# FORM A - AREA

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

**Photograph** 



View looking northwest. From right to left: 68 Robbins St., 64 Robbins St., 58 Robbins St.

Assessor's Sheets USGS Quad Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

See Data Sheet

Blue Hills

AVO. D See Data Sheet

Town/City: Avon

**Place** (neighborhood or village):

Name of Area: Robbins Street Area

Present Use: Single family dwellings; Multiple family

dwellings

Construction Dates or Period: ca. 1854-1894

**Overall Condition: Fair** 

Major Intrusions and Alterations: Vinyl siding; Asbestos

siding; Asphalt shingle siding; replacement windows

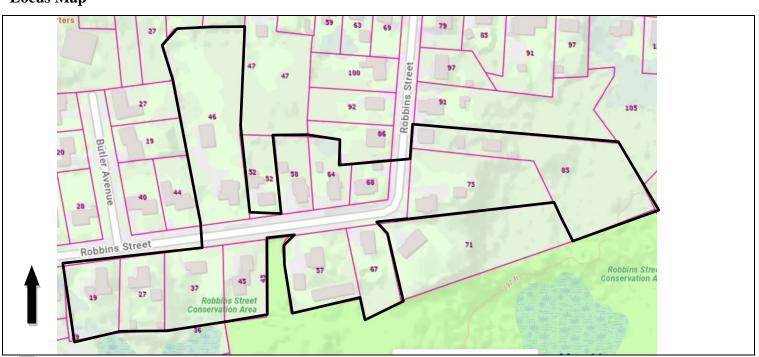
Acreage: 7.2 acres

**Recorded by:** Stacy E. Spies

Organization: Avon Historical Commission

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

### **Locus Map**



see continuation sheet

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Area Letter Form Nos.

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, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

The Robbins Street Area is a collection of eleven single-family houses and one multi-family house located along a suburban side street. The north boundary is a collection of mid-19<sup>th</sup>- and early 20<sup>th</sup>-century frame dwellings of similar size and materials. A small group of mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century houses forms the Area's northwest boundary. The Area's south boundary is a wooded conservation area. With the exception of the 2½-story multifamily frame building and one 2-story house, the houses are 1- and 1-½-story frame dwellings, a common building form for mid-late-19<sup>th</sup>-century Avon. The front-gabled houses are located close to the street and oriented toward the roadway. The older buildings in the Area (constructed in the 1850s and 1860s) have cut-stone slab foundations. Brick became the preferred foundation material here beginning in the 1870s. A few houses have small, detached frame garages constructed during the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. One house retains an attached carriage house. Houses each have a small brick chimney. Unless otherwise noted, the houses have vinyl siding and vinyl replacement sash. Doors are typically pressed-panel metal with lights.

Two-over-three bays wide and two bays deep, the side-hall plan house at 19 Robbins Street (ca. 1859, AVO.121) is capped with a front-gabled roof with overhanging eaves and trimmed with gable-end cornice returns. A screened porch supported by square-section posts and framed half-walls fills the façade (north elevation). The entrance, located in the west bay, is framed by half-height sidelights and a molded surround.

27 Robbins Street (ca. 1858, AVO.122) consists of a 1½-story, front-gabled main block and a 1-story perpendicular ell attached to the main block's west elevation. The house is covered with wood clapboards and trimmed with wood gable-end cornice returns, a wide frieze, and corner pilasters. A hipped-roof porch with turned wood posts fills the ell's north elevation. A gable dormer is centered on the ell's north roof slope. The façade appears to have been updated in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century with a projecting, gable-roof vestibule and a multi-light bay window. A similar bay window is located on the east elevation. A detached, front-gabled frame garage is located southeast of the house. A square-plan cupola with a metal windvane is centered on the roof ridge. 46 Robbins Street (ca. 1858, AVO.125) has a similar arrangement of a 1½-story main block and 1-story perpendicular ell. Although covered with vinyl siding, 46 Robbins Street retains its wood corner pilasters. A stone chimney is located in the ell. A bay window has been added to the façade.

