

FORM B - BUILDING

MAY 15 1989

SOUTHBRIDGE MASS

MRA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
A	107

Town SouthbridgeAddress 77 Hamilton StreetHistoric Name Theodore Harrington HouseUse: Present multi-family residentialOriginal residential

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1850Source visual analysis/mapsStyle Greek RevivalArchitect UnknownExterior Wall Fabric asbestos shinglesOutbuildings noneMajor Alterations (with dates) hippeddormers added probably early-20th centuryCondition GoodMoved no Date n/aAcreage less than one acreSetting set back from commerical/residen-
tial streetRecorded by E. Woodford, S. Ceccacci
ed. S. CeccacciOrganization Southbridge Historical Com-
missiDate May 1986

700-1-20

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

UTM REFERENCE 18/745 260/4662 370USGS QUADRANGLE Southbridge, Mass-ConnSCALE 1:25,000

The Theodore Harrington House is significant for its association with Southbridge's Center Village development, with the development of the cutlery industry, and its regionally important gable-front, Greek Revival form. It meets National Register criteria A and C at the local level and retains integrity of location, workmanship, design, 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.

This house is a high quality expression of the typical three bay, side entry, pediment front Greek Revival house that was the most popular New England residential form between 1830 and about 1855. Two-and-a-half stories in height, it features details such as a heavy pediment with internal frieze, an architrave and articulated frieze resting on paneled pilasters with capitals, architrave/cornice window frames and an imposing doorframe with three-quarter side-lights and a transom and an original two vertical-paneled door. Despite the application of synthetic siding, the most distinctive qualities of this handsomely built house remain unchanged.

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

The Theodore Harrington house was among the first houses to have been built on Hamilton Street when it opened in 1850. The new street was first developed near Centre Village with suburban estates of the town's leaders and businessmen. Theodore Harrington, a manufacturer, was a member of the Harrington Cutlery Company, the oldest cutlery manufacturer in Southbridge, then and now.

Born in Southbridge in 1820, Harrington was one of the twelve children of Henry Harrington (d. 1876) and Maria Oaks Harrington, daughter of Ames Oaks. In 1845 he married Lavinia Fitz whose parents were Col. John and Catherine Fitz of Charlton.

Theodore's father, Henry Harrington, established a cutlery business in Southbridge in 1818 which produced cutlery, guns, razors and surgical instruments. Theodore, after having worked for seven years at the United States Armory in Springfield, joined his father's business in 1849. He introduced shoe knives to the company's line of products. Shoe knives were to become a speciality of Harrington Cutlery. The company was prosperous and grew steadily over the years. Its major expansion occurred in the 1880's, contemporaneously with the adoption of the trade name "Dexter" in honor of his brother, Dexter, who was also a member of the firm. In 1899, the company was prosperous, had a reputation for producing "first-class goods" and was selling on domestic and foreign markets. A work force of twenty was employed at that time. By the late-19th century, Harrington Cutlery was one of several cutlery manufacturers operating successfully in Southbridge. In 1933, the Harrington Cutlery Company merged with the John Russell Cutlery Company. Today, Russell Harrington Cutlery is the largest manufacturer of professional cutlery in the United States.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

maps, atlases

Pankiewicz, Philip R., New England Cutlery, Hollytree Publications, 1986, p. 157.

_____, Biographical Review, Vol XXX, Boston, Biographical Review Pub., 1899, p. 1126

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
31. Gleason, James, Cottage Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
32. Globe Village Fire House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
33. Glover Street Historic District Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
34. Hamilton Mill Brick House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
35. Hamilton Mill--West Street Factory Housing Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
36. Hamilton Millwright--Agent's House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
37. Hamilton Woolen Company Historic District Substantive Review	Keeper <u>Betty L. Savage</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
38. Harrington, Theodore, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
39. Hartwell, George H., House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____
40. Hartwell, Samuel C., House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byrum</u> 6/22/89 Attest _____

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Harrington, Theodore, House
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: 89000557

