

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

516 North Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.281

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING

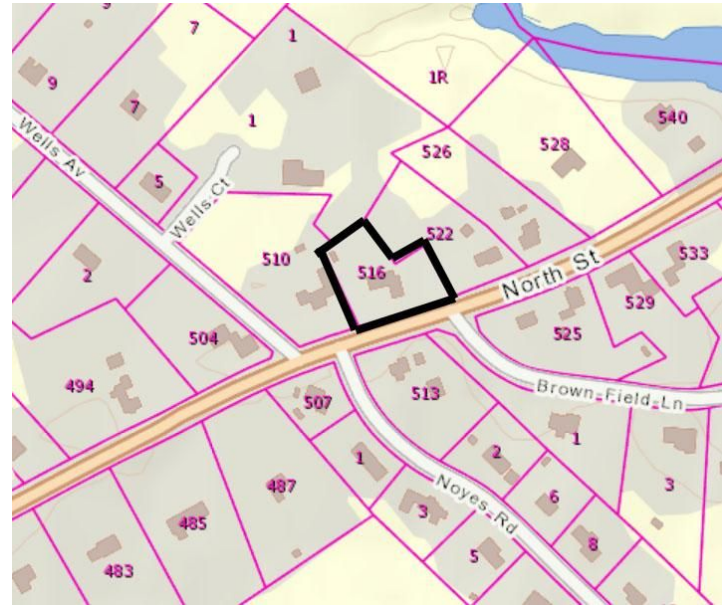
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

### Photograph



View from east.



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

18-34

Georgetown

GEO.281

**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*):  
Byfield Parish**Address:** 516 North Street**Historic Name:** Joseph & Lydia Brown House**Uses:** Present: single family residential

Original: single family residential

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1790**Source:** deeds & visual assessment**Style/Form:** indeterminate**Architect/Builder:** unknown**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: unknown

Wall/Trim: none

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
none**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):Front porch added & enclosed, mid-20<sup>th</sup> century

Exterior siding removed

Doors &amp; windows replaced

**Condition:** fair**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:****Acreage:** 0.5 acre

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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 Joseph and Lydia Brown house, built about 1790, is a two-story wood frame single dwelling with a gable roof. It appears to have a double-pile side-passage plan with a chimney located in the partition between the front and rear rooms. Fenestration on the first floor of the front façade is concealed in a porch added in the mid-twentieth century and later enclosed. The second story contains a single window over the entrance and paired windows on the opposing side. Windows on the end walls have been repositioned in the walls; a one-story wing is attached to the southwest end. The exterior is in the process of renovation and has no siding. The house is centered in an L-shaped half-acre lot, which is all that remains from the subdivision of the original five-acre parcel. It has yards on the front and sides with a large parking area in the southwest corner; the rear of the parcel contains a grove of mature evergreens.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Joseph Brown (1750-1836) is associated with a dwelling depicted on the corner of North Street and Wells Avenue on the 1830 Georgetown map, and he is listed among known residents of this part of Georgetown in censuses from 1790 to 1830. He was the son of Abraham and Mary Searle Brown of Newbury, and he married Lydia Poore (1749-1814) in 1770. Abraham Brown is recorded as purchasing land in the area as early as 1756, and his sons Joseph and Benjamin were involved in transactions apparently dividing up his estate after his death. In 1805 Hannah Brown, a "school dame" and widow of Abraham Brown, a Newburyport cordwainer and probably another of Joseph Brown's brothers, sold to Joseph a portion of the 14 acres she acquired from her husband's estate in 1801.<sup>1</sup> It is this five-acre parcel with buildings that is the source of subsequent deeds for the 516 North Street property.

A Revolutionary War pensioner, Joseph Brown may have been indebted to others. In 1816 he conveyed an interest in the property to Rowley physician Moses D. Spofford. Two years later the deed was assigned to Eliphalet Brown, a "gentleman" of Newburyport and possibly Joseph's son. James Carey, a Newburyport victualler, purchased the deed from Eliphalet Brown in 1835 for \$200 and sold it for \$325 to Charles Annable of Newburyport in 1836. (Joseph Brown died in 1836.) Charles Annable was the husband of Hannah Jane Hills, the daughter of Francis and Hannah Tenney Hills of 504 North Street (GEO.280). Three years later Annable sold the five-acre tract with its house and buildings and another 1.75-acre tract on the south side of North Street with a barn and outbuildings to Caleb and Moses Tenney.<sup>2</sup> The 516 North Street house is marked "M. Tenney" on the 1856 Georgetown map.

Caleb Tenney (1804-86) and Moses Tenney (1808-1903) were the sons of Moses Tenney (1776/77-1859) and Hannah Whitaker (1777-1856), the last a native of Weare, New Hampshire.<sup>3</sup> Moses Jr., a lumber dealer, lived in Danvers in his early life, but Caleb is shown in this neighborhood in the 1850 census with \$1070 in real property. He was a shoemaker, and his household included his wife Rhoda March Tenney, whom he married in 1826, and their sons James Oliver, Caleb Putnam, and George Henry. Rhoda Tenney died in 1855, and the North Street property was then occupied by Caleb's parents, Moses and Hannah. Moses Sr. held mortgages on the 516 North Street property in 1846 and 1850, and he died at this house, according to a Tenney

<sup>1</sup> Estate of Abraham Brown to Hannah Brown, Newbury, 11 April 1801, SECD 169:130; Hannah Brown, Rowley, to Joseph Brown, Rowley, 9 September 1805, SECD 210:41.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Brown to Moses D. Spofford, 15 March 1816, SECD 210:41; Moses & Irene Spofford to Eliphalet Brown, 12 March 1818, SECD 225:293; Eliphalet Brown to James Carey, 14 November 1835, SECD 287:39; James and Hannah Cary, Newbury MA, to Charles Annable, Newburyport MA, 7 June 1836, SECD 289:241; Charles Annable, Newburyport MA, to Caleb Tenney and Moses Tenney, latter Danvers MA, 11 April 1839, SECD 313:194.

