

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

**Town:**            Tewksbury

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

**Address:**            282 Old Main Street

**Historic Name:**    Arthur & Irene Littlefield House

**Uses:** Present:    Two-Unit Residential

                  Original:    Single Family Residential

**Date of Construction:**    c1870

**Source:**            Style & Assessors Records

**Style/Form:**        Italianate

**Architect/Builder:**

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation:    Granite

Wall/Trim:        Vinyl Siding

Roof:              Asphalt Shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

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

**Condition:**        Fair

**Moved:** no |X|    yes | |    **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

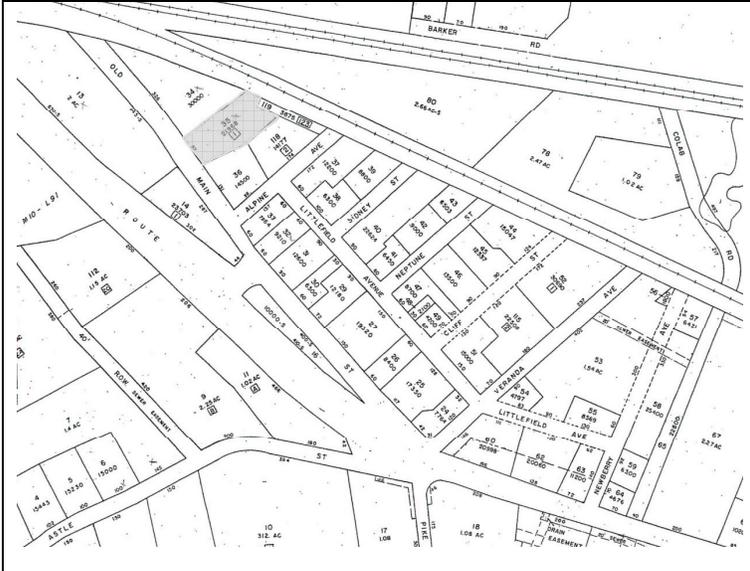
**Acreage:**            0.5 Acres

**Setting:**            Situated in a residential area along Old Main Street near the realigned Main Street that has developed post WWII as a commercial area.

## 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

282 OLD MAIN STREET

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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.*

The two-story Italianate dwelling at **282 Old Main Street** rests on a granite foundation. A two-story ell extends from the rear of the three by three bay dwelling. A one-story bay window projects from the southwest elevation. The gable front roof forms are sheathed in asphalt shingles. The walls of the dwelling are clad in vinyl siding. The side hall entrance on the front (northwest) façade is protected by a projecting hood supported by large decorative brackets with finials. The eave of the hood, bay window and main roof forms feature paired brackets. Fenestration consists of 1/1 replacement sash windows flanked by shutters and topped by narrow projecting hoods. Despite the application of siding there are several character defining Italianate details including the hoods, decorative brackets, bay window, and eave returns.

A small shed is located to the south of the dwelling.

## 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.*

Wamesit is the area near the crossing of the Boston & Lowell line at the junction of Main, Clark, and Beaver Dam Streets. The railroad crossing was also known as Mace's Crossing. The direction of Main Street in Wamesit was altered c1940 with the construction of an overpass over the railroad tracks near Wamesit Station. The section of the historic street that was bypassed became known as Old Main Street.

Built on land formerly part of the Mace Farm, the dwelling at 282 Old Main Street was one of three dwellings built in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century by members of the Littlefield family. Stephen Littlefield moved to Wamesit from Tewksbury Center 1850-1852. His son Hiram (1826-1896) married c1855. His other son Charles married c1859. Hiram and Charles built homes near their father on Main Street in Wamesit. Charles left Tewksbury and moved to Lowell 1870-1880 where he was a paper box manufacturer.

Hiram (1826-1896) was a farmer. Hiram's wife was the daughter of Judith Mace and John Carter. Her grandfather was Benjamin Mace, the owner of the Abram Mace House at 219 Old Main Street (TEW.XXX) on the north side of the railroad station and tracks. Hiram and his wife Sarah (1828-1891) had three sons. Their youngest son Frank (1861-1889) lived with his parents and helped on the family farm. Frank died before his parents.

Their son George (1857-1891) lived with his father and mother in 1880. He married in 1881 and had four children. In Hiram's will Mary, George's widow, and their children were left 15 acres and a 1-acre lot with a house and barn on the east side of Main Street (now 274 Old Main Street TEW.XXX).

Their son Arthur married in 1877 to Irene Davis (Rena Davis) and they had a daughter Alice. Arthur and Rena lived with her parents c1880. In Hiram's will Arthur and his family were left 18 acres, and a 1 acre lots with buildings on it on the east side of Main Street (now 282 Old Main Street TEW.XXX) south of the George & Mary Littlefield house. Although Arthur and his family did not live in this dwelling before 1880, the style and historic maps indicate that the dwelling was likely built before 1875, possibly this is the house Arthur's uncle Charles Littlefield lived in prior to 1880.

In the early 20<sup>th</sup> century the dwelling was owned by Sophia Soteriades, Sophia was the wife of Theodore Soteriades, a farmer. Both were born in Greece and had come to the United States in 1917 from Turkey with their sons George and Avangelus. They also owned 219 Old Main Street (TEW.XXX).

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The house was later owned by Demetrius Kalem's family. Demetrius Kalem and his wife Iphigenia were from also Turkey. He emigrated in 1910 and she emigrated in 1908. They married c1921. Demetrius Kalem was a poultry man operating a large poultry farm at 265 Main Street (TEW.XXX). The Kalem's children Theodora and Eleanor were later owners of the dwelling.

Additional owners: Henry & Mary Learned (c1900); Walter Learned (1919); Sophia Soteriades (1919-1928); Demetrius Kalem (1928-1964); Eleanor & Theodora (1964-2000); and Jose Portillo (2000-2009). Henry Learned, a salesman, married Abram Mace's (219 Old Main Street TEW.XXX) daughter Mary Elizabeth. Henry & Mary Learned inherited the Mace farm and willed it to Henry's brother Walter, a civil engineer. Walter Learned sold the Mace Farm and 282 Old Main Street to Sophia Soteriades in 1919

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

North Middlesex County Registry of Deeds.

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Patton, Harold J. *Ask Now of the Days that are Past*. Higginson Book Co. 1964.

