

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

18 Warren Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.307

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

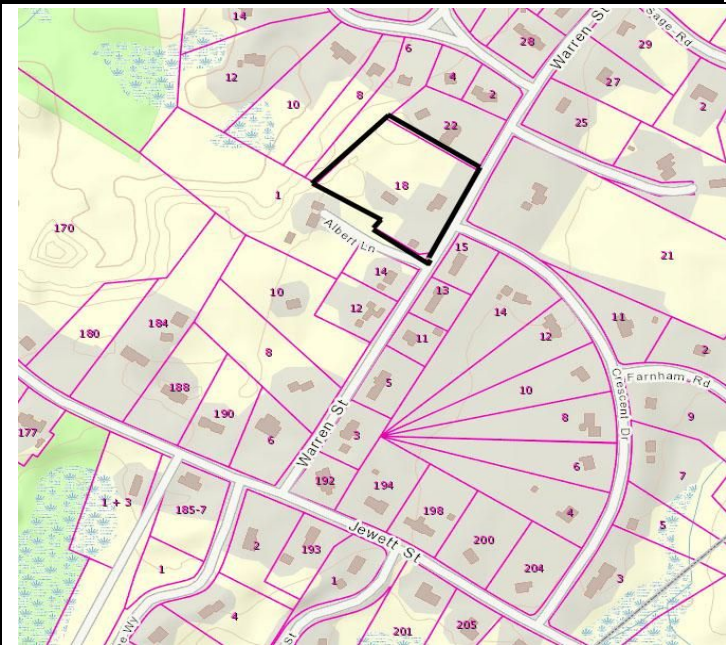
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



View from NE.



Source: Mass GIS Oliver Parcel Viewer

Recorded by: Kathryn Grover & Neil Larson
Organization: Town of Georgetown Historical Commission
Date: June 2017

Locus Map (north at top)

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

19-56

Georgetown

GEO.307

Setting: Early rural settlement now subdivided and developed with 20th-century suburban residences.

Town/City: Georgetown

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Byfield Parish

Address: 18 Warren Street

Historic Name: David & Judith Tenney House

Uses: Present: single family residential
Original: single family residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1790

Source: deeds & visual assessment

Style/Form: Federal

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Stable, ca. 2007

Garage, ca. 2007

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Sleeping porch on rear, 20th century

Kitchen ing added south end, 20th century

Condition: good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 2.32 acres

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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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The David and Judith Tenney House is a two-story wood frame single-family dwelling with a gable roof built about 1790. Its bilaterally symmetrical form and single-pile center-hall plan has a five-bay front façade with a center entrance. The eave line is distinguished by a shallow eave with molded cornice; eaves are tight to the end walls. The entrance is embellished by a trabeated architrave, added in the mid-18th century. Gable ends contain single windows on each story, including the attic: a second window has been added to the southerly end. A one-story extension on the south end of the rear wall is tucked under an extension of the main roof and appears to be the location of an early kitchen as it shares one of the two brick chimneys located on the rear wall. A one-story addition appended to the south wall of the lean-to is a nineteenth-century addition meant to improve kitchen space. A two-story porch is attached to the north end of the rear wall with the lower level open and the upper story enclosed as a sleeping porch.

The house is situated in the center of a wide street frontage set back behind a front yard. Areas on the sides and rear are fenced for paddocks and pastures and a small stable has been constructed recently behind the house. A driveway enters the property through a gateway in a fence south of the house and wraps around to a garage, also a recent addition to the site.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

In 1793, the year he married Judith Spofford in Rowley, David Tenney (1766-1826) bought 18 acres of land with a house and barn standing about a mile southwest of the Byfield Parish meetinghouse from William Stickney of Rowley. The son of Richard Tenney (1736-1802) and Abigail Perley (1739-1813), David Tenney was one of two men of that name in Rowley West Parish at the time; deeds often refer to him as David Jr. because he was younger than the other David Tenney, born in 1758 to Oliver and Betty Jewett Tenney. Two David Tenneys are listed with houses in the 1798 federal direct tax listings for Rowley. In 1797 Tenney bought additional acreage on Warren Street from Henry Dole, and by 1827 the property included 31 acres and buildings.¹

David Tenney died in April 1826, and in November 1827 children Pamela, Richard, and Daniel Spofford Tenney deeded their quarter-parts of their father's homestead to their sister Abigail while reserving the dower rights of their mother Judith Spofford Tenney in the house.² About two weeks earlier Abigail Tenney had filed her intention to marry James Young of Newburyport (her sister Pamela married James's younger brother Jacob Haskell Young in 1834). Judith Tenney died in 1831, and James and Abigail Tenney Young continued to own 18 Warren Street but lived in Newburyport. By 1856 the carpenter Samuel P. Cheney was occupying the house, according to the map of that year, and the 1860 census lists Cheney in this neighborhood with his wife Sarah, and Sarah's father, 60-year-old shoe worker Henry Dole. Cheney, born in Rowley in 1801, married Sarah Dole in 1829 and might have been renting this house by 1850, if not earlier.

