

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

C6/ 1/ 27/ /

Blue Hills

AVO.80

Town/City: Avon

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



View looking north from West High Street.

Address: 67 West High St.

Historic Name: William H. H. and Helen Tucker House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1865

Source: Marriage date; Visual Assessment

Style/Form: Italianate

Architect/Builder: Not known

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Brick

Wall/Trim: Vinyl siding/wood trim

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Detached one-car garage.

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Vinyl siding and replacement windows (late 20th or early 21st C); 1-story ell at northeast corner added after 1916.

Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 0.69

Setting: The house is located in a residential neighborhood of one- and two-story single-family dwellings constructed during the mid-19th century.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: Avon Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): December 2022

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AVON

67 WEST HIGH ST

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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 is oriented to the south toward West High Street. The level lot is planted in grass with mature trees at the lot boundaries. A curb consisting of dressed stone blocks lines the south lot line. A pair of dressed stone posts flank the entrance to the asphalt-paved driveway that leads past the house's east elevation to a garage located near the northeast corner of the house.

The two-story frame house is capped with a side-gabled roof with overhanging eaves and an off-center, slender brick chimney. The building is three bays wide and rests on a brick foundation. A one-story ell extends from the northeast corner of the house. Wood architectural details remain on the façade (south elevation). The remainder of the building is covered with vinyl siding and trim. With the exception of the round-arch bay windows, the windows are vinyl-sash replacements.

The highly-decorative façade features Greek Revival and Italianate details. A wide frieze remains on the façade. The 3-bay façade features a center entrance sheltered by a hipped-roof porch with overhanging eaves and flushboard walls. The double-leaf paneled wood doors contain a single light in the top half of each door. Chamfered square-section posts support three rounded arches on the south elevation and two arches each on the east and west elevations. Small wood brackets are located at eaves. A decorative metal railing lines the edge of the porch roof. Similar curved metal railings line the brick steps that lead from the brick porch floor and foundation.

At the first story, one-story bay windows are located on either side of the entrance. Each contains a pair of round-arch wood sash windows flanked by single round-arch windows. Rounded wood moldings with keystone details frame the windows. Above the windows are lozenge-shaped molded panels and a shallow dentil course. The second floor contains a projecting bay with a multi-light wood door that opens to the porch roof. Pairs of slender sash windows flank the center projection.

The east and west (side) elevations are each three bays deep and contain sash windows with plastic screw-on shutters. A pair of round-arch windows are located in the gable peaks. The one-story ell contains a small, shed-roof porch at the south elevation that shelters an entrance. A cross-gabled projection at the east elevation contains a single window.

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.

William Henry H. Tucker (1840-1898)¹ was born in Stoughton. In 1865, Henry H. Tucker, as he was known, married Helen Guild of Easton and the couple moved into their new house at 67 West High Street. Henry H. and Helen Tucker (1846-1926)² had four children, two of whom lived past infancy. Henry H. Tucker was the son of successful shoe manufacturer Ebenezer Tucker, who brought his son into the family business when Henry was still a teenager and renamed the business "E. Tucker & Son."³ Ebenezer Tucker "came to East Stoughton as a young man and entered the employ of [Adam] B. Goldthwaite as a boot cutter, [and] in due time became a partner of Mr. Goldthwaite, whose sister he married and to whose business he succeeded as a sole proprietor."⁴ Ebenezer Tucker became one of East Stoughton's busiest boot manufacturers.⁵ The Tucker factory was located at

¹ https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/146096787/william-henry_h.-tucker. Accessed March 3, 2022.

² <https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/146096849/helen-tucker>. Accessed March 3, 2022.

³ U.S. Census. 1860.

⁴ "Ebenezer Tucker," *Stoughton Sentinel*, 17 January 1874, cited in FindaGrave listing.

⁵ Hurd: 407.

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the present-day location of 70 West High Street, directly across the street from this house. (Also see 34 West High Street, AVO.75.)

The sophisticated style of Henry H. and Helen Tucker's house indicates that the business was apparently successful. Census records provide additional evidence: the 1880 census notes that the H. H. Tucker household included a housekeeper, two servants, and a coachman. Helen S. Tucker lived here until at least 1914.⁶

In 1934, James W. Feener purchased the property out of a property foreclosure, a not-uncommon occurrence during the Great Depression.⁷ James W. Feener worked as a building carpenter and lived here with his wife, Effie, their daughter Esther, and his sister-in-law, Linda Spears.⁸ James Feener sold the property in 1946.⁹

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⁶ City Directory, 1914.

⁷ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 2026, p. 131 and p. 112.

⁸ U.S. Census. 1940.

⁹ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 2041, p. 112.

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View looking northwest from West High Street. Note dressed stone posts at driveway.



View looking northeast from West High Street.