45 Robbins Street (ca. 1856, AVO.124) has a front-gabled roof with overhanging eaves. An interior brick chimney is centered on the south end of the west roof slope. Two-over-three bays wide and two bays deep, the side-hall plan house is covered with diamond-patterned asphalt shingles (2<sup>nd</sup> Q 20<sup>th</sup> C) over narrow wood clapboards and trimmed with wood. Trim includes gable-end cornice returns, a frieze, corner pilasters and entrance surround. A hipped-roof shelter supported by large, turned wood decorative brackets is located above the paneled wood door containing a light in the top half. A small, shed-roof porch is located at the north end of the west (side) elevation. The porch connects to a shed-roof projection that extends along the west elevation and connects the house to the 2-story carriage house. The projection/ell is four bays deep and contains a paneled wood door with a light in the top half. A similar projection connects the carriage house's east elevation to the rear of the house. The carriage house has a front-gabled roof with overhanging eaves with a wide frieze and tiny decorative corner brackets. A top-hung center vehicle door constructed of miter-cut wood boards is centered on the facade. The second story contains a hay loft door centered above the vehicle door and two windows; one window is 2/2 wood sash. The doors and windows have shallow projecting wood crowns. Like the house, the carriage house is covered with diamond-patterned asphalt shingles on the façade; the side elevations are covered with narrow wood clapboards and wood trim. At least one 2/2 wood sash window remains in the carriage house's east elevation. The

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carriage house has a banked foundation that allows for an exposed basement level at the west elevation. The basement level is covered with clapboards and contains at least two sash windows.

The only 2-story, single-family house in the Area, <u>57 Robbins Street (ca. 1878, AVO.126)</u> has a side-hall plan containing a paneled wood Colonial Revival door. A hipped-roof shelter supported by large, turned wood decorative brackets is located above the door. The front-gabled roof has overhanging eaves and, it appears, gable-end cornice returns under the siding. The 1½-story perpendicular ell appears to be a mid-late-20<sup>th</sup>-century addition. A small frame shed located at the end of the driveway contains two pedestrian doors in the north elevation: a side-hung, paneled wood door with six lights in the top half and a side-hung, vertical board door.

The 1½-story Queen Anne house at 58 Robbins Street (ca. 1894, AVO.127) rests on a masonry foundation with a river rock veneer. The house has a front-gabled roof with overhanging eaves adorned with a bargeboard featuring alternating rondels and attenuated rectangular panels. A slender brick chimney rises from the northeast end of the roof ridge. A wall dormer is located at the north end of the side elevations. The building is clad with wood shingles on the façade and wood clapboards on the side elevations. The house is trimmed with cornerboards, a wide frieze onto which molded corbels are placed, and a stringcourse between the half-story windows and the gable peaks. Rounded shingles fill the gable peaks above the string course. A hipped-roof porch supported by turned wood posts with jigsawn brackets wraps around the façade and west elevations. The porch is enclosed with shingled panels featuring semi-circular openings into which a square-section wood balustrade is inserted. The façade's first story, sheltered by the porch, contains a replacement metal door with a light in the top half at the east bay and a bay window. A 1½-story cross-gabled projection is centered on the side elevations. The wide east projection contains irregularly-arranged fenestration, all capped with bracketed shed-roof crowns: two windows at the first story, a similar single window located between the first story and half-story (likely illuminating a stairwell within), and a triple window in the half-story (one of the windows has been infilled with clapboard). The west projection contains a cutaway bay at the first story and a pair of windows in the half-story.

64 Robbins Street (ca. 1885, AVO.128) consists of a 1½-story main block with a 1-story rear ell. The wood-shingled house is two-over-three bays wide with a side-hall plan and three bays deep. A hipped-roof screened porch with square-section columns and shingled sides fills the first story of the façade.

67 Robbins Street (ca. 1854, AVO.129) is the oldest house in the Area. The roof of the 1½-story frame house has overhanging eaves with gable-end cornice returns. A brick chimney is located at the south end of the roof ridge. The house is two bays deep and two bays wide. The entrance is presently centered in an enclosed porch that extends along the west (side) elevation. It is unclear whether the original entrance was also located in the west elevation or if the entrance was originally located on the north elevation (façade).

68 Robbins Street (ca. 1890, AVO.130) is a 2½-story multifamily house covered with asbestos shingles and oriented to the south. The house is five bays wide, with a 3-story porch at the east end of the south elevation. The house has a gable roof with overhanging eaves and small decorative wood corner brackets. Shed dormers with overhanging eaves and decorative wood corner brackets extend the width of the north and south elevations. A 2-story rectangular bay is attached to the southeast corner of the building. A 2-story bay window is located in the north bay of the east elevation. The first and second stories of the west elevation each contain single and paired sash windows. With the exception of the bay windows, windows are capped with projecting wood crowns. An original door remains in the west end of the south elevation. This paneled wood door contains a light in the top half and is topped by a shelter supported by compound wood brackets.

