

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

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Town: Tewksbury

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)

Photograph



Address: 499 Whipple Road

Historic Name: Jesse & Irma French House

Uses: Present: Single Family-Residential

 Original: Single Family-Residential

Date of Construction: 1920-1922

Source: Deed Research, Historic Maps, & Vital Records

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Clapboards & Decorative Shingles

Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

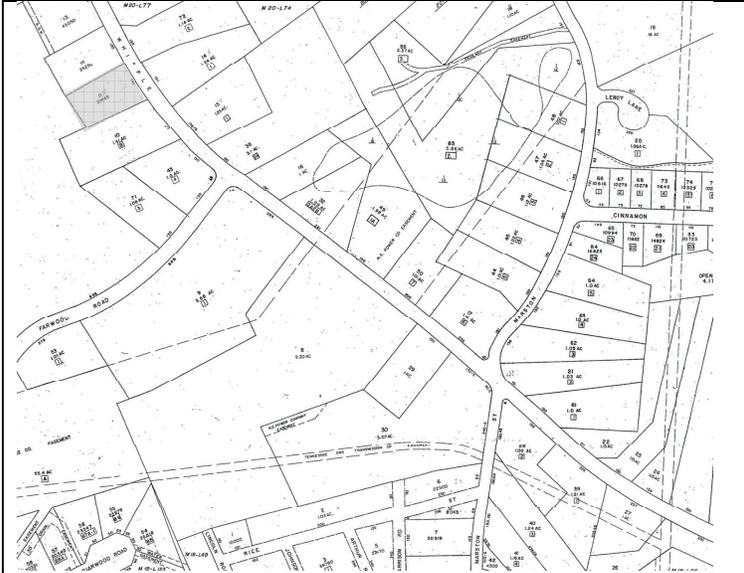
Condition: Fair

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

Acreage: 0.75 Acres

Setting: Located in a formerly rural area developed in the second half of the 20th century as a suburban residential area.

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Julie Ann Larry

Organization: ttl-architects

Date (*month / year*): March 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TEWKSBURY

499 WHIPPLE ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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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 house at **499 Whipple Road** a one-and-a-half story side hall dwelling that has been altered by several rear additions and an infilled front porch. The irregularly shaped dwelling rests on a fieldstone foundation. Two one-and-a-half story bays project from the south and north of the main form, forming a cross. The front gable roof is sheathed asphalt shingles; a brick chimney protrudes from the ridge of the roof. A porch, now infilled with fixed glass panel, extends across the full width of the east elevation. The walls are clad with clapboards, except for the gable ends which are clad in decorative shingles. Character defining details of this late 19th century dwelling include the decorative gable shingles, the unusually wide fascia, the band of trim above the 2nd floor windows, and the corner brackets. A variety of window types include, a band of 2/1 sash windows, pairs of 6/1 sash windows, 6/2 sash windows, and an awning window.

A separate two-car garage is located to the west of the house. Like the house, the hip roof garage is sheathed in asphalt roof shingles and clapboard siding. A pool is located to the west of the garage.

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 French family first settled in Tewksbury in the early 1700s and members of the family owned extensive amounts of land in the vicinity of French, Astle, Whipple and North Billerica roads.

Ebenezer French (1819-1876), the son of Edmund French of 98 North Billerica Road (TEW.39) and brother of Joshua F French (TEW. XXX) of 307 Astle Street, married his wife Maria c 1850. Ebenezer French lived on Whipple Road, then Billerica Road, with his family and operated a farm (TEW.XXX). The French's had eight surviving children. After Ebenezer's death in 1876, his son John F French inherited the farm on Whipple Road. John French had two wives: Addie Felker (1881-1896) and Amanda [Jennie A] (1898-1921); and four children: Irving, Herbert, Austin, and Jesse John.

After John French's death, his widow sold to Jesse and Irma [Erma] [Emma] French the lot occupied by 499 Whipple Road. As late a 1919, street directories indicate that Jessie French lived with his father on the family farm. It is likely that the house was constructed 1920-1922, although assessor's records indicate c1900. An interior examination of the house might reveal an earlier construction date as this would be a very late construction for a Queen Anne house.

Additional owners include: William & Cynthia Marshall (1980-1982); and Claude & Mary Drevet (1982-2009) 2555/713

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-)

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TEWKSBURY

499 WHIPPLE ROAD

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Valuations of the Real and Personal Estate of the Town of Tewksbury.
North Middlesex County Registry of Deeds.

_____. *Ye Towne Book*. Town of Tewksbury. 1934.

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