

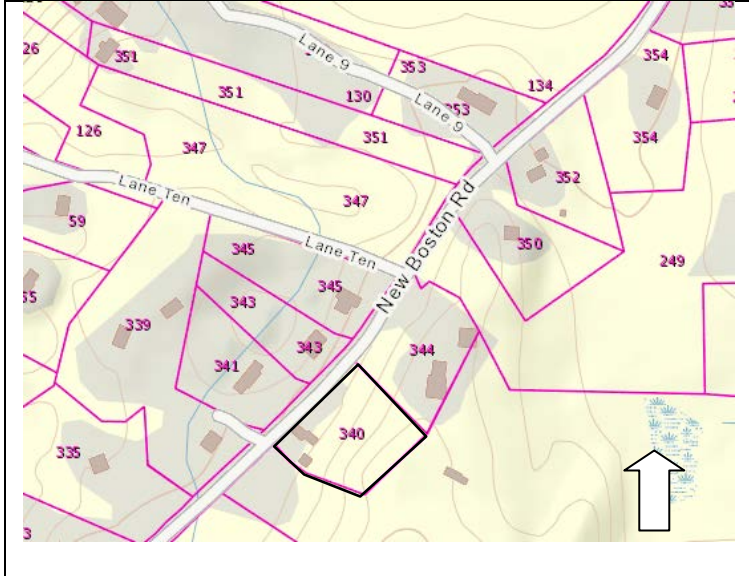
FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

455-00627-340

East
Brookfield

STU.290
STU.291

Town/City: Sturbridge

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Walker Mountain Area

Address: 340 New Boston Road

Historic Name: Hyde Family House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling/Agricultural

Date of Construction: by 1857

Source: 1857 Map, 1861 Deed

Style/Form: Altered

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Clapboard/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
Unknown

Condition: Fair due to alterations

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 1.15 acres

Setting: Residential building is set towards the street at the southwestern corner of a large parcel. The main façade faces south along New Boston Road. Near the intersection of New Boston Road with Lane Ten.

Recorded by: Shannon Walsh, PVPC

Organization: Sturbridge Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): March 2017

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

340 NEW BOSTON ROAD

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The Hyde Family House is a single family dwelling, initially built by the mid-nineteenth century. It has been altered over time and its original architectural style is not apparent but this building provides evidence of the early residential growth and agricultural development along New Boston Road in Sturbridge, near Walker Mountain. It is two stories high and three bays wide by two bays deep with an east/west aligned rectangular plan and a one story rectangular wing off of the eastern side of the main section of the residence. It has a side gable, asphalt shingle roof with minimal to no overhanging eaves. The foundation is stone, the exterior walls are clapboard and there is wood detailing to include corner boards and window casings. The windows are a mix of various styles and appear to be both wood sash and replacement windows. There is an exterior brick chimney on the southwestern corner of the street side elevation and an exterior brick chimney, which appears older, on the rear, northern facing elevation. The eastern wing has an interior chimney along the roof ridge.

The main, southern facing façade has first story 6/6 windows flanking a centered, hipped roof covered entry with elaborate, Victorian style corbels. The second story has two sliding windows, each with paired windows with four divided lights, with the tops touching the roofline. A small, wooden sign which reads, *Sturbridge – MA – 1738* (the year that Sturbridge was founded) is positioned towards the lower southwestern corner of the main façade.

The western facing side elevation first story windows are 6/6 and the second story windows are 8/8, partly set within the gable. This elevation is street side, along New Boston Road, constructed on the edge of a hill and it contains a wooden, board and batten style door which may access a basement or crawl space beneath the house.

A one and a half story ell is at least two bays wide, extends to the east, from the eastern elevation of the main residential section, and has a side gabled roof with an eave return. There is also a one bay wide, shed roof ell connected to the building on the northern elevation of the main section of the residence and the western, gable side of the larger ell.

A one and a half story, front gable garage is southeast of the residence, at the end of a paved drive. It appears to have a wood paneled exterior with wood trim, and a paneled garage bay with eight divided lights in the upper half. There is a 1/1 window set within the gable. East of the residence and garage, the land continues uphill, and has a wooded and rocky terrain.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Early deeds note that this land was formerly known as “the Boyden Place.”¹ The exact identity of B. Hyde, who owned the property by 1857, is unconfirmed. (Figure 1) A Hyde family ancestor, Benjamin Hyde, (probably 1723-1797) is remembered for having “fought in the early wars, [and] served in the Revolution, where five of his sons were soldiers.”² Benjamin was the father of Othneil Hyde (1752-1832).

