

FORM B - BUILDING

MAY 15 1989

589

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
B	247

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 38-42 Worcester StreetHistoric Name n/aUse: Present multifamily residenceOriginal multifamily residence

DESCRIPTION

Date Ca. 1878-1898Source maps, atlasesStyle Late-19th century VernacularArchitect UNKNOWNExterior Wall Fabric clapboardOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) noneCondition goodMoved no Date n/aAcreage less than one acre

Setting on a densely developed street of mostly multifamily dwellings, late-19th to early-20th c.

UTM REFERENCE 18/745 700/4662 670USGS QUADRANGLE Southbridge MA CTSCALE 1:25,000Recorded by S. CeccacciOrganization Southbridge Historical Com-
missionDate May 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

38-42 Worcester Street is significant as an example of the distinctive regional multi-family housing type known as the triple decker, ornamented in a distinctly French Canadian fashion, and constructed during the growth of the town's eastern section late in the 19th century. It meets National Register criteria A and C 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 six family three decker is one of the earliest three deckers in this section, known as "The Flats", which by the early years of the 20th-century had been densely developed with a variety of three decker types. It is also one of the few well preserved three deckers in the area.

Typical of many three deckers in Southbridge, the galleries of this building are not limited to the main facade. Not only do they stretch across the entire front but they also wrap around part of the sides. These porches, somewhat lacy in appearance with their turned posts stick brackets, and plain square-stick balusters, are the building's major ornamental feature. The use of the exterior porch stairs seen here is common in Southbridge. This detail, which is often seen on three deckers as well as on a variety of other types of residential building here, is believed to be of French Canadian origin.

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

Before the 1880's this section north of the Quinebaug River was almost entirely undeveloped. Even by 1898 there were only scattered clusters of houses in this area. This building and those which stand to its south belonged to one of those clusters. After the enlargement of the American Optical Company factory nearby in 1899-1900, the area developed rapidly, mostly with multifamily dwellings-mainly three deckers.

Prior to the end of the 19th century, many American Optical Company workers had lived in an area limited by Mechanic Street, North Street and Main Street, a neighborhood of single family workers' cottages (see forms #B-220 & #B-246). The increasing population in Southbridge at the end of the century appears to have made multifamily dwellings the more popular form of working class housing. However, further research is necessary to determine what other factors might have influenced the popularity of the three decker in this newly developing neighborhood.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

maps, atlases, directories

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Southbridge MRA
State Worcester County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

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

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Building at 38--42 Worcester Street
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: 89000589

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
___ UTM's ___ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___ sketch maps ___ USGS maps ___ photographs ___ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Building at

38.42 Worcester St., B.247

Southbridge Historical Commission

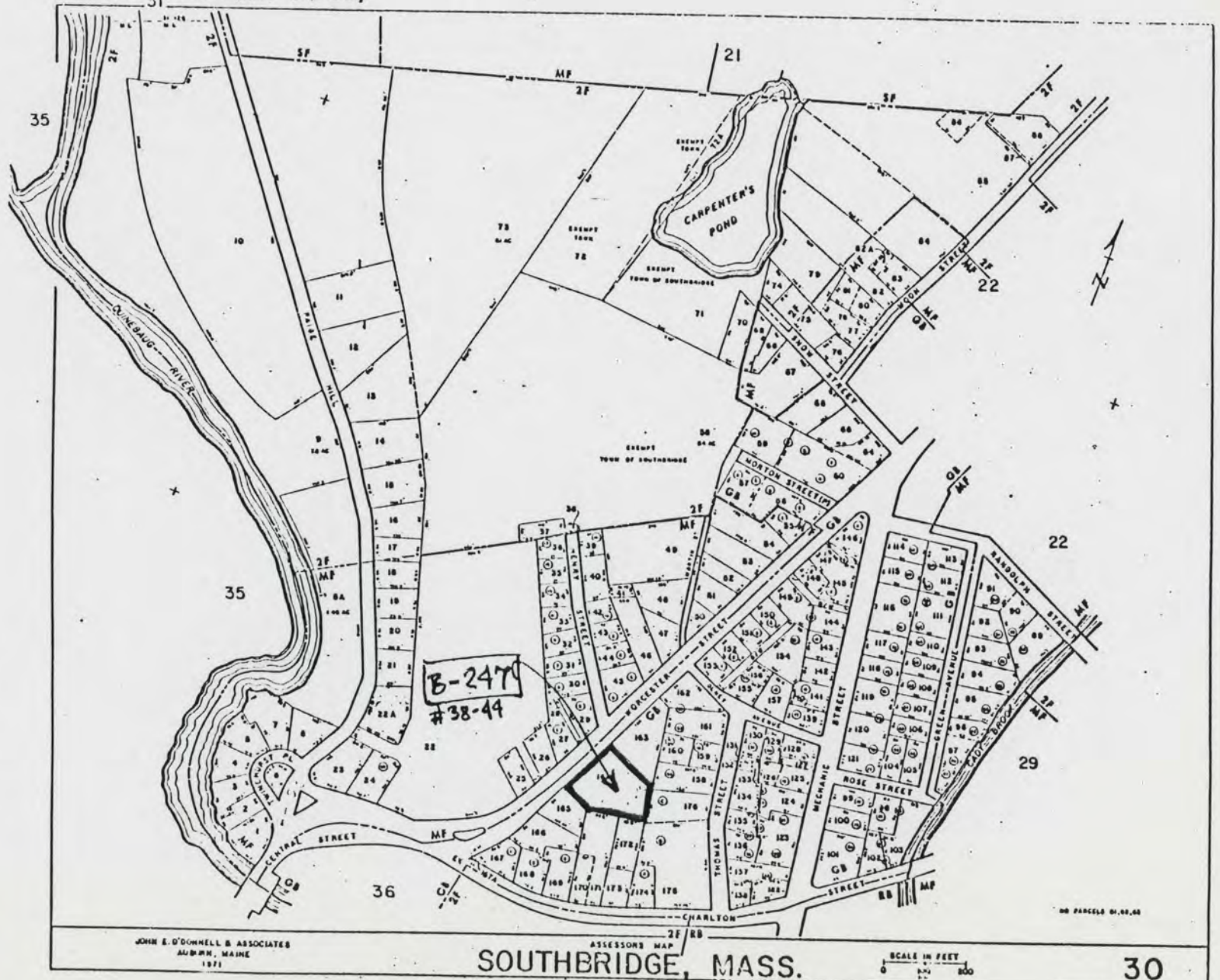
Ceccacci, 1986

Roll #5

Southbridge, MA MRS

38-44 Worcester Street

SOUTHBIDGE MASS.



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000294