

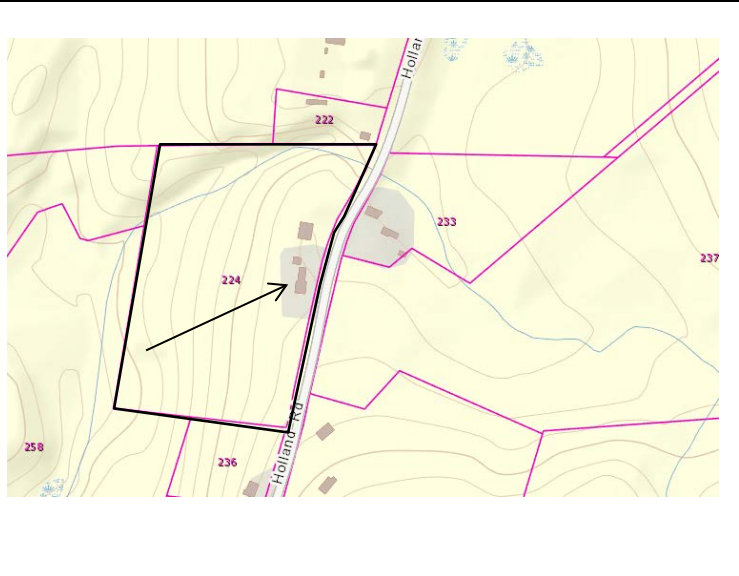
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



Locus Map



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

348-03233-224

Wales

STU.269-
STU.271

Town/City: Sturbridge

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 224 Holland Road

Historic Name: Nathan Cheney and Elijah Plimpton House

Uses: Present: Single-family house

Original: Single-family house

Date of Construction: ca. 1793

Source: Registry of Deeds

Style/Form: Federal

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: clapboard

Roof: faux slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Barn, garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
2/2 window sash installed ca. 1900

Condition: good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 11.5 acres

Setting: Facing east along Holland Road, near the intersection of Holland and Finlay Roads.

Recorded by: Bonnie Parsons, PVPC

Organization: Sturbridge Historical Commission

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

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

224 HOLLAND ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

STU.269-271

☐ 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 Nathan Cheney and Elijah Plimpton House is a two-and-a-half story Federal style building with a center chimney on the ridge of its side-gable roof. Five bays wide and two bays deep, the main block of the house has a one-and-a-half story wing on the north that is long enough to contain both kitchen and woodshed. It has a large chimney on its side-gable roof. The house is five bays wide and two deep and has 2/2 sash in the windows. The main architectural feature of the center chimney house is its trabeated door surround with slender pilasters framing the door and half-length sidelights. It has a wide frieze and projecting cornice and a five-panel door. This is one of the better-preserved of Sturbridge's Federal style houses.

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 land on which this farm was created was originally part of one of the Proprietors' 100 acres set off in 1741 to John Bishop, who then sold it to Joseph Cheney from Medfield. Joseph Cheney settled on Shumway Hill in Sturbridge and sold this farmland to Nathan Cheney and Elijah Plimpton in 1793. It was about that year that the house was built, as in seven years, in 1800, the property was sold as 100 acres with buildings. The farm changed hands several times as early investors in Sturbridge such as Nathan Rice in 1804 and Jonathan P. Curtis in 1817 bought and sold the farm with its buildings. Curtis was an active farmer/investor in Fiskdale on Brookfield Road and on Holland Road and Rice was an active trader from Hingham. In 1817 Walter Shumway interrupted the trading when he bought the farm and kept it for twelve years, presumably living here and farming. Members of the Shumway family had lived on Holland Road from the late 18th century. Walter then sold it to Livingston Shumway and his wife Sarah in 1829. Livingston and Sarah were among the longest occupants of the farm as in 1850 twenty one years after its purchase, they sold in 1850 fifteen acres of the farm with its buildings. The remaining land was sold off over the next few years. Jonathan Lyon who bought the 15 acres farmed it into the 20th century, so he, too was long associated with the farm. But in 1914 it went to the Palmer family who consolidated considerable land on both sides of Holland Road for the next several generations prior to turning this farm, and the farms at 220 and 100 Holland Road into a golf course. In 2001 the house was set off from the golf course and sold as a single-family home.

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.

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.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

224 HOLLAND ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

STU.269-271

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: Garage



Photo 2: Barn