

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

62 12			
-------	--	--	--

Town: Tewksbury

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Photograph



Address: 127 North Street

Historic Name: Wilbur A and Bertha Patten House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residential

Original: Single Family Residential

Date of Construction: c1901

Source: Vital Statistics & Deed Research

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle

Roof: Asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

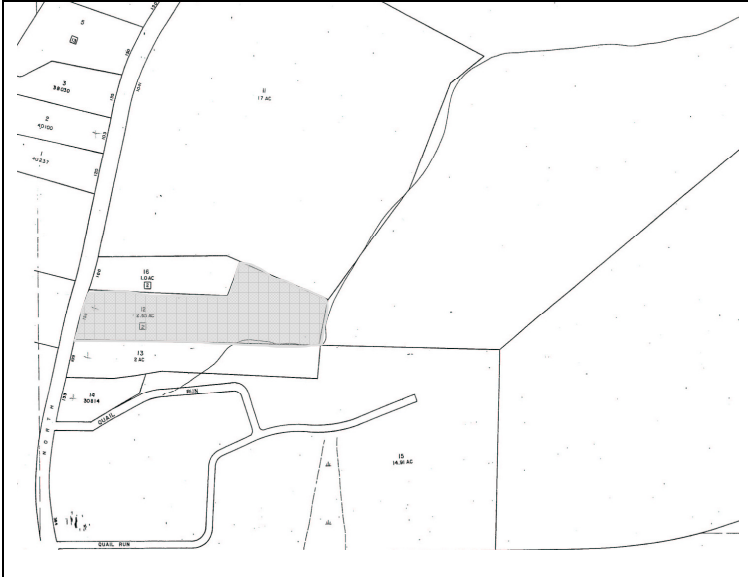
Condition: Excellent

Moved: no | X | yes | | **Date** _____

Acreage: 2.65 Acres

Setting: Set back from the street in a primarily residential area east of the village center.

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Julie Ann Larry

Organization: ttl-architects

Date (*month / year*): August 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

127 NORTH STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

--	--

___ 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 Queen Anne dwelling at **127 North Street** rests on an L-shaped stone foundation. The one-and-a-half story walls are clad in wood shingles. The cross gambrel roof forms are sheathed in asphalt shingles. A tall wide chimney projects from the rear of the cross gambrel roof. Across the main (northwest) façade is a full width one-story porch. The porch has a hip roof supported by square columns and pilasters. The columns are connected by a low balustrade with vertical square balusters. The three by two bay dwelling features a asymmetrically located entrance with horizontal panels and square pane window. Fenestration includes 6/ 2 sash windows, paired 6/2 sash windows, and a large opening with a central fixed sash window flanked by 4/1 sash windows. A secondary entrance is located on the southwest façade sheltered by a gambrel roof portico. A secondary porch is located at the rear (southeast) elevation.

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 house at 127 North Street was built c1901 for Wilbur A and Bertha Patten east of his father home and greenhouses.

Wilbur Allen Patten was born in 1879 to Marcellus and Susan Geneveive Allen. He is the older brother of Harold J Patten (TEW. XXX). In 1886 Marcellus Patten purchased a large parcel of land in Tewksbury, north of the Boston and Maine RR from Mary Spaulding and in 1888 moved his floral businesses and greenhouse from Lowell to Tewksbury. The Patten & Company Greenhouses were famous for their carnation cultivation (TEW.21). The Patten's also maintained a retail store in Lowell for the sale of their flowers. Wilbur's younger brother Harold was also involved in the family's business. W.A. Patten married Bertha L Lee in 1901. They had two children, Helen in 1903 and Doherty in 1907.

The year before his marriage W.A. Patten purchased land from Charlotte Higby, just north of his father's home at 113 North Street (TEW. XXX). In the 1901 Directory, Wilbur is listed as boarding with his father while working in the family's business and serving as a librarian at the town's public library. He likely built the house c1901 for his marriage to Bertha. The Patten's lived in the house until 1921 when it was sold to Charles and Gertrude Small.

In 1933 Charles Small died and his widow sold the house the following year to Fred Swansberg. Additional owners include: Fred E & Minnie Swansburg (1934-1944); Marcella & Gerald Gross, an assistant supervisor at NE Electric System (1944-1970); Frederick & Jeanne Fentross (1970-1974); and Dennis & Florinda Sullivan.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

U.S. Census Records. 1790-1930.

Directories. 1896-97, 1898-99, 1900-01, 1911-12, 1913-14, 1915-16, 1919, 1927, 1930-31, 1932-33, 1937-38, 1940-41, 1942-1943, 1949 [Ancestry], 1953, 1955, 1961, and 1967.

List of Residents by Streets, Ages 17 years and over, In the Town of Tewksbury Mass. As prepared by the Board of Registrars (various years 1965-)

Valuations of the Real and Personal Estate of the Town of Tewksbury.

North Middlesex County Registry of Deeds.