

FORM B – BUILDING

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

019-0053

Salem

WNH.164

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

Town/City: Wenham

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

Photograph



Façade (north) and west elevations.

Address: 10 Patch Avenue

Historic Name: Henry and Elizabeth Patch House

Uses: Present: Single Family Residence

Original: Single Family Residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1840-1856

Source: style; 1856 map

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Not known

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboards and trim

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Rear and side additions (L 20th c)

Condition: Very good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 1.9 acre

Setting: Secluded, L-shaped private way connecting Main Street (Route 1A) and Larch Row, surrounded by dense residential development lining the adjacent streets to the north and east, and by large open lots to the south and west.

Locus Map Map #s are last digits of lot #s.



Recorded by: Stacy Spies and Wendy Frontiero

Organization: Wenham Historical Commission

Date: June 2017

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WENHAM

10 PATCH AVE.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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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.

10 Patch Avenue occupies a large, pentagonal lot on the south side of Patch Avenue, which is a dirt road in this location. The house is set close to the roadway on a slight berm. The lot slopes gently up to the west and south and is maintained primarily in turf, accented by foundation shrubbery and large trees along the perimeter. A paved driveway on the west side of the lot leads to a four-bay garage near the southwest corner of the house. The house consists of a large main block and several side and rear additions.

The main block rises 2½ stories from a granite block foundation to a front gable roof with pronounced gable returns. A trail of extensions at the back includes a short, 2½ story gabled ell (original or early) and a later two-story ell with a very low pitched roof and a one-story shed roofed extension wrapping around its south and west elevations. Two chimneys rise near the ridge on the main block; a third chimney rises near the back wall of the rear ell. Walls are sheathed with clapboards and trimmed on the main block and early ell with sill boards, substantial corner pilasters, a high entablature, and deep eaves. Windows are typically 6/6 sash with flat casings and bold cornice moldings that extend well past the casings.

Measuring 17 feet wide by 32 feet deep, the three bay by four bay main block has a side hall plan. The façade contains an offset entrance with a pilastered and pedimented architrave, a high fascia board with a decoratively sawn cut-out design on the underside, and a single leaf door with narrow sidelights. The half story has two windows. Window bays on the symmetrical west elevation are loosely grouped into two pairs. The east elevation has two asymmetrical window bays on the main block and two windows approximately centered on the second story of the continuous ell. The first floor of the east elevation is dominated by a substantial, one-story modern addition with a gable perpendicular to the main block, exterior chimney, and floor to ceiling windows positioned at the corners.

A four-bay garage standing to the southwest of the house has a concrete block foundation, low-pitched side gable roof without returns, individual vehicle bays with wood-paneled and glass doors, shiplap siding, and flat wood trim. A pair of narrow 4/1 windows is centered in the west elevation.

Very well preserved and maintained, 10 Patch Avenue is an outstanding example of the Greek Revival style in Wenham. The design is notable for its imposing scale and massing and exceptionally robust trim, especially the decorative front entrance, heavy wall pilasters and entablatures, and pronounced window lintels. Unusually long, the early 20th century garage is a notable example of its period.

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.

10 Patch Avenue was likely constructed during the 1840s or 1850s; the house appears on the 1856 maps as the residence of H. Patch. 10 Patch Avenue was the home of Henry Patch (1816-1896), wife Elizabeth (1818-1881), and their children Charlotte, Henrietta, Charles, George, and Austin. In the 1860s and 1870s, Henry worked as a butcher but by the time of the 1870 census, he was listed as a "Trader." In 1880, Henry was identified as a farmer, but his son George was living here and working as a butcher. By 1880, son Austin and Amos Gould were operating the morocco leather factory on Main Street.

After Henry's death in 1897, his son Charles, also a butcher, lived at 10 Patch Avenue with his wife Nancy and daughters Alice and Helen. In his later years, Charles worked as a meat inspector for the town of Wenham. Helen was still living here with Charles and Nancy as an adult in 1920, at which time she was working as a filing clerk for a shoe factory. By 1930, Nancy and

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Helen had died, but Charles had the company of draftsman Harold R. Grush and his wife. The census does not indicate if they were boarders or family members.

Charles Patch died in 1938, at which time the property passed on to his daughter Alice Jones. In the 1940s, 10 Patch Avenue was the home of George and Elizabeth Gage. In the 1950s, George worked as a machinist at "SEP" in Salem and Elizabeth was a teacher at the Beverly School for the Deaf.

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Wenham Tax Assessor records.

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SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES



Photo 2. East and façade (north) elevations.



Photo 3. Detail of main entrance.



Photo 4. Garage.

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible Eligible **only** in a historic district
- Contributing to a potential historic district Potential historic district

Criteria: **A** **B** **C** **D**

Criteria Considerations: **A** **B** **C** **D** **E** **F** **G**

Statement of Significance by Stacy Spies

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

10 Patch Avenue is a contributing feature of the eligible Larch Row Historic District. The neighborhood along Patch Avenue and Larch Row near Main Street is eligible as a historic district under Criterion A at the local level. Developed during the 1840s and populated nearly entirely by cordwainers in the mid-19th century, this neighborhood is representative of the dramatic rise in the shoemaking trade in Wenham during the middle decades of the 19th century. This densely-developed neighborhood allowed residents access to workshops and small factories on nearby Main Street in addition to ten-footer shops located on site. The buildings feature Greek Revival stylistic features popular during that time. The buildings all retain integrity of location, setting, materials, design, workmanship, feeling and association.