In April 1869 James and Abigail Tenney Young sold the David Tenney homestead to William Dawkins of West Newbury. Dawkins, born in Kent, England, in 1803, came to the United States in 1835 and was living in West Newbury when he became a citizen in 1856. He died in October 1870, less than two years after having bought the Warren Street property, and in December of that year his children sold it to Samuel P. Dresser of West Newbury. Dresser sold 18 Warren Street the next year to John L. Tilton.³

¹ William Stickney, Rowley, to David Tenney Jr., Rowley, 12 April 1793, SECD 155:234; Henry Dole to David Tenney Jr., 18 February 1797, SECD 162:205.

² Richard Tenney, Daniel Spofford Tenney, and Pamela Tenney, all Newbury, to Abigail Tenney, Newbury, 12 November 1827, SECD 246:200.

³ James and Abigail Young, Newburyport, to William Dawkins, West Newbury, 2 April 1869, SECD 768:95; William Dawkins, West Newbury, Stephen and Jane Woodman, Newbury; Thomas and Adaline Dawkins, Groveland, Luther H. and Charlotte Jackson, Silas M. and Sarah A. Tenney, Rowley, and Daniel Dawkins,

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Born in Sanbornton, New Hampshire, in 1836, John Tilton married Sarah J. Knight of Newburyport in 1858 and served in the 35th Massachusetts Infantry during the Civil War. The 1880 census shows him in this part of Georgetown with his wife and children Willis A., J. Dana, Frederick, and Louis A. Tilton was a farmer and a teamster, and son Willis, then 21 years old, also worked as a teamster. The 1900 census show John and Sarah Tilton on Warren Street with their son Louis, then a shoe factory shipper, and two boarders, the widow Anna James and her daughter Marion.

In 1901 the Tilttons moved to Dummer Court, and in 1904 they sold 18 Warren Street to Hannah H. Nelson of Topsfield, who had grown up in her father Paul Floyd's household at 12 Warren Street. She probably rented the property, and in 1919 she sold 18 Warren Street to Terrance Joseph and Annie Elizabeth Hopkins of Boston. They owned it until 1928, when the administrator of her Annie Hopkins's estate sold it to Dora M. Dunlap of Beverly.⁴ Dora M. Edward Dunlap was the wife of Edward Augustus Dunlap, a Maine native and a farmer, and the 1930 census shows them on Warren Street with their sons Edward A. Jr. and Walter Hersey, born in 1918 and 1919 respectively. By 1940 the Warren Street household also included Dunlap's brother Robert P. Dunlap. The Dunlaps moved to Haverhill by 1952 and sold 18 Warren Street in that year; current owners Benjamin Sieradzki and Donna E. Hort acquired 18 Warren Street in 2007.⁵

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Assessor's Records, Georgetown and Rowley. 1883, 1902, 1920, 1933.

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Nelson, Henry M. "Town of Georgetown History." In Hurd, D. Hamilton. *History of Essex County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of Many of Its Pioneers and Prominent Men*. Vol. 1. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis and Co., 1888. HAVE ON CD

Southern Essex County Registry of Deeds website, salemdeeds.com.

MAPS

"Map of New Rowley Surveyed and Drawn by Philander Anderson 1830." Georgetown Historical Society.

Map of Georgetown. 1856. In Walling, H. F. *A Topographical Map Essex County Massachusetts*. Boston: Smith and Morley, 1856.

Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts. Philadelphia: D. G. Beers and Co., 1872). Plates 59 and 61.

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Georgetown, to Samuel P. Dresser, West Newbury, 3 December 1870, SECD 812:124; Samuel P. Dresser, West Newbury, to John L. Tilton, Newbury, 7 March 1871, SECD 818:29.

⁴ John L. Tilton to Hannah H. Nelson, Topsfield, 18 June 1904, SECD 1753:253; Hannah H. Nelson to Terrance Joseph and Annie Elizabeth Hopkins, Boston MA, 29 November 1919, SECD 2434:435; Frank L. Hopkins, administrator estate Annie E. Hopkins, Somerville MA, to Dora M. Dunlap, Beverly MA, 13 June 1928, SECD 2769:96.

⁵ Dora M. Dunlap, Haverhill MA, to Richard W. and Marjorie J. Burpee, Peabody MA, 3 October 1952, SECD 3929:113; John A. Harding and Susan M. Bradley to Benjamin Sieradzki and Donna E. Hort, 18 Warren Street, 15 November 2007, SECD 27324:442.

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PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)



View from SE.



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View of stable from east

View of garage from north.

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 Neil Larson

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

The David and Judith Tenney House, built about 1790, is a distinctive example of eighteenth-century domestic architecture in Georgetown and retains a level of integrity sufficient to appear eligible for the National Register. The two-story wood frame single dwelling with a single-pile center-hall plan with chimneys on the rear wall was a popular house form in the town during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. An unusual feature is a one-story lean-to kitchen wing tucked under an extension of the rear roof.

In 1793, the year he married Judith Spofford in Rowley, David Tenney (1766-1826) bought 18 acres of land with a house and barn standing about a mile southwest of the Byfield Parish meetinghouse from William Stickney. The son of Richard Tenney (1736-1802) and Abigail Perley (1739-1813), David Tenney is listed with a house in the 1798 federal direct tax listings for Rowley. When he died in 1826, David Tenney's children deeded their inherited shares to their sister Abigail, reserving the dower rights of their mother Judith Spofford Tenney in the house. Abigail Tenney married James Young of Newburyport and after her mother died, they rented in the house until 1869 when it was sold out of the family.

The property appears to meet National Register criteria A and C for its architectural significance and its association with people and events important in Georgetown's early history.