

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

GEORGETOWN

52 Pond Street

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

GEO.293

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

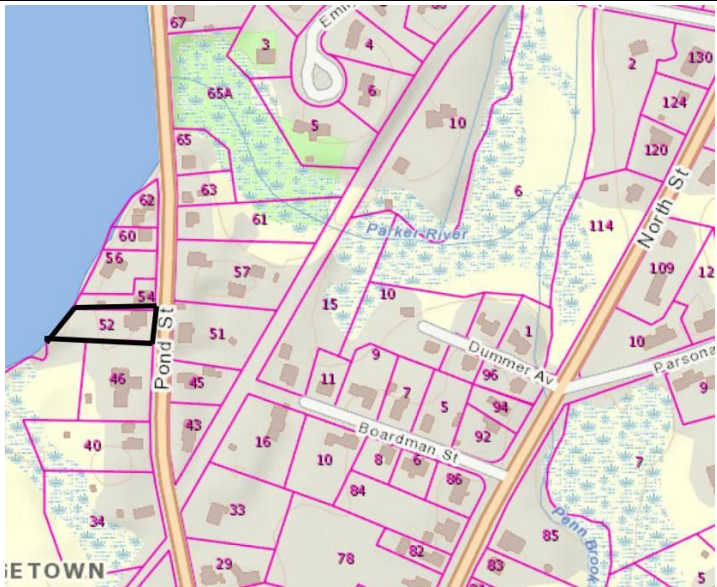
FORM B – BUILDING

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

11B-9

Georgetown

GEO.293

**Setting:** Concentrated neighborhood of single-family homes in town center; backs up on pond.

**Town/City:** Georgetown

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*):  
Pentucket Pond

**Address:** 52 Pond Street

**Historic Name:** Morse-Barry House

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

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1842

**Source:** deeds & visual assessment

**Style/Form:** Greek Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Moses D. Morse, probable builder

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
None

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):  
Rear addition, mid-20<sup>th</sup> century

**Condition:** fair

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.26 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 Morse-Barry House is a story-and-a-half wood frame single dwelling with a gable roof built about 1842. It was constructed with a single-pile center-hall plan with chimneys on the rear wall. The entrance is positioned in the center of a five-bay front façade and distinguished by sidelights and a pedimented architrave. There is little else to associate the house with an architectural style. End walls contain two windows on each story; a bevel-sided bay window is located in the front of the first story on the south end. In the twentieth century, a large two-story addition was constructed on the rear of the house with the roof elevated from the ridge of the house. There are no windows on the side walls, and a one-story wing with a second entry is appended to the south side suggesting that a second dwelling unit was created. A glass-walled wing extends from the rear of the addition.

The house is sited at the front of a narrow lot that extends from Pond Street to the edge of Pentucket Pond. It is set back from the street and its northern boundary behind small yards; a parking area has been paved on the south side of the lot. A large open yard occupies the space between the house and the pond.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

In August 1842, Samuel H. Brocklebank sold Moses D. Morse “a certain house lot on the westerly side of the road leading from Little’s Corner to West Newbury” for \$35.<sup>1</sup> Morse was a carpenter by trade and probably built the house now numbered 52 Pond Street shortly after. Born either in Haverhill or Industry, Maine, between 1800 and 1804. Moses Davis Morse was living in Bradford in 1840. Seven years earlier he had married Betsey Pierce of Newbury, and by 1850 he is shown in this Pentucket Pond neighborhood with his wife Betsey, their daughter Mary, and Morse’s 78-year-old father Samuel, who worked as a shoemaker.

By 1859, what deeds called “the Morse place” had come into the possession of Charles A. Kimball of Haverhill, who sold it in September of that year to John Barry. The Barry family owned 52 Pond Street until 1930. Born in Munster, Ireland, about 1830, John Barry was a bootmaker living with his wife Ellen Donovan Barry, a shoe binder in 1860, and their children Catherine, Mary, and Hannah. The 1870 census lists Barry with \$1000 in real property and as a shoe factory worker; by then another daughter, Elizabeth, had been added to the family. In 1880 Barry was a boot treer and daughters Catherine and Hannah were doing domestic work.

John Barry died in 1886, and the 1900 census shows his widow Ellen living with her daughter Elizabeth, a seamstress, on Pond Street. Ellen Barry died in 1904. In 1910 52 Pond Street was occupied by Elizabeth Barry, a “tailoress,” her widowed sister Hannah Barry Buckley, and a boarder. Hannah died in 1917, and in 1920 Elizabeth Barry shared 52 Pond Street with widowed sister Catherine Barry Reardon.

Elizabeth Barry was living in Belmont in June 1930 when she sold 52 Pond Street to Henry R. and Agnes V. McCartney, whose family owned the property until 1946.<sup>2</sup> Born in Michigan about 1860, McCartney was the pastor of South Byfield Congregational Church and had earlier held pastorates in Kennebunkport (1920), Plainfield, New Hampshire (1910), West Stewartstown, New Hampshire (1904), and Amherst, Massachusetts (1900). In 1936 he deeded 52 Pond Street to his son Arthur, and in 1946 Arthur O. McCartney, who lived in Wellesley, sold the property to Albert A. and Laura N. Boyd of Newbury. Albert Arthur Boyd worked for Towle Silversmith in Newburyport. He was the son of Robert N. and Ella Woodbury Boyd of Georgetown, and in 1942 he

<sup>1</sup> Samuel H. Brocklebank to Moses D. Morse, 29 August 1842, SECD 335:295.

