

EXP. 10/31/84

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received SEP 21 1982

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Herbert A. Sadler Houseand/or common The Victorian Mansion

2. Location

street & number 574 Newport Avenue N/A not for publicationcity, town Attleboro N/A vicinity of congressional districtstate Massachusetts code 025 county Bristol code 005

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
☐ district	☐ public	☒ occupied	☐ agriculture	☐ museum
☒ building(s)	☒ private	☐ unoccupied	☐ commercial	☐ park
☐ structure	☐ both	☐ work in progress	☐ educational	☐ private residence
☐ site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	☐ entertainment	☐ religious
☐ object	☒ in process	☒ yes: restricted	☐ government	☐ scientific
	☐ being considered	☐ yes: unrestricted	☐ industrial	☐ transportation
		☐ no	☐ military	☒ other: Rest Home

4. Owner of Property

name Hans and Jodi Seidlstreet & number 574 Newport Avecity, town Attleboro N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Registry of Deeds, Bristol County Superior Courtstreet & number Court Streetcity, town Taunton state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Inventory of the Historic Assets of the Commonwealth, # 276 has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☒ nodate 1982 ☐ federal ☒ state ☐ county ☐ localdepository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commissioncity, town Boston state Massachusetts

7. Description

Attleboro, Herbert A. Sadler House

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☒ unaltered
☐ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved

date

N/A

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Sadler House, a Colonial Revival style structure, is situated in the center of an almost square lot, with a broad expanse of lawn fronting on Newport Avenue. An unpaved driveway runs under a porte cochere on the west side of the house to a one-and-a-half story brick and frame garage (now converted into a residence) in the southwest corner of the property. The two-and-a-half story frame house is three bays wide and two bays deep with a raised basement and a hip roof with deep eaves. The basement walls are concrete blocks cast to simulate rock-faced ashlar; the roof is covered with square red asbestos tiles laid in a diamond pattern.

The main (north) facade has a prominent central bay composed of a colossal portico with paired Ionic columns supporting an elliptical pediment. The portico projects from a shallow pavilion framed by fluted Ionic pilasters. The first story of the pavilion, the vestibule, has a panelled frieze with applied plaster urns and stained glass windows framed by pilasters. On the second story, a central doorway with a carved sunburst transom and sidelights forms a palladian motif. Above the portico is a large central dormer with tripartite, 1/1 double hung sash windows. The dormer's gable roof projects as a pediment supported by two pairs of Ionic columns. Within the pediment is a decorative plaster shell flanked by rosettes. The dormers on the east and west sides are treated similarly, although their applied ornament has deteriorated. The southern dormer is plain and has a hip roof. Geometric iron cresting on the roof ridge contrasts in its lightness with the internal chimney on the west slope, built of simulated ashlar blocks and terminating in battlements.

The side bays on the main facade have single, 1/1 double hung sash windows on the first story and single doorways with sidelights on the second story. 1/1 double hung sash windows are used on the other three elevations as well. The house has a plain dentil-lated cornice with a bead molding, supported by fluted Ionic pilasters at the four corners of the house. This type of cornice is used on the portico, dormers and piazza as well.

The bilateral symmetry of the house is offset somewhat by the broad expanse of the two-tiered piazza which extends from the porte cochere on the west across the main facade and ends in a semi-octagonal bay on the east facade. The upper tier of the piazza is supported by fluted Ionic columns used in pair and separately. The balustrade on the lower tier and on the upper tier under the portico has molded railings and colonnettes. On the rest of the upper tier the balusters are squared and the posts supporting the balustrade are topped by urns with finials. Alternating with the sections of balustrade are narrow panels containing sawn intersecting semi-ellipses. The upper tier projects slightly under the portico, supported by a single pair of columns. Surmounting these columns is a wide frieze with decorative garlands.

