

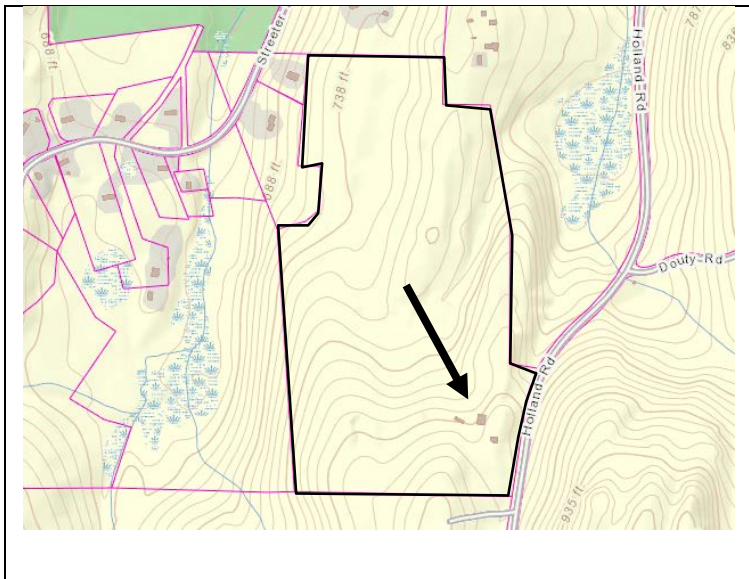
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



Locus Map



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

348-02744-100

Southbridge

STU.265
STU.266

Town/City: Sturbridge

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 100 Holland Road

Historic Name: George and Mary Eliza Holmes House

Uses: Present: single-family residence

Original: single-family residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1850

Source: Assessor; map of 1857

Style/Form: no style

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: granite block

Wall/Trim: asphalt shingles

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Barn and Shed

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Porch added, ca. 1960

Siding applied, ca. 1950

Condition: good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 3.49 acres

Setting: Large farmstead whose house is shaded by maples.

Recorded by: Bonnie Parsons, PVPC

Organization: Sturbridge Historical Commission

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

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

100 HOLLAND ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

STU.265-266

☐ 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 George and Mary Eliza Holmes House is a two-and-a-half story, east-facing house with a side-gable roof. The center chimney house is on a knoll in the landscape, so that the surrounding yard slopes down and away from the house. On its north elevation the slope has been excavated into a passageway to the cellar. Two fieldstone-lined embankments lead to an opening to the cellar that is now closed with an overhead garage door. The house is four bays wide and three bays deep and the east elevation has a full-width shed-roofed porch on posts. A one-story addition has been added across the south elevation. The façade on the east is three bays wide. Windows have 6/6 sash and the exterior of the building is sided in both asphalt shingles and wood shingles. A structural survey would be helpful in dating the house, and the passageway. It is possible that the current house was built on the foundations of the Sarah and Hallowell Perrin farmhouse of ca. 1800.

To the west of the house is a New England style, sidehill barn. It is board-and-batten sided and has a metal roof. On the east elevation the barn has two large vehicle entries closed by metal and glass sash.

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.

Although the Perrin farmstead lot has recently been separated from the farmland, the two sections of acreage, which amount to 55 acres, represent one of the most intact farmsteads remaining in Sturbridge from the early 19th century. The farm was put together by Sarah Perrin and her husband Captain Hallowell Perrin from purchases and inheritance ca. 1800 to create a 110 acre property. Sarah became a widow in 1823 and three years later she sold the 110 acres that extended on both sides of Holland Road to Sturbridge resident George W. Holmes for \$950. In that sale she kept the right to live in a house on the property until her death. Sarah Perrin died in Sturbridge in 1846 at the age of 84. Whether she remained in the house until then is not clear, nor is its location. However, it is from her death that the house has been tentatively dated.

George Holmes was a cabinet maker as well as farmer and is documented in the U. S. Craftspersons files for his one signed piece, a cherry, Sheraton style, bowfront chest of drawers. When he bought the farm he had just married the previous year, Mary Eliza Plimpton of Sturbridge, and over the next decade the couple had three sons, George W. Jr., Daniel F., and Lemuel Holmes. George and Mary Eliza Holmes kept the farm for eleven years selling it intact to their son Lemuel L. Holmes in 1837. Lemuel L. Holmes and his wife Eliza sold off acreage between 1837 and 1877 until they had remaining 62 and $\frac{3}{4}$ acres which Lemuel sold in the latter year for \$2000 to their son Frederick Holmes. The farm continued in the Holmes family for another generation, finally being passed by Frederick's widow Phila Holmes to their daughters who sold it in 1940 to Stanley and Stefania (also known as Stella) Parzych, at which time it had 61 $\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

Under the Parzych ownership, the farm was actively cultivated until the mid-1950s when they sold it to Reginald and Marie Farr with 55 acres. Reginald prior to buying the farm was a mill hand but turned dairy farmer in 1955, and began Farr's Dairy Farm, which the couple operated until 1981. The barn would likely have been constructed during their ownership.

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.

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

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

100 HOLLAND ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	STU.265-266
--	-------------

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: