

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

236 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.271

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

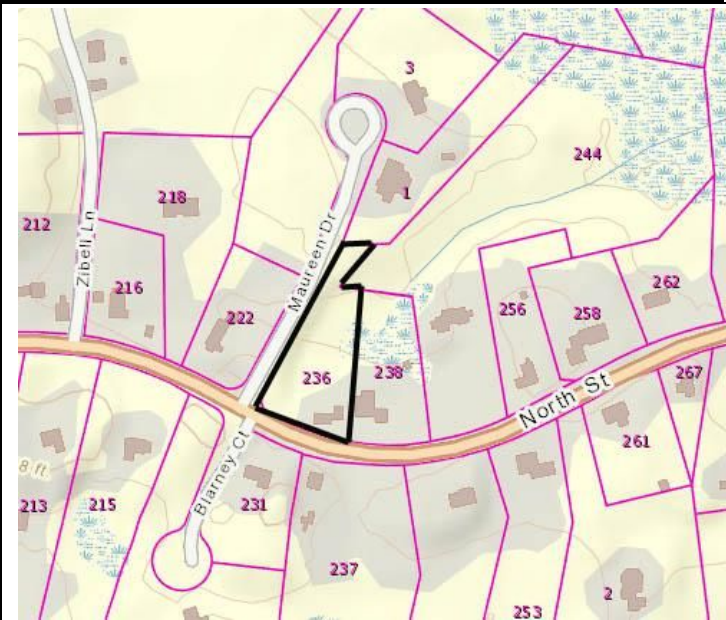
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



View from SW.



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)

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

236 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.271

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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

12-59

Georgetown

GEO.271

Setting: Rural highway leading out from town center with farmhouses interspersed with suburban development on once-associated farmland.

Town/City: Georgetown

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Georgetown

Address: 236 North Street

Historic Name: Cloughlin-Haley House

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

Date of Construction: ca. 1791; ca. 1850

Source: deeds & visual assessment

Style/Form: Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
None

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

One-story garage wing added, mid-20th century
Screened porch added to rear, mid 20th century

Condition: good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 0.93 acres

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

236 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.271

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

☐ 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 historic section of the Cloughlin-Haley House appears to have been built in two phases. Initially a two-story side-passage center-chimney-plan dwelling built about 1791, it was then enlarged with the addition of rooms on the easterly side of the passage about 1850. In the latter phase, the current five-bay front façade was created and decorated with simple overhanging eaves without Classical details, and the exterior vestibule containing the entrance was perhaps also added at that time. End walls contain two windows on each story and a single attic window centered in the gables. A one-story kitchen wing was added to the east end of the house about 1850 or later and a one-story one-car garage was added to the wing in the mid-twentieth century. A screened porch was added to the rear of the house in the mid-twentieth century as well.

The house is sited in the southeast corner of a polygonal lot bordered on the south by North Street and the west by Maureen Drive, a recent road leading to a three-lot subdivision. An unnamed stream flows under Maureen Drive and through the rear of the parcel and enters wetlands on the adjoining property and those farther east. The house is situate within a small yard with driveways entering from North Street east of the house and in front of the garage and from Maureen Drive leading to the rear of the house. The portion of the property north of the stream is wooded.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Deeds for 236 North Street sometimes refer to the property as the "Cloughlin place" or "Coughlin place," and the 1830 map attaches the name "P. Cloughlin" to the house at this address. No deed to Peter Cloughlin under numerous variant spellings has yet been located, but the 1798 direct tax for Rowley lists a Peter Clowlin with a house valued at \$70, and he is listed in this area in the 1800 census as Peter Crowling, a male between the ages of sixteen and twenty-six, with a female in the same age range. He was on the older side of that range—his death record, in fact, puts his year of birth about 1769—as he married Elizebeth Heart in 1791 in Ipswich. In April 1813, according to Rowley historian Thomas Gage, Elisebeth Cloughlin was alone in this house when she was found "burnt to death," and Georgetown historian Edwin P. Hill wrote in 1878 that Cloughlin had been one "of the 'characters' who have from time to time made their appearance" in the town. Cloughlin, Hill wrote, "was particularly noted for his love of New England rum and cross dogs. His wife was traditionally reputed to be a witch, and to have died of spontaneous combustion."¹

In November 1813 Peter Cloughlin married Rowley native Esther Wool, and she either went by Mary or Cloughlin married a third time: in January 1839 a Mary Cloughlin, "wife of Peter," died in Georgetown at the age of 70. The 1830 census for Rowley shows Peter Clowland as a male older than forty-five in a household with four women. By 1840 he had moved to Bradford, where he died in 1846 reputedly at the age of 77.

