

FORM B – BUILDING

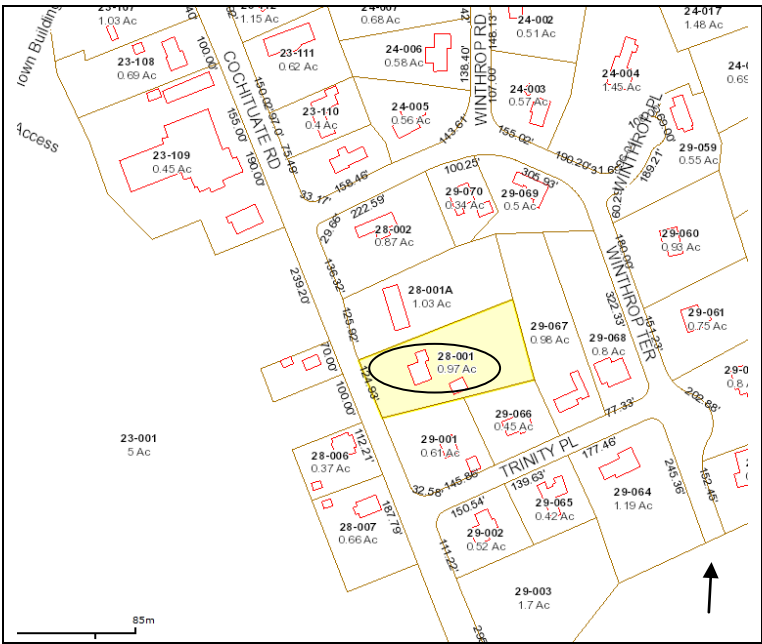
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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|-------------------|-----------|---------|-------------|
| Assessor's Number | USGS Quad | Area(s) | Form Number |
| 28-001 | Natick | | WAY.103 |

Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Gretchen G. Schuler
Organization: for Wayland Historical Commission
Date (month / year): August 2012

Town: WAYLAND
Place: (*neighborhood or village*)
Wayland Center
Address: 62 Cochituate Road
Historic Name: Wight, John B. and Myrta House
Uses: Present: single-family residential
Original: single-family residential
Date of Construction: ca.1909-1910
Source: deeds and visual
Style/Form: Dutch Colonial Revival
Architect/Builder: /Everett W. Small

Exterior Material:
Foundation: stone and concrete
Wall/Trim: wood clapboards and shingles
Roof: asphalt shingles
Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: two-car gabled-front garage
Major Alterations (*with dates*): removal of balustrade on top of entry porch – mid to late 20th C.

Condition: good
Moved: no | x | yes | | **Date** n/a _____
Acreage: .97 of an acre

Setting: Residential neighborhood at town center, among early to mid-20th C. dwellings - near Trinitarian Church, Town Building and athletic fields across street from this house. Just north of Trinity Place. Deep lot with house set back as others on east side of Cochituate Road. Mature plantings along road and at driveway entrance screening house from road.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

WAYLAND

62 COCHITUATE ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Area(s) Form No.

WAY.103

☒ 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.*

This ca. 1909 Dutch Colonial house is surrounded by a mid-20th century subdivision and is the oldest extant dwelling along this section of the east side of Cochituate Road. The two-story, three bay dwelling rests on a rubblestone and concrete foundation, is sheathed in wood shingles, and has an asphalt-shingled roof. The house consists of the three-bay main block, a one-story rear ell, a two-story cross gable rear ell centered on the rear elevation, a one and one-half-story side/rear ell (off the northeast corner of the house), and an open entry porch. The gambrel roof has a flair that extends slightly over the first story of the façade. Windows are combinations of 18/2, 12/2, and 9/2 set in casings that are framed with a narrow applied molding. The centered entry has a paneled door with multi-paned, three-quarter sidelights over recessed panels. The entry porch is approached by broad wood steps and is carried by two bold Tuscan-like columns on each end and square pilasters attached to the house. The south side of the entry porch has a turned balustrade running between the column and pilaster and lattice foundation screening below. On the north side the porch extends to the northwest corner of the house as a deck (with no roof) and the turned balustrade encloses this part of the porch. To the right of the centered entry there is a shallow oriel with a 15/2 window and flanking 9/1. The eave with molded cornice follows the line of the projecting bay. To the left of the entry is a large multi-light window. Mounted on the gambrel roof are three dormers. The center is a gable front dormer of three windows- the middle 12/2 sash flanked by 9/2. In the peak of this dormer is a narrow four-lite window with curved side edges wrapped by the wood shingled siding. A shed-roof dormer with 18/2 sash is on each side of the center dormer. Aligned on the south end of the house is a single 9/2 window in the gable peak over second-story paired 9/2 sash over a squared hipped-roof long oriel with 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.*