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 _____



77 Hamilton St. (A-107)
Theodore Harrington House
Southbridge, MA 01550

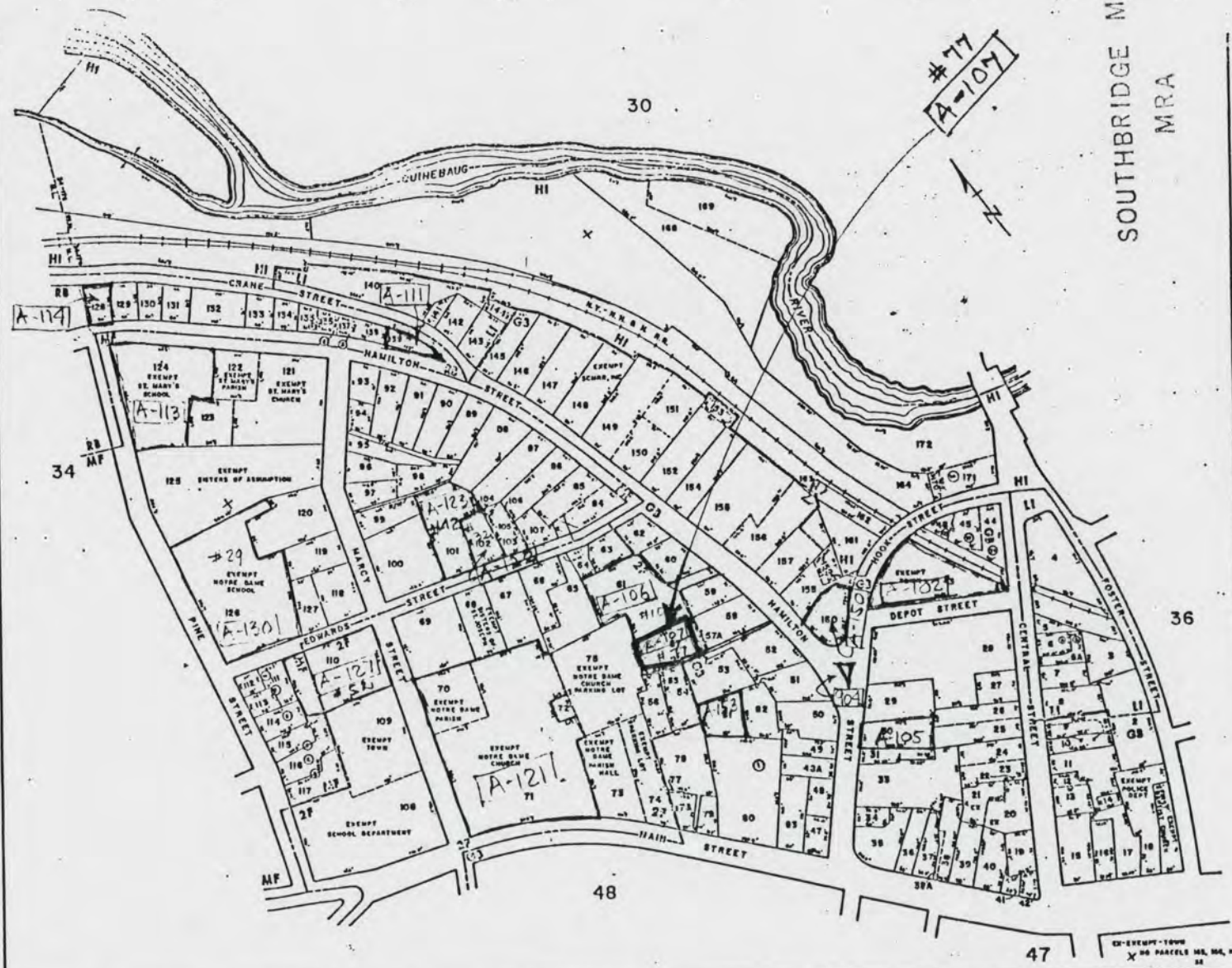
1986

Southbridge Historical Commission
Roll # 1-20

Form # A-107 1986 photo
Southbridge
77 Hamilton Street

Roll # 1-20

SOUTHBRIDGE MASS
MRA



JOHN E. O'DONNELL & ASSOCIATES
AUBURN, MAINE
1971

ASSESSOR'S MAP
SOUTHBRIDGE, MASS.

SCALE IN FEET
0 100 200

35

77 Hamilton Street

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000294