

MAY 15 1989

600

Form numbers in this area Area letter

434

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA. 02108

SOUTHBRIDGE MASS
MEA

Town Southbridge

Name of area (if any) High-School Street

District

Present Use: residential neighborhood

General Condition: fair-good

General date or period 1840's-1860's

Acreage: 4.0 acres

Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form

Photo number _____

Sketch map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient)

UTM Reference:

Ⓐ	18 / 744	450 / 4662	610
Ⓑ	18 / 744	405 / 4662	340
Ⓒ	18 / 744	420 / 4662	320
Ⓓ	18 / 744	420 / 4662	280
Ⓔ	18 / 744	400 / 4662	270
Ⓕ	18 / 744	360 / 4662	300
Ⓖ	18 / 744	320 / 4662	460
Ⓗ	18 / 744	340 / 4662	540
Ⓘ	18 / 744	395 / 4662	600

USGS Quadrangle: Southbridge, Mass - Conn.
Scale: 1:25,000

Recorded by E. Woodford, S. Ceccacci

ed. S. Ceccacci

Organization Southbridge Historical Com-
mission

Date May 1986

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Describe physical setting, general character, and architecturally significant structures).

This district includes parts of High and School Streets which are situated on a hillside overlooking the Hamilton Woolen Mill. Containing fourteen mid-19th century one and two family middle class houses and cottages and an early-20th century garage, the area represents the largest and best preserved cluster of mid-19th century dwellings in Southbridge. One-and-a-half to two-and-a-half stories in height, they are mostly Greek Revival in style and built on the popular three bay side entry, gable-front plan. Examples of the Italianate and Victorian vernacular styles can also be seen here. Typical of middle class housing of the 1840's and 1850's, many are ornamented with substantial Classical trim including wide (sometimes paneled) corner pilasters, entablatures, pedimented gables and broad entrances with sidelights and transoms. The area also contains an unusually high percentage of brick houses, when compared to the general housing stock of Southbridge and to other individual Southbridge neighborhoods.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Explain development of area, what caused it, and how it affected community; be specific). (See Continuation Sheet)

The Hamilton Woolen Company owned the land on which this neighborhood was laid out. In the 1840's and 1850's the company sold off house lots here with the provision that the owner build a house with a value of at least one thousand dollars. According to company records, the earliest sale of lots occurred in 1844. These first lots to be sold were on High Street. Numerous other High Street lots were sold in the remaining years of the 1840's. High Street was accepted by the town in 1846 although it had been opened a year or two earlier. The last date for a sale on High Street to be recorded in the 1853 company entry was 1850. Lots were sold on nearby Sayles Street between 1849 and 1852. These records show that many of the original purchasers were Globe Village businessmen (Merriam, Gleason, Alden and A. McKinstry). A comparison of this list with names of area owners shown on the 1855 map suggests that most of these men must have had the houses built and then sold them to others.

The growth of the High-Sayles Street area was part of a great building boom which occurred in Globe Village around the mid-19th century. From a scattering of buildings clustered around the Hamilton Woolen Mill at the intersections of Main, West and Pleasant Streets, in 1830, Globe Village had expanded by 1855 as far as Mill and Cliff Streets on the north and to South Street on the south. In 1850, as the population of the village increased, Hamilton Street was laid out as an easier route to the town center.

The expansion of Globe Village can be attributed to the success of the new delaines cloth, a printed fabric made of a cotton warp and a worsted weft, which the Hamilton Woolen Company began producing in 1844. Up until that time, the company had manufactured only woolen broadcloth. The addition of the new product required the expansion of the physical plant of the mill and of its workforce. Skilled English and Scottish worsted workers, as well as additional American workers, were attracted to the mill and needed places to live nearby in Globe Village. Houses in the High-School and Sayles Street area appear to have been occupied by supervisors, foremen and skilled craftsmen from the mill and by merchants and businessmen as well. Multi-family tenements on West Street (form #D-455) (1831-1855) and others on Mill Street near Cliff Street apparently housed less skilled mill hands during the prosperous pre-Civil War period.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES
maps, atlases, directories
Assessor's Records, Town of Southbridge
Quinebaug Historical Society Leaflets, Vol. II, #12
Amidown, H. Historical Collections, 1874.

2M-6/80

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: MRA	Form No:
Southbridge	D-434
Property Name: High-School Street District	

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (cont'd)

Two brick houses are outstanding in the district, the large gabled block A. Kitching House (56 High Street) and J.M. Clemence House (26 School Street), and the large gable-front J.H. Whiting House (124 High Street). Frame Greek Revival buildings dominate, favoring the gable front form in both the small (64 High Street and 23 School Street) and large (72, 86, and 133 High Street) forms. More unusual variations include the four-bay gable fronts at 80-82 High Street and 112-114 High Street. Each of these is treated with familiar pediment, entablature, and pillaster motifs. The later house is similar in scale and form, ^{it's} a small gable front house with Stick style ornament.

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT

The High-School Street District is significant as an example of new housing types developed in the middle of the 19th - century for the expanding middle class. This land was owned by the nearby Hamilton Wollen Company, and sold to owners with a \$1000, ^{the} minimum house cost requirement. These moderate sized single-family houses took a variety of forms but were primarily Greek Revival in style. It meets National Register criteria ~~A~~ and C at the local level 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, and were drawn to include all of the surviving buildings in this development.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

SOUTHBRIDGE

Form No:

D434

Property Name: *HIGH SCHOOL ST.*

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

56 High St.

82 1/2 86 High St.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

SOUTH BRIDGE

Form No:

D 434

Property Name: *High School H.D.*

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

86 High St

133 High St.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: <u>SOUTHBRIDGE</u>	Form No: <u>D-434</u>
Property Name: <u>High School St. H.D.</u>	

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

23 School St. - High School St H.D.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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

41. High--School Streets Historic District
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

42. Hodgson, William, Two-Family House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

43. House at 18 Walnut Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

44. House at 3 Dean Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

45. House at 34 Benefit Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

46. House at 59--63 Crystal Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

47. House at 64 Main Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

48. House at 70--72 Main Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

49. House at 91 Coombs Street
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

50. Judson--Litchfield House
Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 6/22/89

Attest _____

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY High--School Streets Historic District
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: 89000600

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
☐ UTMs ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



64 High Street,
High School Street District
Southbridge, MA *not*

Ceccacci, 1986

Southbridge Historical Commission
Roll #6



56 High Street

High School Street District

Southbridge, MA ~~NRA~~

Ceccacci 1986

Southbridge Historical Commission

Roll #6



82+86 High Street

High School Street District

Southbridge, MA *not*

Ceccacci, 1986

Southbridge Historical Commission

Roll #6



garage at 86 High Street
High School Street District

Southbridge, MA *MA*

Ceccacci, 1986

Southbridge Historical Commission

Roll #6



133 High Street

High School Street District

Southbridge MA / VRA

Ceccacci, 1986

Southbridge Historical Commission
Roll #6



23 School St,
High. School Street District

Southbridge, MA *MA*

Ceccacci, 1986

Southbridge Historical Commission
Roll #6

D-434



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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000294