75 Robbins Street (ca.1890, AVO.131) consists of a 1½-story house with projecting cross-gables centered on the north and south (side elevations). The façade contains a multi-light door with full-height sidelights beneath a hipped-roof porch. The porch features turned wood posts, a low square-section balustrade, and decorative corner brackets. A box bay window featuring a fixed, 45-light wood-frame window and two fixed, 10-light wood-frame windows is located beside the entrance. 85 Robbins Street (ca. 1892, AVO.133) appears to be of the same design as 75 Robbins Street. 85 Robbins

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Street has a Colonial Revival style porch with round wood columns and taller square-section balustrade. At 85 Robbins Street, the box bay window has been replaced with a vinyl-frame window.

The buildings retain a consistency of form, volume, and setback but have a low level of integrity due to a loss of original materials such as windows and the application of replacement materials such as vinyl siding.

#### **HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this relates to the historical development of the community.

Robbins Street was laid out in the early 1850s on the land of Sally Robbins. Samuel V. Robbins (1796-1847) and his wife, Sally Loring Robbins (1795-1878), were married in 1821. In 1826, Samuel V. Robbins purchased a 10-acre farm here and had constructed the large Greek Revival house (now the Robbins House museum) at 188 Main Street (See 188 Main Street, AVO.11).¹ Samuel V. Robbins was "a master mariner in the West Indian merchant service" and was lost at sea in 1847.² After Samuel Robbins' death, Sally Robbins had Robbins Street laid out and sold houses along it. The first five houses were constructed between ca. 1854 and ca. 1858. Another two were constructed circa 1864 and circa 1878. The remainder were constructed between circa 1885 and 1894.

Most of the owners were Irish immigrants who worked in one of the shoe- or boot-making factories in town. The Michael and Rosanne Bohan House, <u>67 Robbins Street (ca. 1854, AVO.129)</u>, was likely constructed soon after Michael Bohan purchased this lot of land from Sally Robbins.<sup>3</sup> Michael Bohan (sometimes spelled as Bowen) (1828-) and his wife, Rosanne (ca. 1830-) were born in Ireland and married in Stoughton in 1854. Michael Bohan worked as a bootmaker in a shop on the property.<sup>4</sup> Jeremiah Bancroft owned the property from 1873-1876.<sup>5</sup> Julia Curtis Morton and her husband, Asa H. Morton, purchased the property in 1877.<sup>6</sup> Julia Curtis Morton (1837-1901)<sup>7</sup> and bootmaker Asa H. Morton (1836-1908)<sup>8</sup> were married in 1835 and lived here with their children and grandchildren. After Julia Morton's death, Asa Morton conveyed the property in 1902 to their grandson, Irving Iverson, who worked in a boot factory as a stitcher.<sup>9</sup> Alice MacKenzie (1891–1960)<sup>10</sup> owned the house from 1922 until 1960.<sup>11</sup> At the time of the 1930 census, widow Alice MacKenzie lived here with her three teenage children. The 1940 census records Alice MacKenzie residing here with her daughter, Ruth, and son-in-law, Joseph A. Crowley.

Patrick and Bridget Sullivan were the first owners of <u>45 Robbins Street (ca. 1856, AVO124)</u>. The couple\_purchased the house from Sally Robbins in 1856<sup>12</sup> and lived there until they sold it in 1864.<sup>13</sup> Irish immigrants Patrick Sullivan (ca. 1830-) and his wife, Bridget Splaine Sullivan (ca. 1835-), were married in 1853 in Stoughton, where Patrick worked as a boot maker. Another Irish bootmaker, James Murray (1827-1878), purchased the house in 1872.<sup>14</sup> James Murray and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 78, p. 272.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Biographical Review: 565.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 226, p. 260.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 226, p. 260.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 446, p. 398 and Book 478, p. 218.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 495, p. 61.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #40426501. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #43023091. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 912, p. 536.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #234879676. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1526, p. 88 and Book 3892, p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 248, p. 231.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 326, p. 459.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 423, p. 380.

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his wife, Joanna, lived here with their six children. James Murray's estate sold the house in 1885.<sup>15</sup> The Dolan family owned the house from 1885 until 1913.<sup>16</sup> Marian Belamoutis (1896-1981) purchased the house in 1932<sup>17</sup> and lived here with her mother, Luella Southworth. Luella Southworth "was responsible for the improvements to the Pearl Street Cemetery, Stoughton...She was appointed superintendent of the cemetery in 1905 [and held] the position until 1935."<sup>18</sup> Marian Belamoutis supported them by working for a leather goods company making leather "novelties."

