

AUG 04 1989

1300

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
	182

Town Somerville
Address 8-10 Walnut Street
Historic Name Somerville Journal Bldg

Use: Present vacant
Original newspaper publishing

DESCRIPTION

Date 1894
Source Samuel's Somerville: Past and Present
Style Renaissance Revival/vernacular commercial
Architect unknown
Exterior Wall Fabric brick
Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) vandalism
1980s

Condition poor-fair

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage less than one acre

Setting West side of Walnut, near
Union Square, residential and
commercial surrounds, vacant lots
also.

Recorded by Gretchen G. Schuler

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date September, 1988

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

See Attached Assessor's Map

UTM REFERENCE 19 327/320 4694/030
USGS QUADRANGLE Boston North
SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Somerville Journal Building is an important commercial building for its association with journalism in Somerville. The building retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship and association, and is architecturally and historically significant. Thus, the Somerville Journal Building fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

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

Significant for its association with the on-going local newspaper that began in 1870, this three-story building is representative of small business blocks built at the end of the 19th century. Constructed on a raised basement separated by a brownstone stringcourse, the building retains its corbelled cornice, the six arcaded second/third story windows of 1/1 sash and a round headed transom, its commercial storefront windows, recessed entrance and sides of eight bays of 6/56 sash with relieving arches.

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

Union Square was a commercial and transportation center of Somerville from the late-19th century and its growth paralleled that of the residential and commercial development of the City. Many early industries were established just south of Union Square and the large farms were located around Union Square for access to the early transportation routes. By the mid 1800s the railroad and horsecar services were available in Union Square and by the 1870s the farms were subdivided and residential development of Prospect Hill was extensive. At that time real estate speculators and prosperous businessmen engaged in the construction of commercial blocks at Union Square.

The Somerville Journal was established in 1870 and located in the Hill Building in Union Square until 1894 when the Somerville Journal Company built this building at the bottom of Walnut Street in Union Square. The building was designed to hold the new equipment including three large fast-running presses, four job presses, and folding, cutting, and mailing machines. At that time the Journal employed fifty persons.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Bromely, G.W. Atlas of the City of Somerville, 1895.
Samuels, Edward A. Somerville: Past and Present, Boston, 1897.

HILLSIDE PARK

GILES PARK

SANBORN AVE

WARREN AVE.

SPRINGVILLE AVE

#182

$$100 = 100$$

Somerville Journal
8-10 Walnut St.
Somerville (MRA). Mass.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

AUG 4 1989

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Somerville MPS
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|--------------|
| 61. Old Cemetery | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 62. Otis--Wyman House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 63. Parker--Burnett House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 64. Prescott, Gustavus G., House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 65. Russell, Philemon, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 66. Russell, Susan, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 67. Schuebeler, Charles, House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 68. Snow, Lemuel, Jr., House | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 69. Somerville High School | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |
| 70. Somerville Journal Building | Entered in the
National Register | for Keeper <u>Albion Byers</u> 9/18/89 | Attest _____ |

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Somerville Journal Building
NAME:

MULTIPLE Somerville MPS
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/04/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/18/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001300

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 9/18/89 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 _____



1. 8-10 Walnut Street
2. Somerville, MA
3. G. Schuler
4. 1988
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking west
Somerville Journal Building
7. # 182
Somerville MA, Ma

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500253