

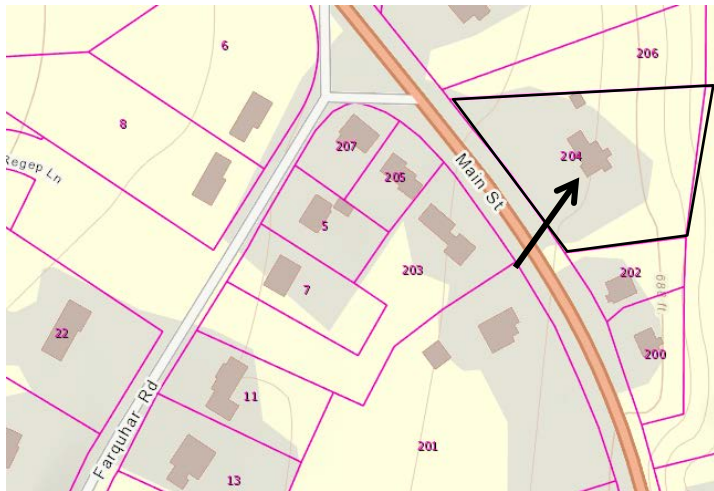
# FORM B – BUILDING

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

## Photograph



## Locus Map



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

415-02956-204

Southbridge

STU.281

**Town/City:** Sturbridge

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

**Address:** 204 Main Street

**Historic Name:** Alfred and Ettienne Berthiaume House

**Uses:** Present: single-family residence

Original: single-family residence

**Date of Construction:** 1937

**Source:** Assessor, Registry of Deeds

**Style/Form:** Tudor Revival

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: fieldstone, concrete

Wall/Trim: aluminum siding

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

Attached garage

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

Siding applied, ca. 1960

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 1.83 acres

**Setting:** Facing west, this house is on a slope overlooking Main Street. It is shaded by mature spruce and oak trees on east and low shrubbery on west.

**Recorded by:** Bonnie Parsons

**Organization:** Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

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

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

204 MAIN STREET

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

STU.281

☐ 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 Berthiaume House is a Tudor Revival style house of one-and-a-half stories. The main block has a side gable roof with a transverse gable in the south façade. The transverse gable has a sharply pitched roof that extends on one (west) side to accommodate an entry in Tudor Revival style. On the main block's façade adjacent to the projecting transverse gable is an unusual, fixed, 40-light window with diamond patterned muntins. The house lot slopes down to the west slightly allowing a two-bay, flat roofed garage to be attached to the house at basement level. The main entry on the facade through the transverse gable has a Colonial Revival surround with an arched pediment. In the gable field of this section of the house is an arched window with leaded glass. On the east elevation of the main block is a one-story wing under a hipped roof. The Tudor Revival style was one of the more common styles for the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century for suburban homes. While the style could be elaborate and architecturally complicated, this simpler form was popular because its basic plan and elevation could be given stylistic distinction with a few features such as the entry in the extended roof of the transverse gable and a few windows with decorative effect.

### 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.*

Etienne and Alfred Berthiaume were Southbridge residents when they bought the land on which this house was built in 1937. They had been married in 1931 and soon after that, Etienne changed her name to Stephenette, a translation from the French. Alfred was a postman. The Berthiaumes were among the most stable households in Sturbridge. Stephenette was a gardener and attended the Brimfield Garden Club in 1960 to speak about Christmas decorations. At his death in 1970 Alfred had retired, but he and Stephenette still lived in the house. She remained in the house selling half ownership in 1997 to Yvette Lassonde who worked in Southbridge at American Optical. Stephenette died in 1998 after more than a six decade long occupancy.

### 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.

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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](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

[www.genealogybank.com](http://www.genealogybank.com).