

# 64 Farm Road



*Moses C. Babcock House*

<b>Form Nos.</b>	26 house, 211 south shed, 212 barn, 213 shed
<b>Area</b>	
<b>Town</b>	Sherborn
<b>Address</b>	64 Farm Road
<b>Assessor's Map</b>	11/71
<b>USGS Map</b>	Medfield
<b>Historic Name</b>	Moses C. Babcock House
<b>Uses: Original</b>	Residence
<b>Present</b>	Residence
<b>Ownership, 1981</b>	Gilbert Mudge
<b>" Original</b>	Moses C. Babcock
<b>Constructed</b>	House ca. 1838, outbuildings all ca. 1900
<b>Source</b>	Margaret Dowse Buntin's file
<b>Style/Form</b>	Early 19th century frame vernacular
<b>Architect</b>	
<b>Ext. Wall Fabric</b>	Clapboard
<b>Outbuildings</b>	Stable
<b>Alterations</b>	"Ell" is probably original to house, enlarged in 1970's
<b>Moved</b>	No
<b>Acreage</b>	3.00 acres
<b>Setting:</b>	Located in area which retains much of its pre 20th century country charm, surrounded by fields and woods.
<b>Recorded</b>	June-July 1981, by Edward W. Gordon

Updated 1999, by Sanford Johnson

Film Roll/Negative Roll 10

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

### 1981 Survey

This handsome residence is composed of a 2 1/2 story main block, rear wing and side addition. Its main Block culminates in a ridge roof with return eaves and its edges are crisply defined by narrow corner boards. In the center of the 5 bay main facade is a front door which exhibits 20th century Colonial Revival treatments, (note pediment). The main block's floor plan is similar to that of 1 North Main Street which was constructed in 1833. Both houses display similar small square attic windows.

### 1999 Update

The Moses C. Babcock House at 64 Farm Road (#26) survives as it is described on the survey form completed in 1981 with the exception that a screened porch and chimney have been added to the right (east) side.

The principal outbuilding at 64 Farm Road is a side-gabled barn (#212) of one and one-half stories attached to the rear of the house. It is oriented perpendicular to the house and parallel to the road. Clad in board and batten siding, the barn has a high uncut stone foundation visible at its west side. A shed-roofed garage is attached to the east elevation. Other outbuildings include a pair of board and batten sheds attached to the barn's south wall. These are one-story buildings, the southerly of which has a shed roofed addition. The northerly shed (#213) has a gabled dormer on the east slope of the roof overlooking a small courtyard formed by the three buildings. The southerly shed (#211) is enlarged by a shed roofed ell. Windows in the sheds are 2/2 double-hung sash.

Post and rail fences demarcate the land behind the sheds and separate the house from the road. A stone wall is also present at the roadside and at the west side of the yard. The well-maintained buildings are set on a narrow rural road.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

### 1981 Survey

This house was built at the time of Moses C. Babcock's marriage to Persis W. Hill of Sherborn (late 1830's). Moses C. Babcock is listed as the owner of this property in 1875 and 1889. Presumably he was a farmer.

Over the years, Farm Road has been called "The Road to the Farm", "The Village Road to Dover" and "Trinity Street", the latter because of its proximity to the Pilgrim Church. In the early 1900's it officially became known as "Farm Road".

### 1999 Update

Built in the late 1830s, the Moses Babcock House at 64 Farm Road occupied a 10 acre lot in 1875, on which Mr. Babcock husbanded a horse and a cow. While no other animals were noted in the tax valuations, Mr. Babcock is described in 1855 and 1865 censuses as a farmer. He lived here with his wife Persis, children Charles, Emma and Henry and his mother, Sarah. Pasture and an orchard are denoted on the farmstead on the 1939 WPA map. Outbuildings were built or largely altered around the turn of the

20th century after the Babcocks sold the house.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES**

### 1981 Survey

- Margaret Dowse Buntin's research
- Anne C. Shaughnessy - A Guide to Sherborn, 1974

### 1999 Update

- 1981 MHC B form from survey by Edward Gordon
- 1856 Walling Map; 1874 Beers Map; 1889 Walker Map
- Anne C. Shaughnessy - The History of Sherborn and A Guide to Sherborn, 1974
- History of Middlesex County, Hurd
- Tax valuations, 1865-1945
- 1855, 1865 state censuses