Widow Sarah Iveson purchased the house at <u>27 Robbins Street</u> (ca. 1858, AVO.122) from Sally Robbins. Sarah Iveson (1806-1880)<sup>19</sup> and her husband, Batty Iveson (1812-1845),<sup>20</sup> were both born in England. Batty Iveson died at age 33 of consumption, leaving Sarah Iveson with five young children under the age of 11. It is unclear when the family arrived in Stoughton, but Sarah Iveson and the children were residents of Stoughton by the time of the 1855 Massachusetts census. In 1865, Sarah Iveson sold the house to Sarah Gilgan<sup>21</sup> and moved to 33 North Main Street (AVO.49). In 1872, carriage maker and blacksmith John D. McDonald purchased the house.<sup>22</sup> John D. McDonald (1833-1917)<sup>23</sup> established a carriage making and blacksmith business on the property. John McDonald and his wife, Helen, were married in their native Canada before emigrating in the 1860s. The family grew to include their three children, who entered the family business. The McDonald family owned the house until 1957.<sup>24</sup>

Boot maker Patrick Meenan purchased <u>46 Robbins Street (ca. 1858, AVO.125)</u> in 1864 from Sally Robbins. Patrick Meenan (ca. 1817-1898) and his wife, Anne (ca. 1830-1902), were both born in Ireland and married in Massachusetts in 1851. The couple was living in Stoughton by 1854.<sup>25</sup> The family, which included seven daughters, owned the house until 1925. In 1925, Grace M. Lynch purchased the house from Patrick and Ann Meenan's daughter, Rose.<sup>26</sup> Grace Lynch (ca. 1882-Ca. 1979) lived here with her three brothers and her sister, as well as five nieces and nephews. Grace Lynch's estate sold the property in 1979.<sup>27</sup>

Bootmaker William Delaney purchased 19 Robbins Street (ca. 1859, AVO.121) in 1859 from Sally Robbins.<sup>28</sup> William Delany (ca. 1823-) and his wife, Adeline Cole Delany (ca. 1825-) were married in 1849 in Stoughton. In 1863, bootmaker John J. Roak (also recorded as Roark and Roake) purchased the house from William Delany.<sup>29</sup> John Roak and his wife, Mary, lived here with their family. The Roak family owned the house until 1917.<sup>30</sup> Grace H. Noyes purchased the house in 1929,<sup>31</sup> three years after marrying her husband, Frank M. Noyes. A native of Avon, Frank M. Noyes (1894-1964) fought in World War I. Noyes was Commander of the Charles W. Whiting American Legion Post in Avon. V.F.W. Post 8892 was named for Frank Noyes. Frank Noyes also served as Avon Selectman. Frank Noyes worked as a public highway

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 749, p. 134.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1268, p. 596.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1995, p. 392.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Obituary Luella Southworth, *The Boston Globe*, 15 January 1948, p. 17.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/86335032/sarah-iveson. Accessed Dec. 11, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #86335004. Accessed Sept. 23, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 337, p. 310. [619].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 422, p. 455.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup>https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/160365566/john-d-macdonald. Accessed Dec. 11, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 3562, p. 353.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> U.S. Naturalization Records. Ancestry.com. Accessed Nov. 10, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1677, p. 446.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 5649, p. 154.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 281, p. 248 [494].

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 313, p. 461.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1383, p. 101.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1875, p. 370.

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inspector and, later, as a social worker in the state welfare department.32 Grace Noyes worked as a clerk in a shoe factory. Grace Noves sold the house in 1974.33

John and Mary Tonry purchased 37 Robbins Street (ca. 1864, AVO.123) from Sally Robbins in 1864. John Tonry (1830-1900)<sup>34</sup> and his wife, Mary (1838-1906),<sup>35</sup> were born in Ireland and lived here with their family. John Tonry worked as a self-employed custom boot and shoe maker. The family owned the house until 1901.36

The Michael and Ellen McEllaney House, 57 Robbins Street (ca. 1878, AVO.126), was likely constructed the year in which Michael McEllaney purchased two building lots here. <sup>37</sup> Michael McEllaney (ca. 1835-1900)<sup>38</sup> and his wife, Ellen (ca. 1837-1900),<sup>39</sup> were both born in Ireland and married in 1873 in the United States. Michael McEllany worked as a laborer, according to census records. The 1900 census records widow Ellen McEllany at this residence, along with her grown stepsons: William, a cutter in a shoe factory; and John, a "frescoer." The house was sold by the McEllaney family in 1922.40 Henry and Annie Morrill owned the house 1922-1931.41 Census records note that Henry Morrill and his seven sons all worked as shoemakers. Scottish-born Alexander Berwick owned the house 1932-1968.<sup>42</sup> Alexander (1877-1948) and Margaret Berwick (1907-1982) were married in 1929 in Randolph, Massachusetts. After a tour of duty in France during World War I, Alexander Berwick remained in the U.S. Army into the 1930s as a guartermaster and warrant officer.

