

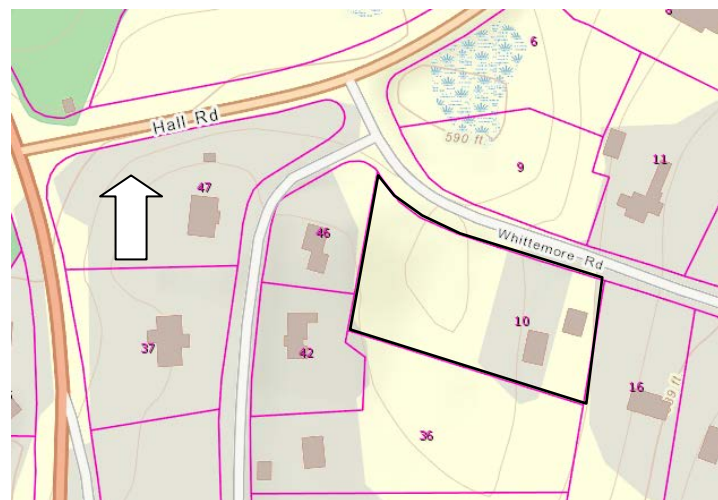
# FORM B – BUILDING

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

## Photograph



## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Shannon Walsh, PVPC

**Organization:** Sturbridge Historical Commission

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

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

680-02936-010

Southbridge

STU.63  
STU.312

**Town/City:** Sturbridge

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

**Address:** 10 Whittemore Road

**Historic Name:** Rice-Simpson Barn/Gladding House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Agricultural

**Date of Construction:** c. 1792; mid-to-late 20<sup>th</sup> cent. alterations

**Source:** Wilkin, 1973 research for STU.63

**Style/Form:** Altered

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Field Stone

Wall/Trim: Clapboard/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

Garage

**Major Alterations (with dates):**

Barn to residence c. 1918 and c. 1957 (per Wilkin research)

**Condition:** Fair due to alterations

**Moved:** no ☐ yes ☒ **Date:** 1960

**Acreage:** 1.09 acres

**Setting:** Large parcel with residential building facing north along Whittemore Road. Near the intersection of Whittemore and Willard Roads and just off of Hall Road.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

10 WHITTEMORE ROAD

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

STU.63  
STU.312

☐ 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 Rice/Simpson Barn, Gladding House at 10 Whittemore Road, was originally a late eighteenth/early nineteenth century barn which was moved and altered to a Colonial Revival Style single family dwelling by the mid-nineteenth century. It provides an example of that time period's residential and agricultural growth and later transition to increased residential development along Whittemore Road. This two and a half story building is two bays wide by two bays deep with a stone foundation, clapboard exterior with wood trim, and an asphalt shingle roof with overhanging eaves. The front gable roof has a hip on gable roof and two cross gable dormers.

The main, northern facing façade has a first story pedimented entablature and a more modern entry with an upper light and side lights. There is a grouping of three windows to the east of the door, with two, narrow 4/1 wide windows and a larger, 8/1 center window. The second story has paired 1/1 windows.

The eastern side elevation has first story 6/1 windows, and paired, arched windows in the second story gabled dormer. There is a one story, shed roof ell off of this elevation, set towards the southeastern corner. The western side elevation has a three window bay on the first story.

A one and a half story barn-style outbuilding is to the west of the residence. It has a front gable roof with overhanging eaves. The exterior is clapboard with wood trim. A shed roof ell is off of the southern facing side.

### 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 property is in proximity to the Fiske Hill area of Sturbridge, which was the "first permanent European agricultural settlement after circa 1725" established in the Eastern Upland area of Sturbridge.<sup>1</sup> In 1731, brothers Henry and Daniel Fiske settled on the hill, prior to the 1738 incorporation of the town of Sturbridge. These men and their descendants "were important not only on the hill as farmers and founders of the Baptist church there, but also in town government and, by the 1800s, in industrial enterprises in Globe Village, Westville, and Fiskdale."<sup>2</sup> Fertile soil made this area ideal for agriculture and by the late eighteenth century, Fiske Hill had also developed as a stagecoach road with a Baptist Meeting House, School, and Inn. By the early to mid-twentieth century, development shifted from agricultural towards higher-end residential growth.

