

FORM B - BUILDING

MAY 15 1989

543

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
D	461

750 # 3-28

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 757-761 Main Street

Historic Name Hamilton Millwright/
Agent's House

Use: Present residenceOriginal residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1840Source maps and local historyStyle Federal/Greek RevivalArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric brick

Outbuildings carriage house (ca. 1840's-
1850's) (C)

Major Alterations (with dates) porch on west
side (early-20th c.)

Condition GoodMoved No Date n/aAcreage less than one acre

Setting on rise overlooking mill in 19th-
century residential neighborhood, on edge of
modern commercial area.

Recorded by S. Ceccacci

Organization Southbridge Historical Com-
mission

Date May 1986UTM REFERENCE 18/744 480/4662 695USGS QUADRANGLE Southbridge, Mass-ConnSCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Hamilton Millwright / Agent's House is significant as rare surviving housing of Southbridge's early mill development at Globe Village, meeting National Register criteria A and C at the local level. It retains integrity of 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.

The Hamilton Mill Millwright/Mill Agent's House meets National Register criteria A and C. Setting on a rise overlooking the contemporary 1836 Hamilton Woolen Mill "Big Mill" (form #A-149), this house still preserved much of its original setting, including a fine Greek Revival style carriage house at the rear of the lot. A strong resemblance exists between this house and the Judson-Litchfield House (ca. 1830's) on South Street (form #D-448). Both are of the gable front form and built of brick with granite sills and lintels, having a recessed side hall entrance and a fanlight in the pediment. The Judson-Litchfield recessed entrance is arched giving that house a more strongly Federal style look. The entrances of both houses have multi-divided sidelights and transoms and six-paneled doors. Unlike the house on South Street, the Hamilton Mill house has an ample side ell faced with a porch having a Greek Revival entablature and square Doric posts.

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

This house was probably built about 1840 by the Hamilton Woolen Mill for John Edwards Bacon, the millwright who, "with the agent, Samuel L. Fiske, drew the plans, procured material and erected the big mill, then the largest of its kind in the country, in 1836." Bacon had come to Southbridge in 1827 and had built breast wheels for numerous local mills. A statement in the Quinebaug Historical Society Leaflets #4 suggests that others also lived in the same house with Bacon and his family: "During Mr. Bacon's occupancy of the brick house here at Globe Village, Austin Sumner and William F. McKinstry, who then kept store at the Globe, and Adolphus Merriam and John D. McKinstry, who were in the company's counting room, were members of his family."

By 1855 Hamilton's mill agent, Joshua Ballard, lived in the house. Ballard succeeded Samuel Fiske as agent and served in that capacity during the period which brought the company into its "golden age". For nearly forty years he served the company, first as agent and later as treasurer. According to one source: "he shaped the destinies of Mill and village with skill and wisdom not surpassed by any." He is said to have combined the practical knowledge of a trained workman, the executive ability of a man of affairs and the business method of a financier. Ballard resigned as agent in 1865 to become treasurer of the company. He was succeeded by his brother, Gayton, who served in that position until about 1878.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

maps, atlases

Quinebaug Historical Society Leaflets Vol. II

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

31. Gleason, James, Cottage Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

32. Globe Village Fire House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

33. Glover Street Historic District
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

34. Hamilton Mill Brick House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

35. Hamilton Mill--West Street Factory Housing
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

36. Hamilton Millwright--Agent's House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

37. Hamilton Woolen Company Historic District

Keeper Betty L. Savage 6/22/89

Attest _____

38. Harrington, Theodore, House

Keeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

39. Hartwell, George H., House

Keeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

40. Hartwell, Samuel C., House

Keeper Melrose Byrum 6/22/89

Attest _____

Substantive Review

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Hamilton Millwright--Agent's House

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: 89000543

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 _____



Hamilton Millwright/Agent House, (D-461)
Southbridge MA, ~~MRF~~
Ceccacci, 1986
Southbridge Historical Commission
Roll # 3.28

757 - 761 Main Street

757-761 Main Street

D-461

SOUTHBIDGE MASS
MRA



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000294