<sup>2</sup> Lizzie M. Barry, Belmont MA, to Henry R. and Agnes V. McCartney, 18 June 1930, SECD 2852:4

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married Laura Nelson Thurlow of Groveland. Boyd died in Georgetown in 1977, and in February 1979 the executor of his will sold 52 Pond Street to current owners William H. and Maureen Lee Curran.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Henry R. McCartney to Arthur O. McCartney, 3 September 1936, SECD 3087:3; Henry R. McCartney to Arthur O. McCartney, 3 September 1936, SECD 3087:3; Douglas N. Boyd, executor will Albert A Boyd, to William H. and Maureen Lee Curran, 52 Pond, 14 February 1979, SECD 6566:296.

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## MAPS

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

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View from SE.



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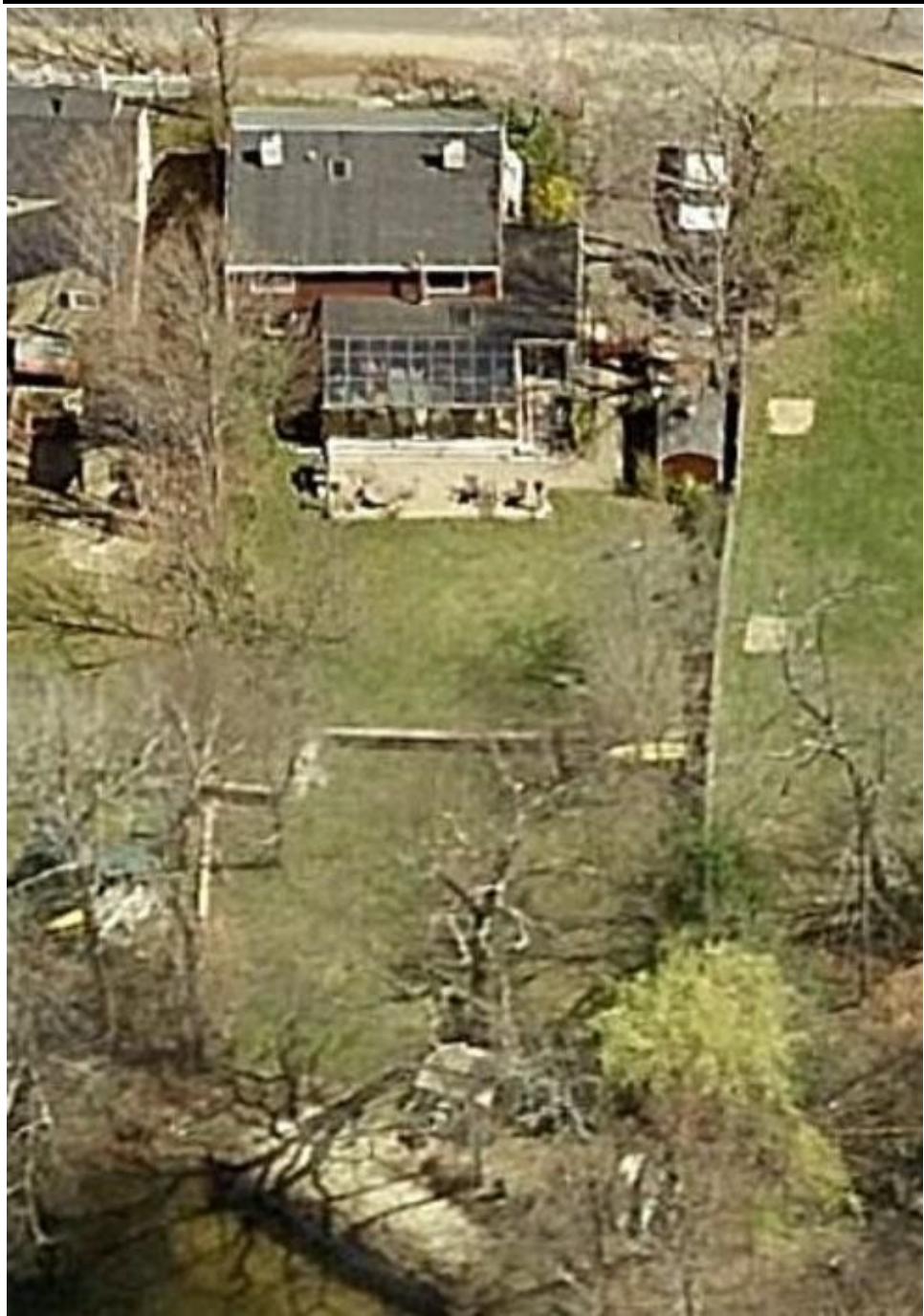
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Aerial view from west. Source: [bing.com/maps](https://www.bing.com/maps).