The residence at 10 Whittemore Road, was formerly a barn connected to the Rice-Simpson Homestead (1792), which was destroyed in the flood of 1955.<sup>3</sup> It is documented to have been previously located on the south side of Main Street, Route 131, diagonally across from Whittemore Road.<sup>4</sup>

In 1960, Army Col. (ret.) Leon D. Gladding (1909-1965) and Vera Gladding (1911-1998) moved the former barn to this location on Whittemore Road and made further alterations to the building.<sup>5</sup> The couple was previously from Springfield and Leon was a World War II and Korean War veteran. During his military career, he was honored with a Distinguished Service Cross, a Silver

<sup>1</sup> Massachusetts Historical Commission. "MHC Reconnaissance Survey Town Report: Sturbridge." 1984.

<sup>2</sup> Agnes S. Wilkins, "Fiske Hill, STU.F." Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1973. MACRIS (site). Accessed on-line October 2017, <http://mhc-macris.net/Details.aspx?Mhclid=STU.F>

<sup>3</sup> Agnes S. Wilkin, "10 Whittemore Road," (MHC Inventory #STU.63), 1973. <http://mhc-macris.net/Details.aspx?Mhclid=STU.63>, accessed November, 2017.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

10 WHITTEMORE ROAD

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	STU.63 STU.312
--	-------------------

Star, a Bronze Star, a Purple Heart, and the French Croix de Guerre for his actions in battle.<sup>6</sup> Vera's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sumner Harris, lived in Sturbridge in 1952, which may account for the Gladding's move to that area.<sup>8</sup> In 1963, Leon was elected selectman for Sturbridge.<sup>9</sup>

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

*Ancestry.com* (see footnotes)

Davis, George. *A Historical Sketch of Sturbridge and Southbridge*. West Brookfield: Power Press of O.S. Cooke and Co., 1856. *Archive.org*, <https://archive.org/details/historicalskech00davisgeo>, accessed November, 2017.

*Genealogybank.com* (see footnotes)

Hurd, Duane Hamilton. *History of Worcester County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of Many of the Pioneers and Prominent Men, Volume 1*. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis & Co., 1889. *Archive.org*, accessed on-line November 2017, <https://archive.org/details/historyofworcest01hurdd>

Massachusetts Historical Commission. "MHC Reconnaissance Survey Town Report: Sturbridge." 1984. *Secretary of the Commonwealth* (site). Accessed July 2017, <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc/mhcpdf/townreports/Cent-Mass/stu.pdf>

*Masslandrecords.com* (see footnotes)

Wilkin, Agnes S. "10 Whittemore Road," (MHC Inventory #STU.63), 1973. <http://mhc-macris.net/Details.aspx?MhcId=STU.63>, accessed November, 2017.



Photo 1: Northern facing main façade and northern side elevation of barn outbuilding

<sup>6</sup> "Col. Gladding, Decorated in War, is Retiring Soon." *Springfield Union*, February 14, 1962. *Genealogybank.com*

<sup>7</sup> "No. 470: Col. Leon Gladding," *Springfield Union*, October 24, 1965. *Genealogybank.com*

<sup>8</sup> "Former Residents Honored at Party," *Springfield Union*, September 3, 1952, *Genealogybank.com*

<sup>9</sup> "Sturbridge Selectman," *Springfield Union*, June 22, 1963. *Genealogybank.com*



INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

10 WHITTEMORE ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)    Form No.

	STU.63 STU.312
--	-------------------



Photo 2: Closer perspective, northern facing main façade of residence



Photo 3: Northern façade and western side elevation



INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

10 WHITTEMORE ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)    Form No.

	STU.63 STU.312
--	-------------------



Photo 4: Northern façade and eastern side elevation



Photo 5: Eastern façade and northern side elevation of outbuilding