The interior of the house is laid out along a central hall with a three-quarter turn stairway. On the east side of the hall is a double parlor divided by a screen of Corinthian columns. A like screen frames the hallway as well. On the west side is the dining room, which has a built-in dumb waiter (no longer in operation) with flanking china closets. In the western wall is an elaborate window with two double hung sash windows framing a panelled square, all surmounted by a semi-elliptical stained glass transom. Unlike the hallway and the double parlor, which have painted white woodwork and trim, the dining room has dark brown trim with a simulated wood grain. The same dark color is also used in the den at the end of the central hall. This room has a large ornamental fireplace with green tiles, a columned wooden mantel and a large mirror over the mantel; it also contains a stained glass window in the southern wall and a pressed metal ceiling.

(Cont.)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet Herbert A. Sadler House Item number 7 Page 1

On the east side of the den is the former sewing room, now a bathroom. On the west side is the serving room, which has a separate outside entrance on the southwest corner of the house.

The hall and the main rooms on the first story have elaborate trim. The hall has a cove molding and, below that, a cornice with egg and dart enrichment as well as a meander. The doorways are framed by fluted pilasters and have broad friezes with applied garlands. This trim is repeated inside the rooms and in the second story hall also. There are hardwood parquet floors and several original electric chandeliers, including one in the dining room and another in the parlor. The stairway has turned spiral balusters and carved side panels; its small landing features a panelled bench and a cast iron columnar lamp on the newel post.

The second and third stories are also laid out along a central hall. On the second are two bedrooms on either side and a bathroom at the south end. This bathroom has been enlarged. The third floor has two rooms on a side and one at either end. The basement contains the kitchen, living quarters for the cook, and cellars for the furnace and for storage. The basement has a ground level entrance in the rear and is reached from the first story by a stairway from the lower landing of the main stairs.

There have been a number of alterations to the Sadler House, primarily made to adapt it for use as a rest home and to comply with fire regulations. The open well of the stairway has been closed off between the first and second stories. Similarly, the screen between the double parlors has been filled in to create a full partition with a central doorway. These new partitions have partially obscured the original appearance, but they have not physically altered the historic fabric. There has been one addition, a single story expansion of the second story bathroom, built over the den. Most of the doors on the first and second stories have been replaced with wooden fire doors. On the exterior, the original weatherboard sheathing has been covered with aluminum siding that preserves the 3" exposed width of the original boards. The white frame fire escape on the eastern end of the piazza is a modern addition.

8. Significance

Attleboro, Herbert A. Sadler House

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
☐ prehistoric	☐ archeology-prehistoric	☐ community planning	☐ landscape architecture	☐ religion
☐ 1400-1499	☐ archeology-historic	☐ conservation	☐ law	☐ science
☐ 1500-1599	☐ agriculture	☐ economics	☐ literature	☐ sculpture
☐ 1600-1699	☒ architecture	☐ education	☐ military	☐ social/
☐ 1700-1799	☐ art	☐ engineering	☐ music	☐ humanitarian
☐ 1800-1899	☐ commerce	☐ exploration/settlement	☐ philosophy	☐ theater
☒ 1900-	☐ communications	☒ industry	☐ politics/government	☐ transportation
		☐ invention		☐ other (specify)

Specific dates 1906

Builder/Architect Samuel Fuller

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Herbert A. Sadler house is a fine example of Colonial Revival style architecture and is one of the most prominent residences in the village of South Attleboro. The two-and-a-half story frame house with its giant portico was built in 1906 by Samuel Fuller of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, for Herbert Sadler, the senior partner of Sadler Brothers, one of the oldest and largest industries in South Attleboro. The building has historical significance at the local level for both the landmark qualities of its architecture and as a monument to the prosperity of the South Attleboro jewelry industry at the turn of the century. The house retains integrity of design, materials, workmanship, setting and location; it meets criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

Herbert Austin Sadler, the eldest son of George W. and Melissa Sadler, was born on November 11, 1860, in Mansfield, Massachusetts. In 1863, George Sadler moved with his family to the village of South Attleboro, where he established a small shop on Newport Avenue for the production of jewelry, with Daniel Stanley, then with his brother, Albert Sadler, and finally as the sole proprietor of George W. Sadler and Company, proved to be a successful pioneer in the jewelry business. In 1883, he was one of the leading manufacturers in South Attleboro, employing fifteen hands in the production of gold-plated bracelets.

