

FORM B - BUILDING

MAY 15 1989

570

MRA

AREA	FORM NO.
A	143

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

Town SouthbridgeAddress 787 Mill StreetHistoric Name "Cliff Cottage"Use: Present residenceOriginal residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1830-1855Source mapsStyle Greek Revival/Gothic RevivalArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric stoneOutbuildings barn (e)Major Alterations (with dates) noneCondition GoodMoved no Date n/aAcreage less than one acre

Setting residential on hilltop overlooking river, near but isolated from a group of mid-19th c. buildings to its west

UTM REFERENCE 18/744 720/4663 100USGS QUADRANGLE Southbridge, Mass-ConnSCALE 1/2,000Recorded by E. Woodford, S. Ceccacci
ed. S. CeccacciOrganization Southbridge Historical Com-
missionDate May 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

"Cliff Cottage" is significant for its association with the town's mid-19th century real estate development and its stylish and rare Gothic Revival design. It meets National Register criteria A and C at the local level and retains integrity of setting, location, materials, workmanship, design, feeling, and association. The boundaries indicated on the attached assessors map are those of current ownership.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

"Cliff Cottage" is the most unique 19th-century house in Southbridge. Built of stone on an asymmetrical T-plan, the one-and-a-half story house is a mixture of Gothic Revival and Greek Revival elements. The most distinctive features of the house are its paneled stone walls, curved east end, casement windows and the repeated Gothic Revival style scallop-trimmed dormers. The roof cornice and heavy porch elements are Greek Revival in feeling.

The picturesque placement of the house on the crest of hill overlooking the Quinebaug River, the unusual Gothic-influenced design, the casement windows and the use of stone all suggest a familiarity with the principles of Alexander Jackson Davis and Andrew Jackson Downing. Through his books published in the 1840's and 1850's, Downing popularized the taste in the United States for the Gothic Revival style and for "picturesque" houses in "natural" and "country" settings. An unusual and rare example of the Gothic Revival style in Southbridge as well as in Central Massachusetts, the cottage is of extremely high quality.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

Houses in this immediate vicinity were first shown on the 1855 map of Southbridge. Clustered along the north side of Mill and Cliff Streets, they were almost all owned by members of the McKinstry family. The first McKinstry settled in the mid-1700's on Pleasant Street north of here. By the mid-19th century several members of this family were involved in businesses in Globe Village. The development of this section, corresponds with the period of development of High and Sayles Street, and was part of the building boom in Globe Village which accompanied the prosperity and growth of the Hamilton Woolen Mill between about 1835 and 1860. While the High-Sayles Street area was built up under the auspices of the Hamilton Mill, this area seems to have been a private effort by several members of a family. It is not clear who was the original occupant of "Cliff Cottage". Its owner in 1855 was F. McKinstry. No documentation has been found to indicate whether or not he was the original owner or whether he ever actually lived there. During the 1870's it was the home of Judson McIntire, a carpenter.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

maps, atlases, directories
Quinebaug Historical Leaflets, Vol. I, #4, pp. 52-53

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Southbridge MRA
State Worcester County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 11. Building at 38--42 Worcester Street
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 12. Building at 52 Main Street
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 13. Central Mills Historic District
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 14. Chamberlain--Bordeau House
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 15. Chapin Block
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 16. Cheney, Alpha M. House
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 17. Cheney, J.M., Rental House
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 18. Clarke--Glover Farmhouse
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 19. Cliff Cottage
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____
- 20. Cole, E., Merritt, House
Entered in the
National Register *f* Keeper Helene Byer 6/22/89
Attest _____

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Cliff Cottage

MULTIPLE NAME: Southbridge MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 5/15/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 5/31/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/16/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 6/29/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000570

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 6/22/89 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTMs boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