The John and Adeline Connery House, 64 Robbins Street (ca. 1885, AVO.128), was likely constructed the year in which John Connery purchased this building lot. 43 John Connery (1851-1930)<sup>44</sup> was born in Ireland and emigrated as an infant. John Connery and his wife, Adeline O'Donnell Connery (1852-1930), 45 were married in 1876 and lived here with their family. John Connery worked as a foreman at Littlefield's shoe factory. Their daughter, Mary, worked as a typist for a tin roofing company. The Connery family owned the house until 1932.46

68 Robbins Street, (ca. 1890, AVO.130) was likely constructed the year in which Frank P. McNiff purchased this building lot from his brother-in-law. James Feelev. 47 An Army veteran, Frank P. McNiff (1858-1945) 48 married his wife, Mary (1855-1952),<sup>49</sup> in 1890. At that time, Frank P. McNiff worked as the "dressing room" foreman at Keith's shoe factory in Brockton. In later years, Frank McNiff was employed as a shoe machinery salesman. Census records indicate that the building was constructed as a multi-family unit. Frank and Mary McNiff lived in one unit and rented out the other unit.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Frank M. Noyes Obituary, *The Boston Globe*, 13 January 1964, p. 25.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 5019, p. 127.

<sup>34</sup> https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/161652549/john-tonry. Accessed Dec. 17, 2022.

<sup>35</sup> https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/161652550/mary-tonry. Accessed Dec. 17, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 889, p. 638.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 503, p. 31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #160365690. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial # 16036568. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1524, p. 460.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1524, p. 460 and Book 1947, p. 292.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1970, p. 226 and 2927, p. 518.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 571, p. 156. The house is depicted in this location in 1888 map.

<sup>44</sup> https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/158696893/john-connery. Accessed Dec 17, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/158696890/adeline-e-connery. Accessed Dec 17, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 2068, p. 231.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 641, p. 348.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #160365707. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #160365708. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

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Frank McNiff owned several properties in Avon while making this his residence. The McNiff family owned the house until 1954.<sup>50</sup>

75 Robbins Street (ca. 1890, AVO.132) was likely constructed for Michael Conley the year in which he subdivided this parcel of land.<sup>51</sup> Michael Conley (1844-1911)<sup>52</sup> and his wife, Jane Foley Conley (1847-1906),<sup>53</sup> were both born in Ireland; they married in the United States in 1868. Michael Conley subdivided the parcel into 6 building lots and had a house constructed on Lot Number 3 for himself and his family.<sup>54</sup> A Civil War veteran,<sup>55</sup> Conley worked as a boot and shoe maker. In 1923, Mary Toole and her daughter, Margaret A. Toole, purchased the property from Michael and Jane Conley's daughter, Annie L. Conley.<sup>56</sup> Mary Toole (1837-1930), a widow, and her unmarried daughter, Margaret (1834-1911), moved to Avon from Nova Scotia. They sold the house in 1930.<sup>57</sup> W. Ray and Adeline M. Isenberg owned the house 1940-1962.<sup>58</sup>

85 Robbins Street, (ca. 1892, AVO.133) was likely constructed for Thomas F. Dennehy and his wife, Margaret. The couple purchased this lot of land in 1890.<sup>59</sup> The couple does not appear in the 1891 city directory at this address but are included here in the 1894 city directory. Thomas F. Dennehy (1859-1931)<sup>60</sup> and his wife, Mary McCarthy Dennehy (1864-1943),<sup>61</sup> were married in 1886. Thomas F. Dennehy worked as a laster for a shoe factory in Randolph. Belle Wilson purchased the house in 1903 and sold it in 1916.<sup>62</sup> Belle M. Wilson (ca. 1868-) and her husband (census records note his name as both William and Andrew) were both born in Canada and married in 1899, the year after they emigrated. William Wilson worked as a laster in a shoe factory. Census records note that the couple was renting a house on Robbins Street in 1900. Frank P. McNiff owned 85 Robbins Street from 1916 until 1944<sup>63</sup> and used it as a rental property. McNiff continued to live at 68 Robbing Street. Frank P. McNiff served as Avon Selectman for a number of terms. In 1944, John H. and Evelyn M. Sherman purchased the property from Frank P. McNiff.<sup>64</sup> The Sherman family sold the property in 1975.<sup>65</sup>