Upon his father's death in 1884, Herbert Sadler assumed control of the enterprise; he was shortly joined in partnership by his brother, Charles. The third brother, Thomas, who had been apprenticed under Herbert in the family business, replaced Charles after the latter's death in 1889, and remained Herbert's partner for over thirty years. In 1926 Thomas became the full owner of Sadler Brothers, Inc., after buying Herbert's interest in the firm.

In the forty-two years that Herbert Sadler directed Sadler Brothers, their production shifted from gold-plated jewelry to metal and celluloid novelties for the jewelry, millinery and dress trades. The firm's success in these lines enabled an expansion of the plant in the 1890's; in 1915 an entirely new factory was built. The construction of the Herbert Sadler house across the street from the factory was another indication of Sadler's prosperity. The house, which remains one of the most prominent pieces of architecture in South Attleboro, served as an impressive as well as convenient place for receiving and entertaining the firm's clientele.

Herbert Sadler retired from the family business in 1926 and continued to reside in the house on Newport Avenue until his death in 1931. His widow and then his daughter lived there until 1953, when the house was sold and converted into a nursing home. It is presently maintained as a private rest home. Sadler Brothers, Inc. is still in operation and is the oldest family business carrying on in its original location in the town of South Attleboro.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Hurd, D. Hamilton, ed. History of Bristol County, Massachusetts. (Phila., J. W. Lewis & Co., 1883) p.565.
Stone, Orra. History of Massachusetts Industries. (Boston, S. J. Clarke Pub. Co., 1930) vol. 4, pp. 18-19 (cont'd) (See attached sheet)

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1 acre

Quadrangle name Attleboro, Ma.

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

UMT References

A

1	9	3	0	4	7	7	0	4	6	4	3	6	0	0
Zone		Easting				Northing								

C

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E

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G

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B

Zone		Easting				Northing								

D

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F

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification The historic boundaries of the Herbert Sadler house are coterminus with the legal boundaries of Lot 26A, as shown on the City of Attleboro assessor's Plat 65, 1981 (see attached map). The Sadler house/lot (cont'd)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
N/A			

state	code	county	code
-------	------	--------	------

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Wendy Frontiero, Preservation Planner with
Richard E. Greenwood, Historic Preservation Consultant

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date June 30, 1982

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone (617) 727-8470

city or town Boston state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

Valerie Ann Talmage

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission

date September 13, 1982

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for *Delores Byers*
Keeper of the National Register

Entered in the
National Register

date

10/21/82

Attest:

date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

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Continuation sheet

Herbert A. Sadler House

Item number

9,10

Page 1

Item 9 (cont'd)

Staff of the Fall River News and Taunton Gazette. A Descriptive and Biographical Record of Bristol County, Massachusetts. (Boston History Co., Publishers, 1899) pp. 159, 182, 193.

Article on the Sadler House in the Attleboro Sun, 8/21/1953, in the Historic Houses Vertical File, Attleboro Public Library.

Personal Communications from Thomas Sadler, Mrs. Beulah Clark and Mr. Kenneth McNeill, May, June and July, 1981.

Item 10 (cont'd)

