	Monument St.	William Arthur Trowt House	WNH.218	018-0048
26	Monument St.	Benjamin M. Smith House	WNH.219	018-0051
29	Monument St.	Benjamin and Ethel Waggott House	WNH.220	018-0047
30	Monument St.	Ralph and Ella Smith House	WNH.221	018-0052
33	Monument St.	John Whittier House	WNH.222	018-0046

Wenham Neck

201	Larch Row	Andrew Dodge House	WNH.223	0021-0002- 000A
201	Larch Row	Andrew Dodge Barn	WNH.224	0021-0002-

201	Larch Row	Andrew Dodge Barn	WNH.225	000A 0021-0002- 000A
204	Larch Row	Adeline P. Cole House	WNH.226	030-0005
211	Larch Row	John L. Curtis House	WNH.227	021-0022
6	Dodges Row	Wenham Neck Baptist Church	WNH.111	029-0007
6	Dodges Row	Wenham Neck Baptist Church Parish Hall	WNH.228	029-0007

Cedar Street – Cherry Street Neighborhood

6	Cedar St	Benjamin and Elvira Putnam House	WNH.126	018-0016
8	Cedar St	George and Martha Parsons House	WNH.127	018-0017
10	Cedar St	Augustus and Margaret Standley House	WNH.128	018-0018
14	Cedar St	Howard and Hannah Goodale House	WNH.130	018-0020
14	Cedar St	Howard Goodale Shop	WNH.131	018-0020
15	Cedar St	George and Judith Jones House	WNH.132	018-0004
18	Cedar St	Edmund and Elizabeth Batchelder House	WNH.133	018-0021
26	Cedar St	Batchelder House	WNH.134	018-0022
14	Cherry St	Brown-Corbett-Lord House	WNH.135	019-0009
17	Cherry St	John Caves House	WNH.136	018-0008
18	Cherry St	Elbridge and Mary Gerry House	WNH.137	018-0028
20	Cherry St	Lizzie and Langdon Phillips House	WNH. 138	018-0029
21	Cherry St	Thomas Kimball House	WNH.139	018-0009
22	Cherry St	Horace and Bessie Caves House	WNH.140	018-0032
24	Cherry St	Samuel and Elizabeth Plummer House	WNH.141	018-0033
26	Cherry St	George and Elizabeth Howe House	WNH.142	018-0034
30	Cherry St	Joseph and Mary Cook	WNH.143	018-0035
31	Cherry St	Batchelder House	WNH.144	018-0014
42	Cherry St	William and Ellen Tucker House	WNH.146	018-0038
44	Cherry St	Edmund and Charlotte Batchelder House	WNH.147	018-0039

Larch Row – Patch Ave. Neighborhood

7	Larch Row	Israel D. Barnes House	WNH.157	019-0064
13	Larch Row	Francis W. Merrill House	WNH.158	019-0058
14	Larch Row	Henry Alley, Sr. House	WNH.159	019-0054
19	Larch Row	Moses and Lydia Wilkins House	WNH.160	019-0057
8	Patch Ave	Austin and Mabel Patch House	WNH.163	019-0052
10	Patch Ave	Henry and Elizabeth Patch House	WNH.164	019-0053

Wenham Canal and Pumping Station

	Old Town Way	Salem and Beverly Water Supply Board Pumping Station	WNH.162	005-0001
	Old Town Way	Salem and Beverly Water Supply Wenham Canal	WNH.909	005-0001

Individual Properties

55	Arbor St	Robert and Dorothy Bliss House	WNH.124	013-0017
24	Cherry St	Samuel and Elizabeth Plummer House	WNH.141	018-0033
26	Cherry St	George and Elizabeth Howe House	WNH.142	018-0034
130	Cherry St	Currier-Hayes Farm	WNH.149	017-0014-000A
72	Dodges Row	Dodge-Babcock House	WNH.150	039-0006
96	Dodges Row	Dodge House	WNH.154	039-0003
14	Larch Row	Henry Alley, Sr. House	WNH.159	019-0054
24	Perkins St	William Cummings House	WNH.166	013-0029
75	Pleasant St	Herbert and Betty Cheeseman House	WNH.170	012-0008
7	Porter St	Everett and Blanche Sears House	WNH.173	013-0080
5	School St	Bessie Buker School	WNH.174	013-0044
11	School St	Center School	WNH.120	013-0044
10	Walnut Rd	Wentworth and Eleanor Fay Kennard House	WNH.178	014-0030

4. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER STUDY

Recommendations for further study include several types of properties that did not meet initial selection criteria, were not visible from the public right-of-way, or came to light as a result of research undertaken during Phase III. Properties recommended for further study include:

- First Period Houses previously listed on National Register of Historic Places. The First Period Thematic Resource nomination focused on the construction and design of the dwellings. Neither later alterations nor research on the history of these buildings has been documented;
- Gold Coast estates that, in consultation with MHC and WHC, did not meet initial selection criteria and/or are not visible from the public right-of-way;
- Fairhaven House, formerly part of the Iron Rail Vacation Home property, that is privately owned and not visible from the public right-of-way;
- Mid-century Modern contemporary dwellings that did not meet selection criteria but that warrant additional attention due to architectural merit;
- Veterans of Foreign Wars building that has been altered but retains historical significance;
- A moved building that is purported to have been a railway car barn that was moved and repurposed as a dwelling on Arbor Street; and
- 19th and early 20th-century vernacular residential construction.

Recommended for further Study

21	Arbor St	Former car barn (possible)
11	Burnham Rd	Mid-century Modern house
16	Burnham Rd	Mid-century Modern house
	Cedar St	J.C. Phillips "Windy Knob" Estate
114	Cedar St	Jas. Friend House
84	Cherry St	
162	Cherry St	Newman-Fiske-Dodge House
11	Fiske Rd	
	Grapevine Rd	"Princemere," Gordon College
38	Larch Row	Goldsmith-Pickering-Low House
45	Larch Row	
5	Main Drive	Burnham Estate
9	Maple St	"Old Farm"
26	Maple St	Solomon Kimball House
1	Old Town Way	
10	Pleasant St	
11	Pleasant St	
19	Porter St	Porter House
25	Porter St	
28	Porter St	George Woodason House
29	Porter St	
45	Porter St	
25	Rubbly Road	Fairhaven House, Iron Rail Vacation Home
	School St	VFW Hall (Former Mapleville Chapel)
31	Topsfield Rd	
36	Topsfield Rd	
128	Topsfield Rd	
11	William Fairfield Drive	

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