

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

D6/ 6/ 13/ /

Blue Hills

AVO.20

Town/City: Avon

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



View looking southwest.

Address: 105 East High Street

Historic Name: Michael and Mary McQuiney House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1863

Source: Deed; Census

Style/Form: No Style

Architect/Builder: Not Known

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone, Cut; Brick

Wall/Trim: Asbestos Shingles / Wood Trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: None

Major Alterations (*with dates*): 1½-story perpendicular ell added or altered (early 20th C); Replacement vinyl sash windows (late-20th C or early-21st C)

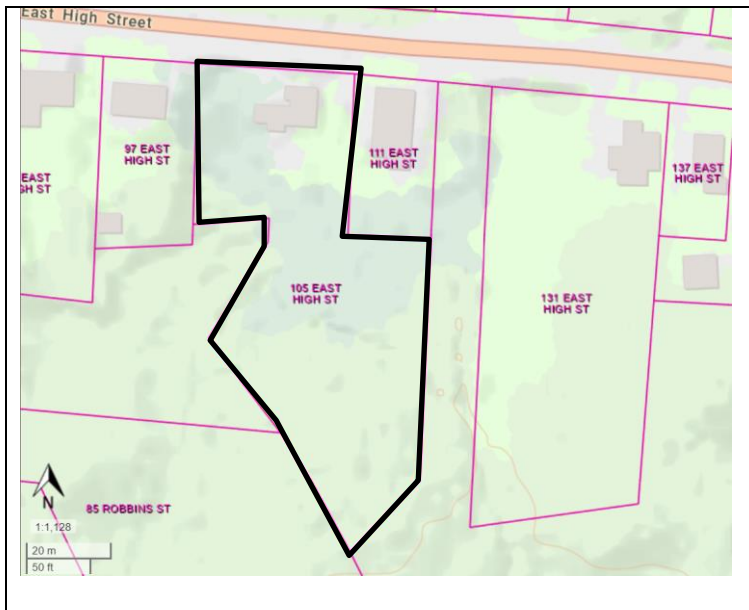
Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 1.0

Setting: Located on a suburban residential street. Surrounding houses range in age from mid-19th C through the mid-20th C.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: Avon Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): December 2022

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AVON

105 EAST HIGH STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

AVO.20

☐ 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.

Located at the north end of a large lot, the house is oriented to the north, toward the street. The area surrounding the house is covered with lawn; the remainder of the lot is wooded. The 1½-story frame house consists of a main block and a 1½-story perpendicular ell attached to the west elevation of the main block. The main block rests on a cut stone foundation and is capped with a front-gabled roof with overhanging eaves and gable-end cornice returns. A slender brick chimney is centered on the roof ridge. The façade is 2-over-3 bays wide with a side-hall plan entrance in the west bay. Compound decorative wood brackets support the entrance shelter. The ell rests on a brick foundation and rises to a gambrel roof with cornice returns. An enclosed shed-roof porch supported by round Doric columns and containing a second entrance is located along the ell's north elevation. A shallow shed dormer is located at the half-story. Windows throughout the house are 1/1 vinyl sash replacement with internal faux muntins and wide, flat wood surrounds.

The 1½-story front-gabled house was a common type of residential construction in Massachusetts during the mid-19th century. The house has been altered with the application of asbestos shingles and the removal of original windows.

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.

105 East High Street was likely constructed circa 1863, the year in which bootmaker Michael McQuiney (ca. 1817-1876) purchased this property.¹ The 1865 Massachusetts census recorded Michael McQuiney (also sometimes recorded as McQuinny, McQueney or McQueeney) and his family living in this neighborhood. Michael McQuiney and his wife, Mary, were both born in Ireland. A McQuiney family was living in East Stoughton as early as 1840, according to Avon Baptist Church records.² Many Irish immigrants arrived in East Stoughton in the 1840s and 1850s and found work in the many shoe and boot factories. The property was purchased by bootmaker Hugh Smith in 1877.³ Hugh Smith (ca. 1838-1896) was born in Ireland, and married his wife, Rose Fee Smith (ca. 1851-1935), in 1889 in her native Hingham, Massachusetts. Rose Smith sold the property in 1906.⁴

Diodoro Mercurio owned the house from 1909 until 1948.⁵ Diodoro (i.e., Theodore) Mercurio (1872-1948)⁶ and his wife, Mariantonia (1878-1957), were born in Italy. Theodore Mercurio, as he is recorded in census records, worked as a section hand for the electric railroad (trolley) and later, as a rubber maker at a [shoe] sole factory (likely the Avon Sole Company located a short distance east of here on East High Street in Holbrook.) In 1930, Diodoro Mercurio sold his son, James D. Mercurio, part of the property upon which James Mercurio had a house constructed (See 111 East High Street (AVO.21).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

City Directories.

¹ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 488, p. 406 cites prior sale of property was from Isaac Blanchard to Michael McQuiney on June 1, 1863 but no book or page was cited.

² Hanna: 32-33.

³ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 488, p. 406.

⁴ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1038, p. 238 and 239.

⁵ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1126, p. 503 and 2798, p. 190.

⁶ Findagrave.com Memorial #160365727. Accessed Nov. 30, 2022.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AVON

105 EAST HIGH STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

AVO.20

Findagrave.com.

Hanna, William F. *The Story of Avon*. Avon: Avon Centennial Committee, 1988.

Massachusetts Census. Ancestry.com.

Massachusetts Vital Records.

Norfolk County Commissioners. "Plan Showing the Relocation and Widening of High Street, Avon from Page Street to the NYNH&HRR." Dec. 10, 1929. Sheet 2 of 3. Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Plan 1050 of 1929, Plan Book 111.

Norfolk County Registry of Deeds.

Robinson, E. *Robinson's Atlas of Norfolk County, Massachusetts*. New York: E. Robinson, Publisher, 1888.

Rose A. Smith Death Notice. "Mrs. Rose A. Smith, 84..." *The Boston Globe*. 18 June 1935. P. 13.

Sherman, G.A. *Atlas of Norfolk County*. New York: Comstock & Cline, 1876.

Town of Avon. Tax Assessor records.

United States Census. Ancestry.com.

Walling, Henry Francis. *Map of Norfolk County, Mass.* Boston: Smith & Bumstead, 1858.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION



View looking southwest.



Assessor's photograph showing ell (now obscured by vegetation).