

566

FORM B - BUILDING

MAY 15 1989

AREA	FORM NO.
A	127

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

Roll # 2-35

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 Southbridge

Address 52 Marcy Street

Historic Name E. B. Cummings House

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date Ca.1870-1878

Source maps

Style Italianate/Greek Revival

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboards

Outbuildings attached barn in rear (C)

Major Alterations (with dates) front porch, side porches & 2nd story bay windows (ca. 1880's) brick chimney (20th c.) on south side of house; sash 1/1 (late-20th c.)  
Condition Good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage less than one acre

Setting tree-lined residential street of mid to late-19th century single family houses

Recorded by E. Woodford, S. Ceccacci

Organization Southbridge Historical Commission

Date May 1986

UTM REFERENCE 18/745 060/4662 550

USGS QUADRANGLE Southbridge, Mass-Conn

SCALE 1:25,000

## **NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

The E. B. Cummings House is significant for its association with the town's mid-19th century real estate development and its adaptation of the stylish Italianate to the familiar gable-front form. 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.**

This is an example of the graceful mixture of Greek Revival and Italianate styles. Although the Greek Revival generally went out of fashion by 1860, elements of the style are still found in New England into the late-19th century. The Greek Revival elements of the house are its paneled corner pilasters, sidelights and transom of the front door and the plain entablature on the sides of the house. Italianate elements are the paired brackets under the eaves, the width of the eaves and the pitch of the roof as well as the front porch.

The Stick Style porch and porch posts may have been added at a later date. The second story bay window and attached porch were probably added in the 1880's or 1890's. These later alterations do not detract from the period appearance of the house.

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

The E. B. Cummings House is the smallest and least imposing, but the only unaltered one, of four important houses built at the intersection of Marcy and Edwards Streets between 1855 and 1878. Although the size and certain details of the other three houses still gives this corner prominence, their architectural significance has been greatly damaged by the application of synthetic siding. The E. B. Cummings House together with the 1860's A. Kinney House (form #A-123) on Edwards Street are therefore of particular importance today as reminders of the days when this neighborhood contained some of the town's most handsome houses.

The corner of Marcy and Edwards Streets was the western edge of a suburban estate district which grew up on the west side of the town center after Hamilton Street opened in 1850. Owners of houses in this general area were mostly successful businessmen and manufacturers. Edwin B. Cummings who lived in this house was the partner of H. J. Conant in a hardware store on Main Street. The other houses at the Marcy-Edward Street intersection were owned by Liberty Litchfield of Litchfield Shuttle Company; S. Williams, furniture dealer and undertaker and W. H. Clark, the secretary and agent of the Central Mills Company.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

maps

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

21. Comins--Wall House **Substantive Review**

Keeper Beth F. Savage 6-22-89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

22. Congregational Church **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

23. Cummings, E.B., House **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

24. Dani and Soldani Cabinet Makers and  
Wood Workers Factory **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

25. Dennison School House **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

26. Dresser, Sylvester, House **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

27. Dunbar--Vinton House **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

28. Durfee, Henry E., Farmhouse **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

29. Elm Street Fire House **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

30. Evangelical Free Church **Entered in the  
National Register**

Keeper Delores Byers 6/22/89  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Cummings, E. B., House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Southbridge MRA  
NAME:

