

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

## Photograph



View looking northwest.

## Locus Map



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

D6/ 3/ 6/ /

Blue Hills

AVO.93  
AVO.94

**Town/City:** Avon

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

**Address:** 241 West Main Street

**Historic Name:** John and Lucy Woodbury House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1836

**Source:** Deed

**Style/Form:** Colonial Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Not Known

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone, Cut; Concrete Cinderblock

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingles / Wood Trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** Garage (ca. 1920)

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): Dormers and porch added (mid-late 20<sup>th</sup> C); Basement wall rebuilt with concrete block (early 20<sup>th</sup> C); Replacement door and sidelights and vinyl sash windows (early 21<sup>st</sup> C)

**Condition:** Fair

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.59

**Setting:** Located in a suburban setting among residential and commercial buildings. Houses to the north and northeast are of similar age and size. A mid-20<sup>th</sup> C, 2-story commercial/retail building is located across the street.

**Recorded by:** Stacy Spies

**Organization:** Avon Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): December 2022

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AVON

241 WEST MAIN STREET

## MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	AVO.93
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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, the house is oriented to the southeast and parallel with the street. The southeast end of the lot, near the house, is covered with lawn. The remainder of the lot is wooded. An asphalt-paved driveway leads past the south elevation to a detached garage located southwest of the house. A concrete sidewalk leads from the street to the house.

The 1-story frame house rests on a cut stone foundation that rises to a side-gabled roof with shallow eaves. At the south elevation, the basement wall has been rebuilt with rusticated concrete block to accommodate a door and two small windows. A brick chimney is centered on the roof ridge. The house is five bays wide and three bays deep with two windows in the gable peaks. A gable-roof porch supported by slender wood columns shelters the center entrance. A segmental-arch wood plaque with a fan design located above with entrance is reflected in the segmental-arch porch ceiling. The pressed-panel metal door is framed with full-height sidelights. Two gable dormers are located on the southeast roof slope. Windows throughout the house are 1/1 vinyl replacement sash with internal faux 6/6 muntins framed by wide, flat boards.

The frame garage (ca. 1920, AVO.94) is covered with wood shingles and capped with a front-gabled roof with overhanging eaves. A paneled wood overhead door (mid-20<sup>th</sup> C) is centered in the southeast elevation. A single window is located in the southwest (side) elevation.

While the house retains its original volume and form, it was updated in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century in the Colonial Revival style with the dormers, porch, and fan-shaped detail above the entrance.

### 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.*

241 West Main Street was likely constructed circa 1836, the year in which John Woodbury purchased this parcel of land.<sup>1</sup> The house was standing by 1838, according to a mortgage deed from that year.<sup>2</sup> Born in Salem, Massachusetts, John Woodbury (ca. 1793-1859) married Lucy Goldthwait [sometimes recorded as Goldthwaite] of Stoughton in 1826. John Woodbury worked as a bootmaker and the couple shared ownership of the house with her son, Loring Goldthwait (1816- ).<sup>3</sup>

From 1844 until 1869, Loring Goldthwait owned the house<sup>4</sup> and lived here with his family, according to census records. Loring Goldthwait worked in Adam Goldthwaite's shoe manufacturing business until the firm dissolved in 1854.<sup>5</sup> Ebenezer Tucker took over Adam Goldthwaite's business at that time<sup>6</sup> and Loring Goldthwait joined Tucker in this new venture. "They were very successful, and when their factory burned, they replaced it with another on High Street."<sup>7</sup> Ebenezer Tucker later brought his son, William Henry H. Tucker, into the business, which became known as E. Tucker & Son.<sup>8</sup> The circumstances are unclear,

<sup>1</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 112, p. 336.

<sup>2</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 117, p. 596.

<sup>3</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 133, p. 448 and Book 146, p. 76.

<sup>4</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 379, p. 538.

<sup>5</sup> Hanna: 39.

<sup>6</sup> "Ebenezer Tucker," *Stoughton Sentinel*, 17 January 1874, cited in FindaGrave listing.

<sup>7</sup> Hanna: 39.

<sup>8</sup> Hanna: 39.

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however, by the time of the 1880 census, Loring Goldthwait, with an unspecified disability, was a resident of the Stoughton Alms house,<sup>9</sup> where he presumably died.

Anna and George Smith owned the house 1869-1879.<sup>10</sup> Sarah J. Clapp owned the house 1881-1890.<sup>11</sup> Louisa E. Beals Otis owned the house 1913-1928.<sup>12</sup> It appears that it was inhabited by her parents, Henry W. and Juletta Beals. Warren and Claire Brown owned the house 1948-2016.<sup>13</sup> Warren Brown worked as a junior high school teacher.

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View looking southwest.

<sup>9</sup> U.S., 1880 Federal Census Schedules of Defective, Dependent, and Delinquent Cases.

<sup>10</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 387, p. 284 and Book 515, p. 79 [157].

<sup>11</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 529, p. 77 and Book 634, p. 207.

<sup>12</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1249, p. 505 and 1790, p. 2.

<sup>13</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 34792, p. 159.