By the time of his death in 1846, Charles Hills, who lived at 162 North Street, had acquired 236 North Street, and in the division of Hills's estate in 1849 the "Coughlin Place so-called," being 3 acres with buildings, was set off to Hills' son John Thurlow Hills. Less than a week later John T. Hills sold the property and an additional 1.5 acres of peat meadow to Timothy Haley for \$400.² The 1850 census shows Haley, born in Ireland about 1810, as a farmer with \$540 in real property living with his wife Elizabeth, also born in Ireland, their six children between the ages of 2 and 16, and six Irish-born male laborers. He, his wife, and his older children appear to have been living in Freeport, Maine, in 1848. By 1860 Haley and his wife lived at 236 North Street with seven

¹ Thomas Gage, *The History of Rowley* (Boston: F. Andrews, 1840), 436; Edwin P. Hill, "History of Georgetown, Massachusetts," in Cyrus M. Tracey et al., eds., *Standard History of Essex County, Massachusetts* (Boston: C. F. Jewett, 1878), 129.

² George J. Tenney, Benjamin Little, Asa Nelson, committee to report on division of estate of Charles Hills, 7 June 1849, Charles Hills probate records; John T. Hills to Timothy Haley, 13 June 1849, SECD 413:32,

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

236 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.271

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

children and no boarders. Sons Bartholomew and John and daughter Julia were shoe workers, and Eliza and Ellen had been born in 1851 and 1853, respectively.

By 1870 Timothy and Elizabeth Haley lived at 236 North Street with their youngest daughter Ellen, and in 1875 Haley died. Early the next year his widow deeded the "homestead" to Harriet M. Walker of Newbury, and the property changed hands once more before John W. Virgin of Haverhill bought it in September 1878.³ The 1880 census shows Virgin's father, Ebenezer, in the North Street house with his wife Ruth and their adult daughter Sarah Moulton Virgin. Born in Rumford, Maine, Ebenezer Virgin had married Ruth P. Brown of Concord, New Hampshire, by 1843, and the couple was living in Rumford with their six children, Ebenezer's mother Polly, and a boarder in 1850. As in Maine, Virgin was a farmer in Georgetown, and his daughter Sarah was a milliner and dressmaker in 1880.

The 1900 census lists Ebenezer Virgin on North Street with his wife Ruth, daughter Susan, and a boarding farm laborer from Nova Scotia. Virgin died in 1902, and his wife died a little more than a year later. Daughter Susan was living on North Street when she died in May 1904; her older sister Sarah stated that the cause of death was "insanity" with complications from pneumonia. Then in August 1904 Sarah Moulton Virgin herself died, of "cerebral apoplexy" with hemorrhaging and asthma as contributing factors. Both girls were in their mid-fifties.

In 1909 John W. Virgin sold 236 North Street to Elizabeth M. Carleno, and the property changed hands with unusual frequency thereafter; the longest term of ownership was 1955 to 1978, when Herman T. and Phyllis H. Cramer, originally from Boxford, owned it. Current owners Alan P. and Maureen Auslon bought 236 North Street in 1996.⁴

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

AmericanAncestors.org.

Ancestry.com.

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

Bureau of the Census. United States Census, 1790-1930.

Gage, Thomas. *The History of Rowley, Anciently Including Bradford, Boxford, and Georgetown, from the Year 1639 to the Present Time*. Boston: F. Andrews, 1840.

Hill, Edwin P. "History of Georgetown, Massachusetts." In *Standard History of Essex County, Massachusetts*. Edited by Cyrus M. Tracey, William E. Graves, and Henry M. Batchelder. Boston: C. F. Jewett, 1878.

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.

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

MAPS

"Map of the Centre of Georgetown in 1800." In Perley, Sidney H., "Centre of Georgetown in the Year 1800." *The Essex Antiquarian: A Quarterly Magazine Devoted to the Biography, Genealogy, History, and Antiquities of Essex County, Massachusetts* 2, 7 (July 1898): 201.

Map of Georgetown in 1810 and 1840. In Gage, Thomas. *The History of Rowley, Anciently Including Bradford, Boxford, and Georgetown, from the Year 1639 to the Present Time*. Boston: F. Andrews, 1840. 320.

"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.

³ Elizabeth Haley to Harriet M. Walker, Newbury MA, 1 February 1876, SECD 947:102; Erastus G. and Adelpia H. Rollins to John W. Virgin, 26 September 1878, SECD 1010:294.

⁴ John W. Virgin to Elizabeth M. Carleno, Salisbury MA, 1 April 1909, SECD 1960:459; Vance C. and Alice Elizabeth Coolen to Hermann T. and Phyllis H. Cramer, Boxford MA, 20 August 1955, SECD 4197:279; Hermann T. and Phyllis H. Cramer to Edward F. and Julie S. Patch, 12 June 1978, SECD 6481:399; Brian J. Michaels and Eileen M. Peyton to Alan P. and Maureen Auslon, 201 Pond Street, 1 November 1996, SECD 13828:582. The property is shown as Parcel A on "Plan of Land on North Street in Georgetown as Surveyed for Vance Coolen," SECP 4591:141.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

236 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.271

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts. Philadelphia: D. G. Beers and Co., 1872). Plates 59 and 61.
"Town of Georgetown Mass." and "Village of Georgetown Mass." In *Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts* (Boston: George H. Walker, 1884).

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

236 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.271

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)



View from SE.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

236 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.271

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



View from NW.