

FORM B - BUILDING

Area	Form no.
	31

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108

Town Stoneham Roll 18:18

Address 481 Main Street

Historic Name Clara Buswell House

Use: Original residence

Present CPA office

Ownership: Private individual C. Burke
 Private organization

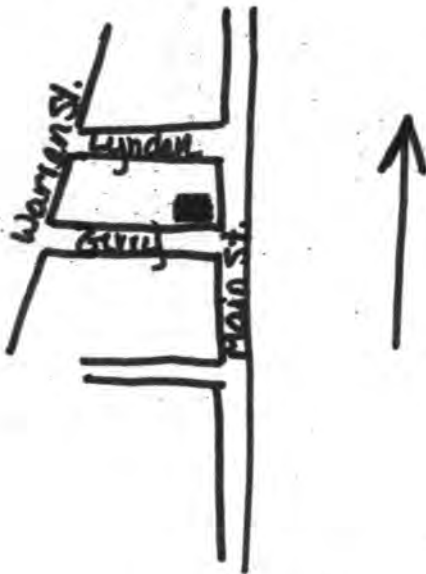
Public

Original owner Unknown

PHOTO (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1875

Source map research

Style Italianate

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric aluminum

Outbuildings none

Major alterations (with dates) X porch, enclosed entrance, siding

Moved no Date N/A

Approx. acreage 11,390 sq. ft.

Setting commercial on Main Street; mid-late nineteenth century residential behind

Recorded by Carole Zellie (ed. Candace Jenkins, MHC)

Organization Landscape Research

Date May 1979

Assessor's Map #18-290

Boston North Quad 1:25,000
UTM: 19 327260 4704470

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

The Clara Buswell House is a fine local example of the Italianate style and one of the few to remain along Main Street, a thoroughfare lined with elaborate residences, civic and commercial structures in the second half of the nineteenth century. Constructed c. 1875, it is identical to its neighbor, the Onslow Gilmore House (#32). Both have up-to-date L-shaped plans with entries and porches at the L's angle. The open porches were supported on ornate carved posts and the entries contained double doors. In this example, the northerly half of the porch has been enclosed and the entry has been filled with a single smaller door. The house is now clad in aluminum rather than clapboards, but most original trim, including bracketed cornice, remains as does the patterned slate roof. Window treatment is varied, including single and paired openings with heavy lintels, paired arched windows in the gables, and bay windows at the first story. In general, original 2/2 sash remains. The house also retains its original granite curbing and posts.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

The Clara Buswell House possesses integrity of location, design and workmanship. It is significant as an excellent local example of the Italianate style, and one of the few period houses to remain on Main Street. It meets criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places.

This house, owned by Clara Buswell in 1889, is nearly identical to its immediate neighbor at 477 (#32). It is representative of fine houses built along Main Street after the Civil War for prominent manufacturers and tradesmen, and was possibly built by Onslow Gilmore on speculation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1889 map of Stoneham
Valuation Books
1878 Birdseye

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only
received 2/28/84
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 2 of 7

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Stoneham Multiple Resource Area
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

11. Buswell, Clara, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

12. Chamberlain, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

13. Cogan, Bernard, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

14. Cogan, James, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

15. Colonial Beacon Gas Station

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

16. Cowdrey, George, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

17. Daniels, Blake, Cottage

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

18. Dean, Silas, House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

19. Dow Block

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

20. Durgin, E. A., House

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper Selma Byers 4/13/84

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Buswell, Clara, House (Stoneham MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. FEB 28 1984
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/5/85
Date Due: 3-29-84 - 4-13-84
Action: ACCEPT 4-13-84
 RETURN
 REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use
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4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