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: 89000566

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

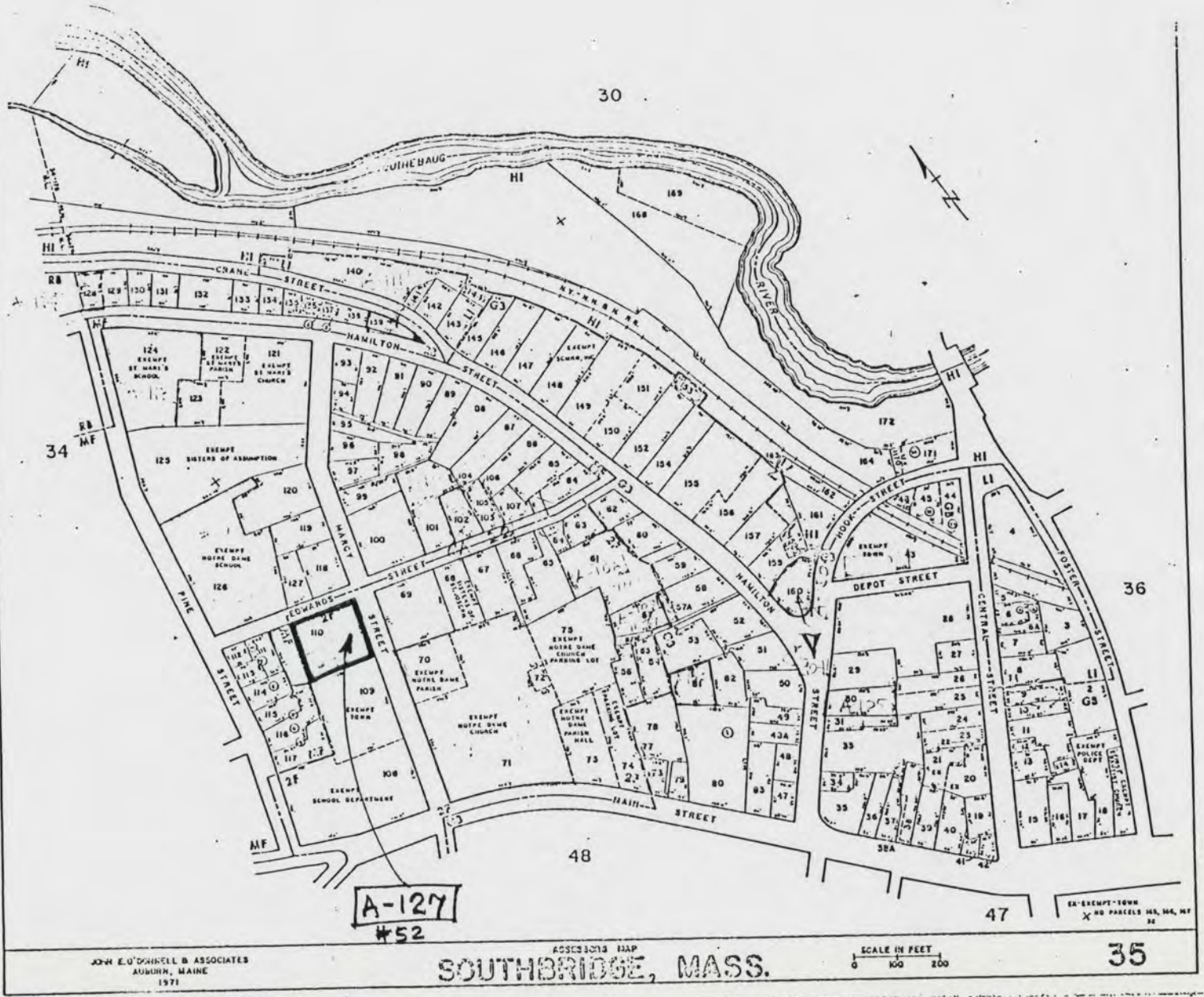
\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



E.B. Cummings House, (A-127) 52 Marcy St.  
Southbridge, MA, ~~MA~~  
Ceccacci, 1986  
Southbridge Historical Commission  
Roll # 2-35

SOUTHBRIDGE MASS  
MRA



52 Marcy Street

JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES  
AUBURN, MAINE  
1971

ASSOCIATION MAP  
SOUTHBRIDGE, MASS.

SCALE IN FEET  
0 100 200

35

EX-EXEMPT-TOWN  
X-NO PARCELS 165, 166, 167

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000294