

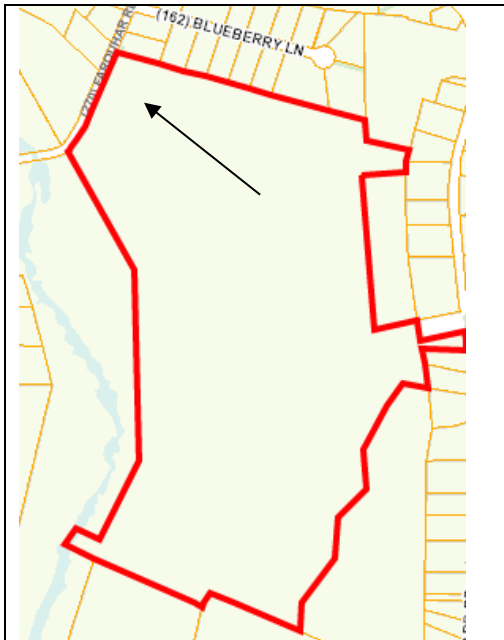
## FORM B – BUILDING

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

### Photograph



### Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Bonnie Parsons, PVPC

**Organization:** Sturbridge Historical Commission

**Date (month / year):** October/2017

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

270-03435-047

North  
Brookfield

STU.246-  
248

**Town/City:** Sturbridge

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

**Address:** 47 Farquhar Road

**Historic Name:** Samuel, Jr. and Mary Morse House

**Uses:** Present: single-family dwelling

Original: single-family dwelling

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1800

**Source:** Registry of Deeds

**Style/Form:** Georgian

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: parged stone

Wall/Trim: clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

Two barns

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 75.19 acres

**Setting:** This house is west-facing but set back from the road and shaded by mature maple trees behind a wood fence.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

47 Farquhar Road

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

STU.246-248

☒ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

The Mary and Samuel Morse, Jr. House at 47 Farquhar Road is a finely preserved, Georgian style house. It is two-and-a-half stories and has a center chimney, which has retained its original size, on its side-gabled roof. A one-and-a-half story ell extends on its east elevation. The ell has a large center chimney, possibly making it a kitchen ell. It has a secondary entry on its east elevation. The west-facing house is ample in scale for the period. It is 5 x 4 bays where Sturbridge Georgian houses of similar date were more often a narrower, two bays in depth. The west façade has a center entry whose surround has a simple cap lintel. Windows have 8/12 sash. Façade windows have flat surrounds, but windows in the side elevations have drip molding lintels. There are narrow cornerboards and roof eaves make short returns. The foundations are low parged fieldstone. In its agricultural setting of open fields with two adjacent barns, this house represents the Georgian period farmhouse as found in Sturbridge.

There are two barns on the property: an eaves front barn and a high drive barn, both of which would date after 1850. The more westerly barn is an eaves-front barn with a shed roof extension on its west elevation. The barn further east is on a slope that reveals its fieldstone foundations on the east, north and south. It also has a shed roof extension and a wing on its south. Both barns are vertically sided.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was built by Samuel and Mary Morse, ca. 1800. Samuel's older brother Lyman, whose farm was further south on the road, lived until 1864 and their farm holdings on Farquhar Road were to be connected into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The fact that each sibling carried on the names "Samuel" and "Lyman" to the next generation makes tracing their interlocking land ownership difficult. However, the Morse family ownership of this house extended through 1857 when Lyman Morse owned it, then through Henry Morse's ownership in the later 1850s and 1860s, to his son Andrew Morse and his wife Emily in the 1910s. All generations were farmers. Then in 1912 Andrew J. Morse, a farmer, willed the property to Sidney Haskell with a provision that Andrew could remain in the house until 1922. Haskell lived in Amherst with his wife Florence where he taught agronomy and later moved to Westchester, New York, so apparently never lived full-time in the house but may have used it as a summer house. As soon as he was legally free to sell the house, Sidney Haskell sold to John and Ilda Bombardiers. John was an immigrant from French Canada and the couple farmed elsewhere in Sturbridge before they bought the Morse House. They had three children Gertrude, George and Charles and remained on the farm until 1965 when they sold to George and Amy Phaneuf. This farm was continuously cultivated over 150 years.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

#### Maps

Bailey, O. H. & Co. Bird's eye view *Sturbridge and Fiskdale*, Massachusetts, 1892.

Beers, F. W. *Plan of Towns of Sturbridge and Southbridge*, 1870.

#### Primary Sources

Chase, Nelly M. Photograph Album, Joshua Hyde Public Library.

#### Secondary Sources

Burns, Brian. *Sturbridge: A Pictorial History*, Norfolk, 1988. Corey, Charles F. "Old Houses in Sturbridge" Quinebaug Historical Society Leaflets, vol.1, no. 5, 1900.

Clark, Joseph. *Historical Sketch of Sturbridge, Massachusetts*, Brookfield, Massachusetts, 1838.

Davis, George. *A Historical Sketch of Sturbridge and Southbridge*, West Brookfield, 1856.



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STURBRIDGE

47 Farquhar Road

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Area(s) Form No.

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## Digital Resources

[www.Ancestry.com](http://www.Ancestry.com) for federal censuses 1790-1940 and Massachusetts State Censuses 1855, 1865.

<https://dp.la/> Digital Public Library of America

[www.masslandrecords.com](http://www.masslandrecords.com) for deeds



Photo 1: Wider perspective of property, camera facing southeast



Photo 2: Second barn on property

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## 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 Bonnie Parsons

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

The Mary and Samuel Morse, Jr. House is eligible for listing on the National Register following criteria A and C.

The property has been a significant part of Sturbridge history as an active farm for about 150 years and for the majority of those years in the ownership of several generations of the Morse family.

Architecturally it qualifies under criterion C for the Register as one of the few remaining, well-preserved Georgian style houses in its original setting in Sturbridge. With two barns and house, the property is a particularly fine example of Sturbridge's rural agricultural architecture of the late 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century. The property has local significance. It has integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association.