<sup>3</sup> On the Tenney family see M. J. Tenney, *The Tenney Family; or the Descendants of Thomas Tenney of Rowley, Massachusetts, 1638-1904* (Concord, NH: Rumford Press, 1904), 92-93, 178, 350-51.

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genealogy, in 1859. Later that year Caleb Tenney sold the property to William Searle Wheeler, who sold it in 1868 to Henrietta Horsch.<sup>4</sup>

Born in Nassau in Germany about 1832, Henrietta Smith was living in Dorchester in 1853 when she married John Michael Horsch, who had emigrated from Baden, Germany, to Boston in May 1851. He was a cabinetmaker, and his 1857 naturalization petition shows him as a cabinetmaker living in Byfield Parish. The family returned to Boston by 1860, where the census shows Horsch and his wife with their children Mary S., Louise E., and Charles, and two German immigrant boarders. Horsch served in the Massachusetts Heavy Artillery during the Civil War. The 1870 Georgetown census shows John M. Horsch as a wheelwright with \$300 in real property in a household with his wife and family; the Horsch family then had eight children. The North Street property is marked "Horsch" on both the 1872 and 1884 maps, but in 1880 John and Henrietta Horsch sold the property to Asa Rogers (1843-1925) of Newbury, "it being understood that the wheelwright shop now standing on said premises is to be removed by said Horsch by the first day of April 1881."<sup>5</sup> The Horsch family was living in Newbury in 1880. Asa Rogers, the son of Pelatiah D. and Cordelia Rogers, was born in 1843 and married Rebecca E. Tenney in Newbury in 1868. He and his wife and son Silas, a woolen mill operative, are listed in this North Street neighborhood in the 1900 census, and in September of that year they sold the property to Gustavus Moses Dole of Newbury.<sup>6</sup> Born in Salem, New Hampshire, in 1840, Dole died only six years after buying the property, but his widow Carrie Osborn Dole and her family owned the house until 1946.

Carrie Osborn Colby Dole was born in Sunapee, New Hampshire, in 1856 and had married George Henry Colby by 1873. The couple lived in Sunapee in 1880 with their children Guy and Rose May. Colby, a blacksmith, died in 1891, and in 1894 Carrie married Gustavus Moses Dole in Lowell. The 1910 Georgetown census shows her on North Street with her son Clarence H. Colby, who worked as a streetcar conductor. By 1916 her daughter Rosa May, who had married Georgetown teamster Ralph I. Tarbox in 1897, was living with her husband and mother at 516 North Street, but by 1920 the census shows Carrie Dole as "ill" and living with her brother Horace Osborn in the house. The 1930 census shows her alone on North Street; her daughter's family—Ralph Tarbox, Rosa May, their adult son Claude Robert, and Claude's wife Edna—is enumerated in the census just before her, perhaps at 510 North Street, which was erected between the 516 North Street house and the corner.

In 1933 Carrie Dole deeded 216 North Street to Claude R. and Edna P. Tarbox.<sup>7</sup> The 1940 census lists the couple in the house with Claude's father Ralph, by then widowed, and a domestic servant. Claude Tarbox was a silver factory machinist, and the 1957 directory shows him as a foreman at Towle Silversmiths in Newburyport. In 1946 he had sold the house to Fred J. and K. Marion Lachance, and moved to 522 North Street. After Fred Lachance's death, his widow sold 516 North Street to Earl S. and Anna M. Hunt of Lynn, whose family owned the property until 2005.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> See Moses Tenney, Danvers MA, to Caleb Tenney, 22 August 1842, SECD 333:69; Caleb Tenney to Moses Tenney, 1 September 1846, SECD 378:289; mortgage deeds from Moses Tenney Sr., 1 November 1846, SECD 378:290 and 4 March 1850, SECD 425:9; Moses Tenney Jr. to Caleb Tenney, 19 April 1859, SECD 586:258; Caleb Tenney to William S. Wheeler, 29 April 1859, SECD 662:41; William S. Wheeler to Henrietta Horsch, 21 July 1868, SECD 833:55.

<sup>5</sup> Henrietta and John M. Horsch to Asa Rogers Jr., Newbury MA, 24 May 1880, SECD 1504:241.

<sup>6</sup> Asa Rogers Jr. to Gustavus M. Dole, Newbury MA, 27 September 1900, SECD 1643:158.

<sup>7</sup> Carrie A. Dole to Claude R. and Edna P. Tarbox, 8 July 1933, SECD 2957:422.

<sup>8</sup> Claude R. and Edna P. Tarbox to Fred J. and K. Marion Lachance, 18 May 1946, SECD 3465:259; K. Marion Lachance to Earl S. and Ann M. Hunt, Lynn MA, 12 September 1952, SECD 3923:550; Earl S. Hunt, individually, as temporary executor will Ann M. Hunt, and trustee Hunt Family Irrevocable Trust, to Dana R. Neves, 516 North St, 25 January 2005, SECD 23905:169.

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## MAPS

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## PHOTOGRAPHS (all photos by Neil Larson, 2017)



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View from south.