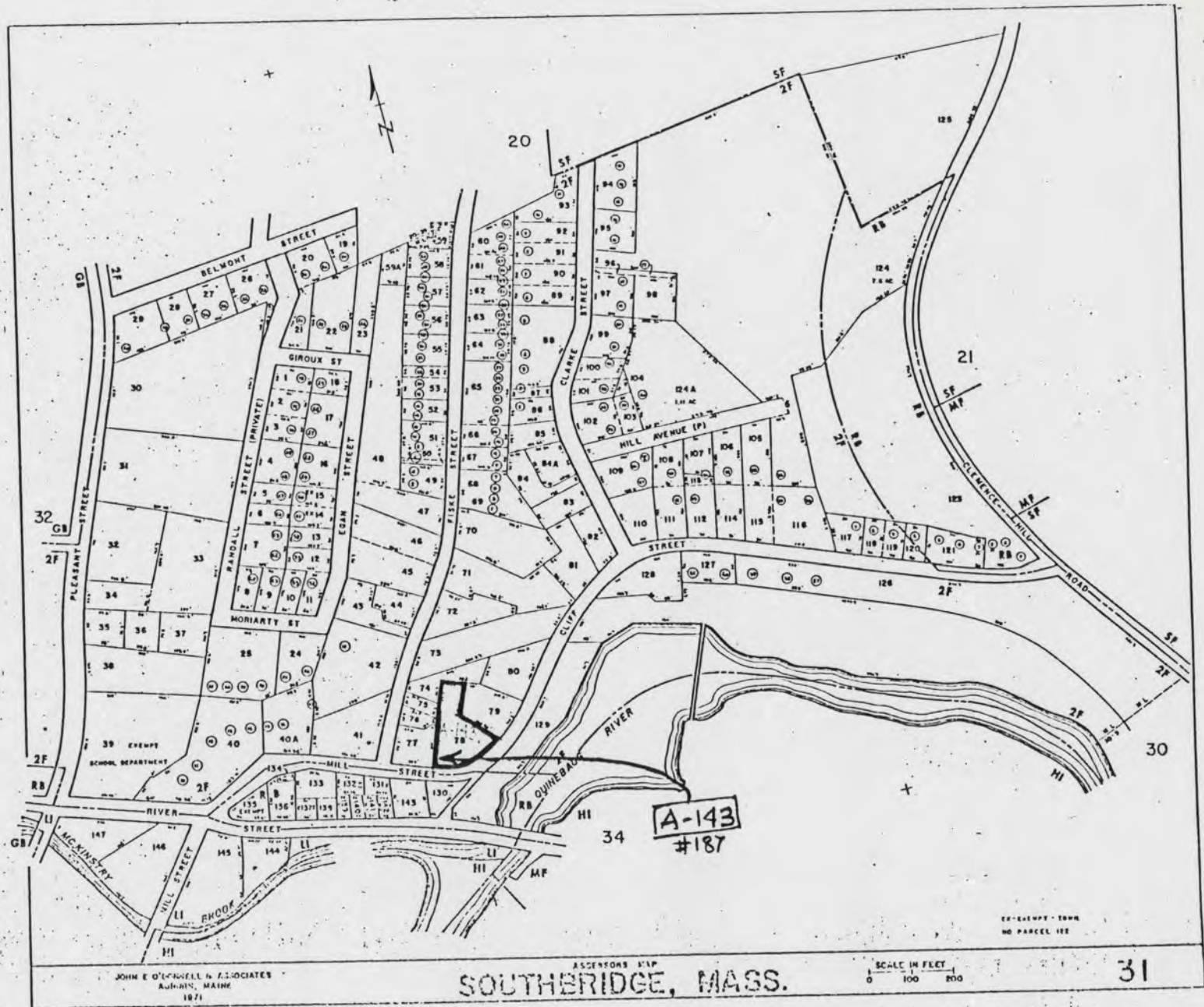
_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Cliff Cottage, (A-143) 787 Mill Street
Southbridge MA 01550
Cecacci, 1986
Southbridge Historical Commission
Roll #7

SOUTHRIDGE MASS
MRA



187 Mill Street

A-143
#187

ASCEPTORS MAP
SOUTHRIDGE, MASS.

SCALE IN FEET
0 100 200

EX-EMPT - TOWN
NO PARCEL 122

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Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000294