

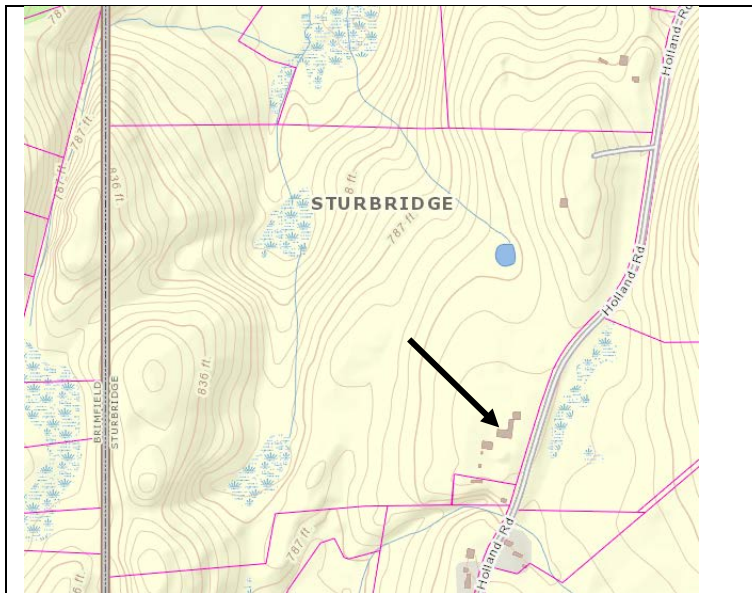
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



Locus Map



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

348-03214-220

Wales

STU.267

Town/City: Sturbridge

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 220 Holland Road

Historic Name: Abijah and Ruth Shumway House

Uses: Present: Single-family dwelling

Original: Single-family dwelling

Date of Construction: ca.1800

Source: Registry of Deeds

Style/Form: Federal

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood and asphalt shingles

Roof: standing seam metal

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage, barn, clubhouse all 1970s.

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

House sided, ca. 1950; garage added. Façade windows altered first floor.

Condition: good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 128 acres

Setting: Set on a golf course, with support buildings. On the border of Sturbridge and the town of Brimfield.

Recorded by: Bonnie Parsons, PVPC

Organization: Sturbridge Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): November 2017

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

220 HOLLAND ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

STU.267

☐ 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.

This is one of the town's largest Federal style houses. It is two-and-a-half stories, and has two chimneys on its side-gable roof. It is a generous five bays wide and five bays deep and sits on low stone foundations. The center entry of the façade is typical of the style being tall and relatively narrow. It has flat architrave surround topped by a projecting cornice over a six-panel door. A secondary entry is centered on the south elevation. It has a modest Tudor hood over the door that is cantilevered without braces. Windows in the house are 6/6 with the exception of a row of three windows on the façade whose sash is 4/4. They would be a later alteration replacing two slightly wider windows with 6/6 sash. The size of the house and its two entries support the notion that it was constructed as a two-family farmhouse.

Attached to the house at its southwest corner is a one-story barn wing. Vinyl-sided and with a metal roof, the wing has one exterior track sliding door, an interior track sliding door and a hinged door. It appears to serve as a garage, but would originally have had multiple functions such as woodshed and workshop.

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.

The Abijah and Ruth Shumway house was built ca. 1800 on land that Abijah bought from his father Samuel Shumway in that year. The couple farmed and by 1857 Abijah was sharing the house – divided equally in half - with his brother Samuel. The large size of the house may indicate that it was built originally to serve as a two-family, but initially was only used by Abijah and Ruth.

In 1860 Samuel sold his half of the house to Abijah and Ruth's son William H. Shumway. The deed to the half of the house and outbuildings was very specifically written out in the deed (Book 624 Page 362) giving the northern half of the house to William divided right down the center hall. The deed is important for also describing the totality of buildings, gardens, sheds and more that made up this farm in 1860. Abijah died in 1869 and on the map of 1870 William H. Shumway is shown as the property's owner. He, his mother, and two sisters were occupying the house in the census of that year. In 1880 Ruth at 88 was listed as head of the household and described as a farmer along with William. The household had two Canadian servants along with William's sister Mary. The Shumways were dairy farmers with two pair of oxen and forty cows at various ages. With this herd they produced 1500 pounds of butter and 120 pounds of cheese, which put them among the highest dairy producers of the town in 1880. They also grew modest crops of corn, rye and potatoes. Ruth died in 1886. William in 1897 sold the farm to Albert A. Ball, a Springfield realtor. Other land he sold in 1900 just before moving to Los Angeles, California where he lived with an older brother, George. Ball turned around in 1900 and sold the farm to another realtor Russell H. Baton. In the 1950s the Palmer family began buying up land on Holland Road until they added the Shumway farm and converted it to a golf course in the 1970s, which it continues today.

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.

Richards, L. J. *Atlas of Worcester County*, 1898.

Walling, H. F. *Map of Worcester County*, Wm. E. Baker, Boston, 1857.

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220 HOLLAND ROAD

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Primary Sources

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

Secondary Sources

Burns, Brian. *Sturbridge: A Pictorial History*, Norfolk, 1988.

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

Corey, Charles F. "Old Houses in Sturbridge" Quinebaug Historical Society Leaflets, vol.1, no. 5, 1900.

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

Hurd, D. Hamilton. *History of Worcester County, Massachusetts*, vol. 1, Philadelphia 1889.

Izard, Holly. *Old Houses of Sturbridge*, scrapbook, n.d., Joshua Hyde Public Library, Sturbridge.

Digital Resources

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 for deeds



Photo 1: Residence and outbuilding