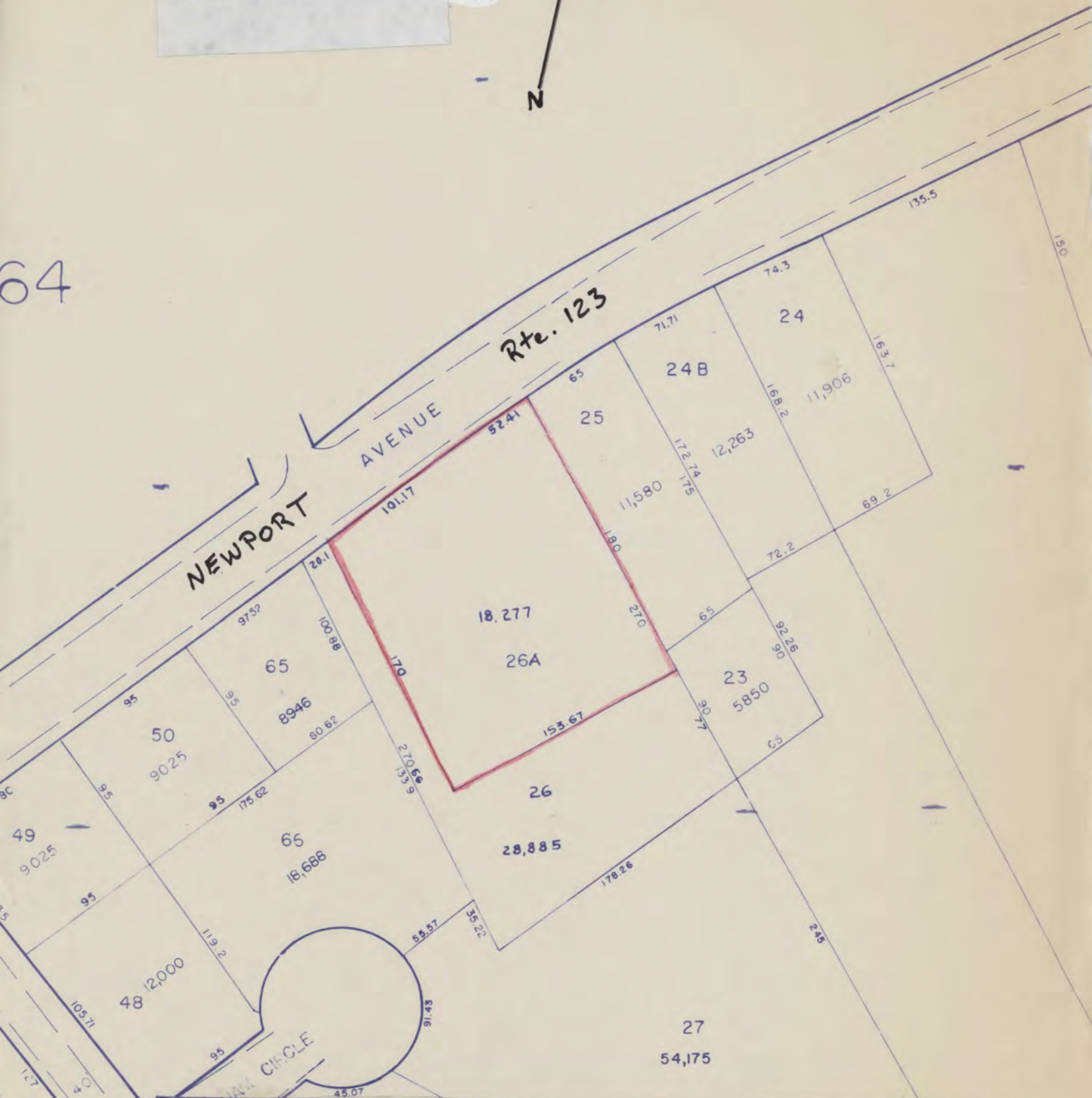
Originally included Lot 26 as well as 26A. When the Seidls purchased the property and converted the garage into a residence, the one lot was divided into two. The garage has lost much of its historical integrity and there are no other features of historical significance on the remainder of Lot 26. With the exception of a fence around the former garage, there is no apparent division between the two lots.