58 Robbins Street (ca. 1894, AVO.127) was likely constructed around the time that James Brannan purchased the lot of land. Avon native James Brannan (1866-1941) married his wife, Elizabeth Lynch Brannan (1857-1905) in 1893. James Brannan worked as an edge setter in a shoe factory. The couple only owned the house for a few years, selling it to Danford T. Henry in 1900.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 3252, p. 46.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 515, p. 473.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #158696888. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #158696887. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds "Plan of Connolly's Sub-Div. in the Town of Avon, Dec. 6, 1890." Filed in 1947 in Plan 618 of 1947, p. 440.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> U.S. Veterans Schedule. 1890. Ancestry.com.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1575, p. 19.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1886, p. 355.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 2313, p. 186 and Book 4042, p. 117.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 647, p. 179.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial #198027081. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Findagrave.com Memorial # 198027082. Accessed Oct. 1, 2022.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 961, p. 272.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 1355, p. 623.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 2483, p. 509.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>65</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 5131, p. 588.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>66</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 714, p. 515.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 833, p. 193.

AVON

ROBBINS STREET AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area Letter Form Nos.

AVO.D

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AVON

ROBBINS STREET AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area Letter Form Nos.

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## AREA DATA SHEET

Assessor's #	MHC #	Name	Street Address	Construction Date	Style	Acreage
D6/ 6/ 29/ /	AVO.121	William and Adeline Delany House	19 Robbins St.	Ca. 1859	No Style	0.50
D6/ 6/ 28/ /	AVO.122	Sarah Iveson House	27 Robbins St.	Ca. 1858	Greek Revival	0.37
D6/ 6/ 27/ /	AVO.123	John and Mary Tonry House	37 Robbins St.	Ca. 1864	No Style	0.49
D6/ 6/ 26/ /	AVO.124	Patrick and Bridget Sullivan House	45 Robbins St.	Ca. 1856	Italianate	0.35
D6/ 5/ 10/ /	AVO.125	Patrick and Anne Meenan House	46 Robbins St.	Ca. 1858	No Style	1.40
D6/ 6/ 24/ /	AVO.126	Michael and Ellen McEllaney House	57 Robbins St.	Ca. 1878	No Style	0.53
D6/ 5/ 12/ /	AVO.127	James and Elizabeth Brannan House	58 Robbins St.	Ca. 1894	Victorian Eclectic	0.27
D6/ 5/ 13/ /	AVO.128	John and Adeline Connery House	64 Robbins St.	Ca. 1885	No Style	0.30
D6/ 6/ 23/ /	AVO.129	Michael and Rosanne Bohan House	67 Robbins St.	Ca. 1854	No Style	0.34
D6/ 5/ 14/ /	AVO.130	Frank P. and Mary McNiff House	68 Robbins St.	Ca. 1890	Victorian Eclectic	0.18
D6/ 6/ 21/ /	AVO.131	Michael and Jane Conley House	75 Robbins St.	Ca. 1890	Victorian Eclectic	0.76
	AVO.132	Conley Barn		Ca. 1890	No Style	
D6/ 6/ 20/ /	AVO.133	Thomas F. and Mary Dennehy House	85 Robbins St.	Ca. 1892	No Style	1.70
	AVO.134	Dennehy Garage		Ca. 1915	No Style	

# SUPPLEMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHS

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AVON

ROBBINS STREET AREA

Area Letter Form Nos.

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125



View looking southwest toward 19 Robbins Street.



View looking south toward 27 Robbins Street.



View looking southeast toward 45 Robbins Street.



View looking southeast toward 45 Robbins Street carriage house.

AVON

ROBBINS STREET AREA

Area Letter Form Nos.

AVO.D

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



View looking north toward 46 Robbins Street.



View looking southeast toward 57 Robbins Street.



View looking northeast toward 58 Robbins Street.



View looking northeast toward 64 Robbins Street.



View looking southeast toward 67 Robbins Street.



View looking west toward 68 Robbins Street.

AVON

ROBBINS STREET AREA

Area Letter Form Nos.

AVO.D

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125



View looking northeast toward 68 Robbins Street.



View looking east toward 75 Robbins Street.



View looking northeast toward 85 Robbins Street.