

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

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**Town:** Tewksbury

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

**Address:** 20 Fiske Street

**Historic Name:** Jonas Clark House

**Uses:** Present: Abandoned

Original: Single Family Residential

**Date of Construction:** c1805

**Source:** First Baptist Church Records/Vital Records

**Style/Form:** Federal

**Architect/Builder:** Jonas Clark

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Granite

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingles

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):  
Bay Window (late 19<sup>th</sup> Century)

**Condition:**

**Moved:** no | | yes |X| **Date** 1867

**Acreage:** 2.01 Acres

**Setting:** Set near the street on a slightly sloping lot in a primarily residential area adjacent to the Tewksbury Baptist Church.

## Photograph



## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Julie Ann Larry

**Organization:** ttl-architects

**Date** (*month / year*): March 2010

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

20 FISKE STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

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TEW 34

\_\_\_ 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 Federal Era house at **20 Fiske Street** is set on a slightly elevated lot, set back from the edge of the street. The five by two, two-and-a-half story dwelling rests on a granite foundation. The walls are sheathed in wood shingles. Two brick interior gable end chimneys pierce the ridge of the asphalt shingles clad side gable roof. Fenestration is primarily 6/6 wood sash windows. The main entrance is centrally located on the eastern façade. It is flanked by sidelights. A secondary entrance is located on the south side of the house and leads to the gravel drive. A bay projects from the south wall of the house. The flat roof addition rests on a brick foundation and features two narrow 1/1 sash windows flanking a central 2/2 sash window.

A one-and-a-half story shed is located to the south of the house. The shed has two sets of doors on the east façade. The first is a pair of swinging vertical wood doors, the other is an overhead garage door. Fenestration is typically 8/1 wood sash windows. Like the main house the shed is sheathed in wood wall shingles and asphalt roofing shingles. The building rests on a concrete foundation.

## 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 **20 Fiske Street**, not occupied, is presently owned by The First Baptist Church. The door with flanking sidelights, interior end chimneys, and second story windows immediately below the roof line are typical of Federal Era residences. The building first appears on the 1831 map. Its history is closely tied to members of the First Baptist Church next door at 1500 Andover Street TEW.30.

According to records of The First Baptist Church, the house was owned by built by Jonas Clark in the early 1800s. Jonas Clark married Dolly Hunt in 1805 in Tewksbury and it is likely that their house was built around the time of their marriage.

According to records of The First Baptist Church, the house was later owned by Warren Wood. Warren Wood and his wife Hannah moved to Massachusetts from Newfane VT 1830-1839. Warren and Hannah Wood have two sons and seven daughters. Two of their daughters married sons of Jesse Trull of Tewksbury. Hannah Ellen Wood m Jesse Loring Trull in 1839 and her sister Miranda Wood married Nathaniel Trull, a widower, in 1846 after his first wife Alice Stone of Cavendish VT died in 1845 of consumption. Both of the Trulls farmed in Newfane VT in the 1840s. A third daughter, Frances married Abijah Upham of Tewksbury in 1837.

The Wood family was Baptist and travelled to Lowell for services with their neighbors, members of the Farmer, Twiss, and Puffer families. According to church records Mrs. Mehitable Twiss convinced members of the Trull family to also attend Baptist services in 1842. In 1843 the Tewksbury Baptists formed their own church, built on Jesse Farmer's land and in 1846 built a stone parsonage. The first Deacons were Nathaniel Trull and Abijah Upham. Jesse Trull and Warren Wood were original members of The First Baptist Church. "They were the first two of 60 whose names appear on a letter of transfer from the First Baptist Church of Lowell, August 21, 1843."<sup>1</sup> In 1867 the church was moved to land donated by Jesse Loring Trull and the Wood house was moved north along Fiske Street.

The church records also indicate that Jesse Trull sold the Wood house to John L Moore a church deacon. However deeds indicate that John L Moore purchased the Wood house and six acres from Albert and Ann Twiss in 1874. Ann was the daughter

<sup>1</sup> Letter from Beverly Bennett re: Notes from the First Baptist Church Records.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

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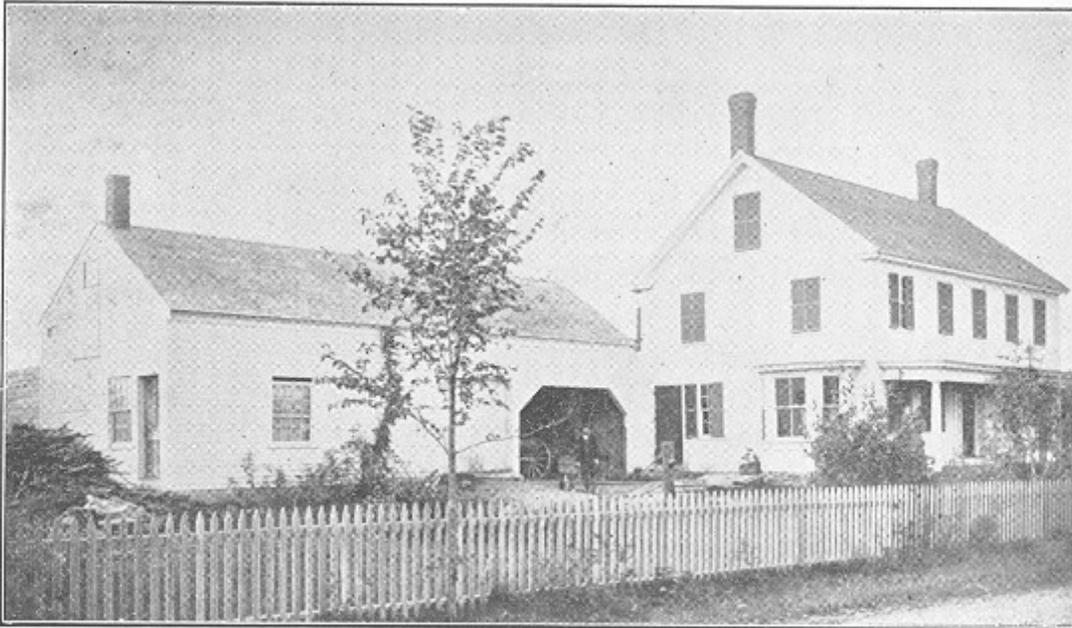
TEW 34

of William Buse[Buce], a carpet weaver, and his first wife Rebecca Tucker of Lowell. When Rebecca died in June of 1837 William remarried in October to Abigail Rich. William and Abigail sold a half interest in the Wood house to Ann in 1859.

John L Moore, according to Church records, had the buildings moved to Fiske Street to accommodate the relocation of the church in 1867. In 1931 his executor Albert Moore sold the house to Charles R and Dorothy Fitzgerald. The Fitzgerald's son Winthrop, a contractor, purchased the house from his parents in 1961, and his parents as well as he and his wife Elsie lived in the house together. His widow Elsie, sold the house to the First Baptist Church in 1997. Two lots were divided off from the house before the 1960s and the land to the north of the house were subdivided c1988 for house lots on Joseph Drive.

**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.
- Map of the Town of Tewksbury 1852. Henry F Walling. Boston, MA.
- 1865 Map of Tewkesbury with inset.
- Atlas of Middlesex County 1875. FW Beers.
- Atlas of Middlesex County 1889. Geo H Walker & Co.
- 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.



**JONAS CLARK HOMESTEAD**

The residence for many years of the late Deacon John Moore who died at the age of ninety-nine years and one month.

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