Wayland Center changed rapidly with the advent of the Massachusetts Central Railroad which passed through in 1881. Several commodious houses were built near the center in the 1890s to 1910s. This house, built in about 1910, is situated just south of the center with easy access to the railroad which passed through Wayland Center until the 1970s. The railroad built two buildings at Wayland Center: the Massachusetts Central Railroad Passenger Station (WAY.82) and the Massachusetts Central Railroad Freight House (WAY.256); both buildings are extant and preserved.

In 1909, **John B. Wight** (1880-1944) purchased this lot, which was shown on a plan of land prepared by W.W. Wight, C.E. and was sold to Wight by Frederic M. McIntire. It is likely that John had his house built soon thereafter as he was listed here by 1911-1912 as a traveling salesman living on "Main Street" which was the name for Cochituate Road at that time. Everett Warren Small (1875-1956), known as "Pop," is reported to have built this house and those across the street (61, 65, 67 Cochituate Road). He was a local builder with an office on State Road (Boston Post Road/Route 20) and responsible for the construction of many Wayland Center dwellings. He and his wife, Mabel T. S. Small lived at 65 Cochituate Road for a few years in the late 1910s. Some of the early details of the house have been removed such as a balustrade atop the front entry porch.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

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John Wight's family had come to Wayland in 1815 when his great grandfather, the Rev. John Burt Wight, was called to be the pastor at the First Parish Church. John's grandfather, Henry Wight served as Town Clerk for 29 years until just a couple of years before his death in 1886. John's father George H. had taken his family to Chattanooga, Tennessee to live; but John and his mother returned in the mid 1890s and by the 1900 Census John and his mother Lydia Wight were living with his grandmother, Isabella Wight in the family homestead then located nearby on Cochituate Road but moved in 1908 to 17 Bennett Road. By 1910 Lydia was listed as a widow and from then on lived in her son's household. John and his wife, **Myrta (Wemple) Wight** were married in the early 1900s and had one daughter, Isabel (b.1910). Two sons, John and Robert were born in the 1910s. Wight worked in sales in Boston and in Hudson (where he ran a shoe store) – both places that he could reach on the Boston & Maine Railroad (formerly Central Massachusetts Railroad) line that passed through Wayland Center. In 1930 John was assessed for his house valued at \$6,000, a small garage and a two-acre lot (the lot was subdivided later). Isabel Wight, daughter of John and Myrta, reported much of the history of this part of Cochituate Road where she grew up. John and Myrta remained here until 1944 when they sold their home to **Dorothy S. and William H. Bowden** (also Bowen) who came from Marblehead and lived in their Wayland home for about 27 years until 1971. From 1970 to 1972 Ham Bowden, as William was known, served as president of the Wayland Historical Society.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Atlases/Maps: 1908 Walker (J. White), 1946 Brooks (Dorothy S. Bowden).
Emery, Helen. *The Puritan Village Evolves*. Canaan, NH: Phoenix Publishing. 1981.
Middlesex Registry South. Book 3488, Page 25
Oral Tradition. Notes from interviews with Isabel Wight, Harold and Marian Draper.
Street Directories: Waltham Suburban Directories. 1913-14, 1915-16, 1926.
United States Census. 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930.
Wayland Historical Society.
Wayland Valuation Lists. 1910, 1920, 1921, 1930

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WAYLAND 62 Cochituate Road

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| | WAY.103 |
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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- ☐ Individually eligible ☒ Eligible **only** in a historic district
☒ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ **A** ☐ **B** ☒ **C** ☐ **D**

Criteria Considerations: ☐ **A** ☐ **B** ☐ **C** ☐ **D** ☐ **E** ☐ **F** ☐ **G**

Statement of Significance by _____ Gretchen G. Schuler _____
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The John B. Wight House is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places as part of a Wayland Center Historic District. It is a village house built at the turn of the 20th century after the railroad had become a prominent feature of Wayland Center changing the landscape with the commuter line to Boston. The property retains integrity of location, setting, design, craftsmanship, feeling and association.