ATTLEBOROUGH, MASS.
Sadler House

574 Newport Avenue

N

64



City of Attleboro

PLAT NO. 65

SCALE 1" = 80'

DATE OF PHOTOGRAPHY: 4-27-64

Revised 1981
DATE OF MAP: 1-1-65

24 A
18 AC

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

EVALUATION / RETURN SHEET

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

Sadler, Herbert A., House
Bristol County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. 9/2/82-2473

Fed. Reg. Date: 2.1.83

Date Due: 11/21/82 - 11/5/82

Action: ☒ ACCEPT 10/21/82

Entered in the ☐ RETURN
National Register ☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

- ☐ 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
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ unaltered	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ altered	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

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

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acres of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UNIT References

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

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 _____

13. Other

- _____ Maps
- _____ Photographs
- _____ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: 202 272-3504

Comments for any item may be continued on an attached sheet



Herbert Sadler House, S Attleboro,
Bristol Cty. , Mass. Photo by Richard
Greenwood, June, 1981. Negative on
file at the Sadler House.
North (front) and west facades.

Photo 1 of 2

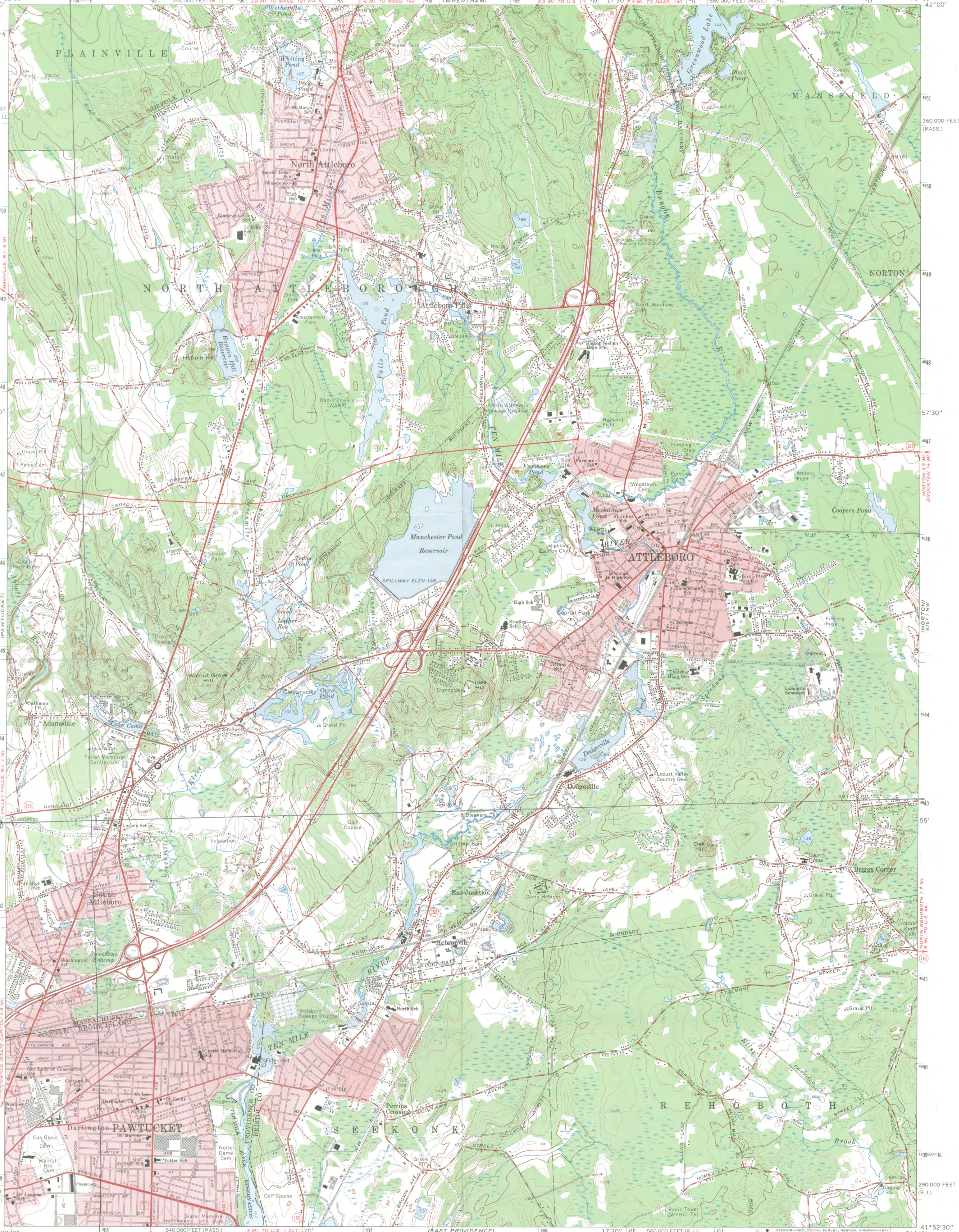


Herbert Sadler House, S. Attleboro,
Bristol Cty., Mass. Owned by Hans &
Jodi Seidl. Photo by Richard Green-
wood, June, 1981. Negative on file at
the Sadler House.

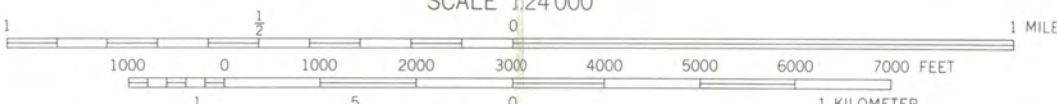
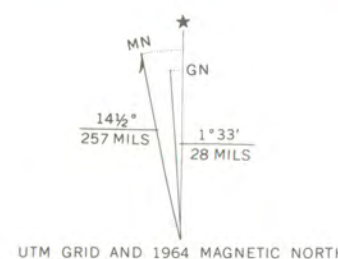
Interior detail: Newel post, lamp and
bench at the first floor landing of
the central stairway.

Photo 2 of 2

ATTLEBOROUGH, MASS.
Sadler House
UTM Reference:
19/304770/4643600



Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Topography by planetable surveys 1935 and 1938-1939
Revised 1964
