

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

JAN 3 1986

AREA	FORM NO.
	2

PHOTO: (3x3" or 3x5", black & white)  
staple to left side of form

Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

**SKETCH MAP**

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.

See attached map.

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg  
Organization Mass. Historical Commission  
Date May 1985

Town Sherborn  
Address 60 Brush Hill Road  
Historic Name Sawin-Bullen-Bullard House

Use: Present Residence  
Original Residence

DESCRIPTION:

Date ca. 1680-1712

Source V/A

Style First Period

Architect N/A

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings Shed, formerly a shop, may date to 18th century; barn ca. 1960

Major alterations (with dates) Greek

Revival entrance enframements added

ca. 1840; rear ell, 19th century; one-story ell on western side, ca. 1950.

Moved No Date N/A

Approx. acreage Less than one acre

Setting The house is situated on a well-maintained lot, surrounded by fields and woods adjacent to Course Brook.

UTM reference: 19 301680 4680940  
scale 1:25,000

(Staple additional sheets here)

Framingham Quadrangle

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

The Sawin-Bullen-Bullard House is a well-preserved example of the transition from First Period to Georgian-style architecture. Unlike many of Sherborn's early structures, the building retains its distinctive First Period profile, one-room deep with integral lean-to, and a massive brick chimney is centered on the ridge. The 2½-story, five-bay house has a central-hall plan and narrow, simply enframed windows. The door surround is a ca. 1840 Greek Revival-style addition, and provides a marked contrast to the rest of the facade. Engaged  
(Cont'd)

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

This First Period structure may have been built by Thomas Sawin, a millwright who settled on Chestnut Brook, now known as Course Brook, in the late 17th century. Sawin held 24 acres and built his first mill on the property in 1679. By the close of the century, Sawin had relocated to South Natick.

The Bullen family, who settled on this property in the early 18th century, may have also erected the nominated building. Their ownership of the house lasted throughout the 18th century.

By the early 1800s, Galem Bullard, a stonemason as well as farmer and "dealer in mortgages" (and a wealthy man), lived in the house. Bullard earned a place in Sherborn's history when he decided, in 1822, to remove a decaying oak tree marked with a "W" that stood on the nearby Sherborn-Framingham town line. The "W" may have stood for the 17th century Wayte Land Grant. Bullard replaced the oak with a seven-foot-long granite stone hauled from his own property and incised with a "W," the date May 29, 1822, and Bullard's name. The so-called W Stone was dedicated in a ceremony that ended in a drunken melee, and is said to have awakened a fervent temperance movement in Sherborn. The W Stone is still standing; it is now within the bounds of the town of Framingham, in an area ceded from Sherborn in 1924.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES** (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

- Research by Margaret Dowse Buntin.  
Anne C. Shaughnessy, A Guide to Sherborn and The History of Sherborn, 1974.  
Maps of 1788, 1875, 1889.  
The Rich Men of Massachusetts, 1852.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Sherborn	Form No: 2
Property Name: Sawin-Bullen-Bullard House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Cont'd)

pilasters support a broad, deep entablature and sidelights flank the door. On the west, rear side of the building, a small single-story ell, gable-roofed, is a twentieth-century addition.

CRITERIA FOR EVALUATION

The Sawin Bullen-Bullard House is a well-preserved example of a residence that still retains its massive First Period form while exhibiting Georgian-style detailing. The house fulfils Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places for its architectural integrity as a transitional house type. As a reflection of Sherborn's earliest development, consisting of scattered settlement along brooks and streams from which evolved productive farms in the 18th and 19th centuries, the structure fulfils Criterion A. As a resource that may in future reveal information on early building practices in a peripheral area of settlement as well as other details of Sherborn's first period of European habitation, the house also meets Criterion D of the National Register. The Sawin-Bullen-Bullard House retains integrity of location, design, setting, materials, feeling, workmanship, and association. Although the total acreage associated with the property is quite large (approximately 34 acres), only the area immediately surrounding the house and outbuildings is being nominated.

MAP KEY

- A = House
- B = Shed
- C = Barn (Non-contributing)

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only  
received 11/20/85  
date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page 3 of 3

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Sherborn Multiple Resource Area  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

21. Sanger, Richard, III, House

Entered in the  
National Register  
Keeper  
Attest

*Selma Byers* 1/3/86

22. Sawin-Bullen-Bullard House

Entered in the  
National Register  
Keeper  
Attest

*Selma Byers* 1/3/86

23. Twitchell, Joseph, House

Entered in the  
National Register  
Keeper  
Attest

*Selma Byers* 1/3/86

24. Vaughn, H. G., House

Entered in the  
National Register  
Keeper  
Attest

*Selma Byers* 1/3/86

25. Ware's Tavern

Entered in the  
National Register  
Keeper  
Attest

*Selma Byers* 1/3/86

26. Woodland Farm-Leland House

Entered in the  
National Register  
Keeper  
Attest

*Selma Byers* 1/3/86

27.

Keeper

Attest

28.

Keeper

Attest

29.

Keeper

Attest

30.

Keeper

Attest

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

86000509

Sawin--Bullen--Bullard House (Sherborn MRA)  
Middlesex County  
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. NOV 20 1985  
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87  
Date Due: 12/19/85 - 1/4/86  
Action:  ACCEPT 1-3-86  
 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	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

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		Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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**8. 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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**9. Major Bibliographical References**

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**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References \_\_\_\_\_

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Verbal boundary description and justification

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**11. Form Prepared By**

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**12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification**

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

\_\_\_\_\_ national    \_\_\_\_\_ state    \_\_\_\_\_ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title \_\_\_\_\_ date \_\_\_\_\_

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**13. Other**

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_



60 Brush Hill Rd.

Sabin - Butler - Bullard House

Sherborn, MA, Ma

1976

JUL.

1970

ge Prints

Berkey

Prestige Prints

by Berkey

$\frac{8}{45.5}$

EASEMENT

EASEMENT

POWER

EDISON

$\frac{16}{3.4}$

$\frac{13}{34.0}$

$\frac{13A}{3.4}$



$\frac{12}{3.5}$

$\frac{27}{1.4}$

$\frac{26}{3.0}$

# 2      60 Brush Hill Rd.  
 Map # 1      Lot # 13  
 1969 Assessors Map  
 Scale 1" = 200'

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000293