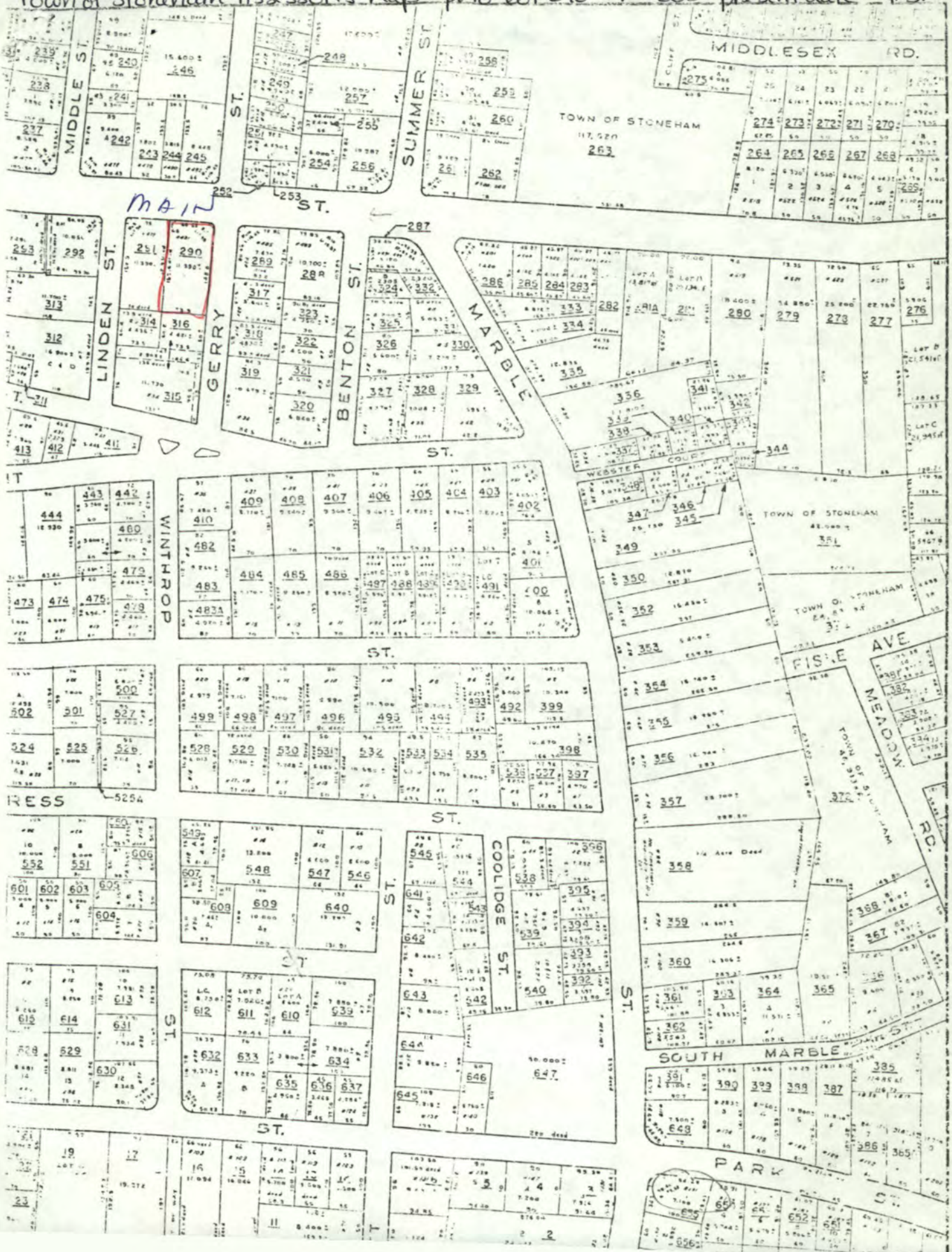
Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection



Buswell, Clara, House
Stephen Met, Aka

8120



MAIN ST.

WINTER RD

BRESS

ST.

ST.

ST.

ST.

ST.

PARK

MIDDLESEX RD.

TOWN OF STONEHAM

TOWN OF STONEHAM

TOWN OF STONEHAM

TOWN OF STONEHAM

TOWN OF STONEHAM

SOUTH MARBLE

10

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: _____ 64000295