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grids based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone, and Rhode Island coordinate system
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid ticks,
zone 19, shown in blue
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



ROAD CLASSIFICATION	
Heavy-duty	Light-duty
Medium-duty	Unimproved dirt
Interstate Route	U.S. Route
	State Route

ATTLEBORO, MASS.-R. I.
N4152.5-W7115.7.5

1964

AMS 6767 IV NE-SERIES V814

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

owner yes
RECEIVED
AUG 10 1982
MASS. HIST. COMM.
THE VICTORIAN MANSION



574 NEWPORT AVENUE
SOUTH ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS 02703
TELEPHONE (617) 761-5115

August 6, 1982

Patricia L. Weslowski,
Executive Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, Mass. 02108

RE: Herbert A. Sadler House
Attleboro

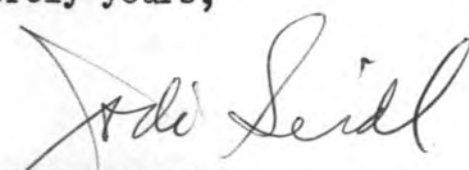
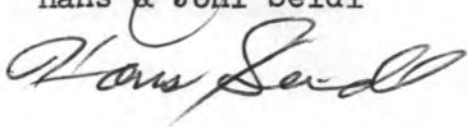
Dear Ms. Weslowski:

We, the owners of The Victorian Mansion, are pleased to be informed that the Herbert A. Sadler House is being considered by the State Review Board for nomination to the National Register of Historical Places.

We concur in listing in accord with the National Historic Preservation Act Amendments of 1980 and Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 60. We certainly do support the nomination of this property to the National Register.

Please send us a copy of the nomination. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,


Hans & Joni Seidl




**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

September 14, 1982

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Washington, D.C. 20243

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

✓ Attleboro:	✓ Herbert A. Sadler House (local)
Boston:	10 Liberty Square Building (local)
Boston:	Wigglesworth Building (local)
Falmouth:	Wood's Hole School (local)
Milford:	Gillon Block (local)

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

Candace Jenkins

Candace Jenkins
Registration Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

CJ/sac

enclosure

