

FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



View looking north.

Locus Map



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

C5/ 1/ 16/ /

Blue Hills

AVO.64

Town/City: Avon

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 167 Pond Street

Historic Name: Mary D. and Ebenezer Crane House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Multiple Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1831

Source: Deed

Style/Form: No Style

Architect/Builder: Not Known

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone, Cut

Wall/Trim: Vinyl Siding / Vinyl Trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: None

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Vinyl siding, replacement metal doors, and replacement vinyl sash windows (late 20th C or early 21st C); West ell (Late 20th or early 21st C)

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 1.0

Setting: Located on a suburban residential street.

Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: Avon Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): December 2022

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AVON

167 POND ST

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.

Located on a level lot covered with lawn and close to the street, the house is oriented to the southeast, toward the street. An uncoursed fieldstone wall lines the Pond Street frontage. An asphalt-paved driveway is located west of the house. The lot is covered with lawn with mature trees at the rear lot line. The 1-story frame house rests on a cut stone foundation and is capped with a side-gabled roof. The roof has a shallow overhang along the façade and no overhang on the side elevations. A pair of gable dormers are located on the south roof slope and a shed dormer is located on the north roof slope. A pair of brick chimneys are centered on the roof ridge. The house is five bays wide and two bays deep, with a 1-story ell at the west and north elevations. The east and west elevations each contain two sash windows in the gable peak. The main block has a center entrance containing a pressed-panel metal door with half-height sidelights. The west elevation contains a door and sash and casement windows. The 1-story ell has an asymmetrical gable roof and rests on a poured concrete foundation. The ell has casement windows and metal doors with lights in the top half.

The house has a form commonly constructed in Avon during the second quarter of the 19th century. The building has a low level of integrity due to a loss of original materials.

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 129 Pond Street is part of a group of four houses owned by the extended Crane family in the nineteenth century (i.e., 129, 160, 167 and 185 Pond Street). Ebenezer Crane purchased real estate in this general area from Caleb Howard in 1797.¹ Ebenezer Crane (1766-1813)² married his wife, Abigail Burrell (1766-1848),³ known as Nabby, in 1793. The couple had at least two children, Mary D. Crane (1802-1885)⁴ and Ebenezer Crane 2d (1794-1861). Ebenezer Crane worked as a cordwainer (shoemaker), likely in the shoemaker's shop that was located on the property.

Mary D. Crane married Ebenezer Crane (1798-1847)⁵ in 1824. After her father's death, Mary D. Crane inherited the house.⁶ In 1831, Mary D. and Ebenezer Crane sold the "southerly half of a dwelling house" to her brother, Ebenezer Crane 2d.⁷ The deed is noteworthy in that it mentions Mary Crane's occupation as a seamstress; the inclusion of a woman's profession in a deed during this time is unusual.

In the mid-nineteenth century, the house was the residence of Angeline A. Briggs Crane (1812-1897)⁸ and her husband, Ebenezer Crane (1808-1852).⁹ The couple married in 1831 in Stoughton and had five children. Angeline Briggs Crane was the

¹ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 21, p. 47. Deed recorded in 1803.

² Findagrave.com Memorial #102208615. Accessed Nov. 7, 2022. Accessed Jan. 5, 2023.

³ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/102208731/abigail-crane>.

⁴ Findagrave.com Memorial #86332437. Accessed Sept. 22, 2022.

⁵ Findagrave.com Memorial #86332485. Accessed Sept. 22, 2022.

⁶ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 95, p. 126.

⁷ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 95, p. 126.

⁸ Findagrave.com Memorial #204425670. Accessed Sept. 22, 2022.

⁹ <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/204425620/ebenezer-crane>. Accessed Jan. 10, 2023.

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grand-daughter of Rev. Joel Briggs, minister of the Stoughton Baptist Church.¹⁰ Ebenezer Crane worked as a bootmaker. Census records from this period note that, after Ebenezer Crane's death at age 44 from consumption (tuberculosis), Angeline Crane lived here with their grown children. After Angeline Crane's death at age 85, her son, Orlando B. Crane (1835-1914)¹¹ inherited the property. Orlando B. Crane worked as a boot cutter before opening a grocery store on the east side of Goeres Square in 1866. Orlando Crane opened a second store in 1882. Orlando Crane served in the state legislature in 1868.¹² After his death, his business partners, Everett Crane and Benjamin Hunt, owned the house. Crane and Hunt sold the house in 1927.¹³

Paul and Edith Razoux owned the house from 1933 until 1979.¹⁴ Census records indicate that Paul Razoux worked in a shoe factory and Edith Razoux worked as a secretary. The couple lived here with their children.

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



View looking west.



View looking north.

¹⁰ "One of Avon's Oldest: Mrs. Angeline R. [sic] Crane Celebrating her 84th Birthday." Undated, unattributed newspaper clipping at Findagrave.com Memorial #204425670. Accessed Sept. 22, 2022.

¹¹ Findagrave.com Memorial #204426115. Accessed Sept. 22, 2022.

¹² Hurd: 407.

¹³ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1751, p. 601.

¹⁴ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1993, p. 24 and Book 5571, p. 196.