Farmer Abijah Hyde (1779-1863), Othneil's son and husband of Sally Hyde (1788-1874), is noted to have been granted this property from George B. Hyde (1811-1889).^{3 4} Prior to 1861, this property was also connected to Alvin Hyde (1829-1900),

¹ Deed search for 340 New Boston Road, *Masslandrecords.com*

² “Hyde Family,” *Daughters of the American Revolution Lineage Book*, NSDAR, Volume 103, 1913, *Ancestry.com*

³ “Abijah Hyde,” *Massachusetts State Census*, 1855, *Ancestry.com*

⁴ Book 647, Page 380, *Masslandrecords.com*

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husband of Josephine Hyde (1840-1900).⁵ Alvin is listed as a farmer and appears to reside with Abijah in the 1855 state census.⁶

In 1861, the property was granted to Lewis Upham of Brookfield (not researched) by Alvin Hyde.⁷ (Figure 2)

In 1887, beginning with French Canadian immigrants Desire (1853-1923) and Adelaide Lavergne (born 1858), various members of the Lavergne family were residents of this property, and this family connection continued through the late twentieth century.^{8, 9} (Figure 3) Desire and Adelaide arrived in the United States in 1860 and 1875, respectively, and in the early twentieth century, Desire is noted to work as a farmer.¹⁰

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Ancestry.com (see footnotes)

Masslandrecords.com (see footnotes)

Figure 1: Walling, H.F. *Map of Worcester County*, Boston: Wm. E. Baker, 1857, <https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3763w.la000320/>

Figure 2: Atlas of Worcester County, F. W. Beers & Co. 1870,
<https://www.digitalcommonwealth.org/search/commonwealth:x059cb92c>

Figure 3: Richards, L.J. "Charlton-Sturbridge-Southbridge-Dudley Towns." *Topographical Atlas of the County of Worcester*, 1898. *HistoricMapWorks.com* (site). Accessed on-line October 2017.
<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Atlas.php?cat=Maps&c=US&a=6717>



Photo 1: Southern facing main façade and western side elevation.
Western facing main façade of garage outbuilding.

⁵ Bk 647 Page 380, 1861, *Masslandrecords.com*

⁶ "Alvin Hyde," *Massachusetts State Census*, 1855, *Ancestry.com*

⁷ Book 647, Page 380, 1861. *Masslandrecords.com*

⁸ Book 1245 Page 610, 1887, *Masslandrecords.com*

⁹ Book 02763 Page 0290 pre 1996, *Masslandrecords.com*

¹⁰ "Desire LaVergne," *United States Federal Census*, 1900, *Ancestry.com*

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Photo 2: Western side elevation along New Boston Road



Photo 3: Rear, northern facing elevations of main building and side wing.

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Figure 1: 1857 B. Hyde

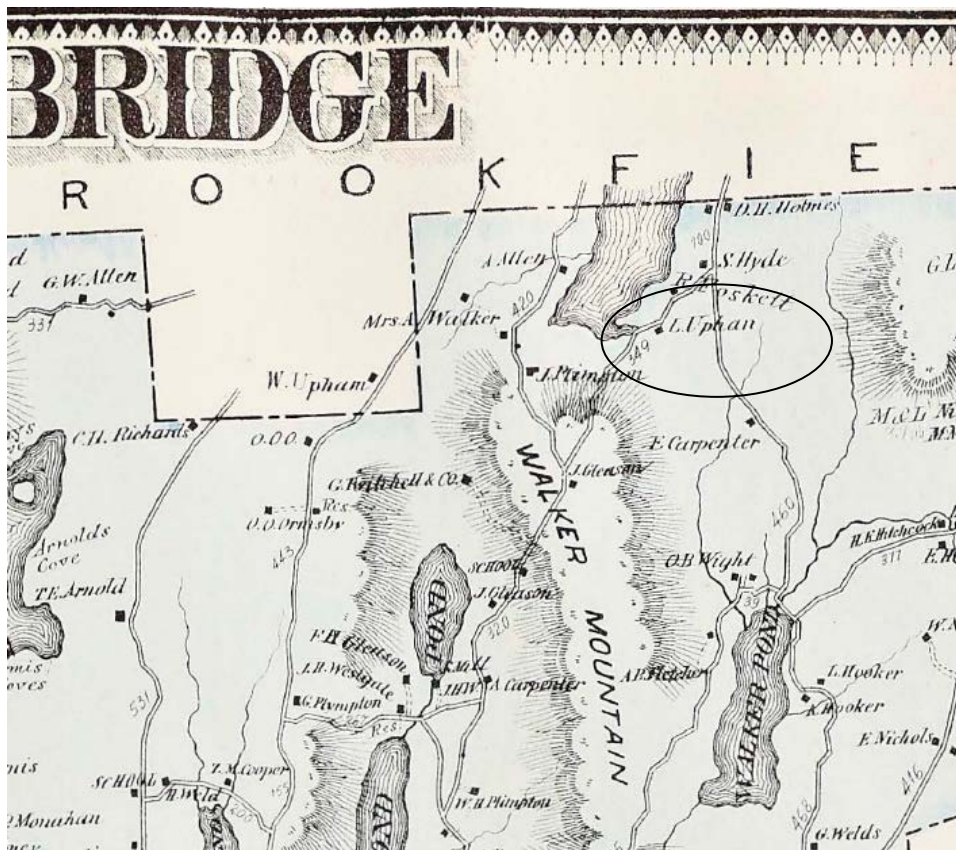


Figure 2: 1870 L. Uphan (Upham on deed)

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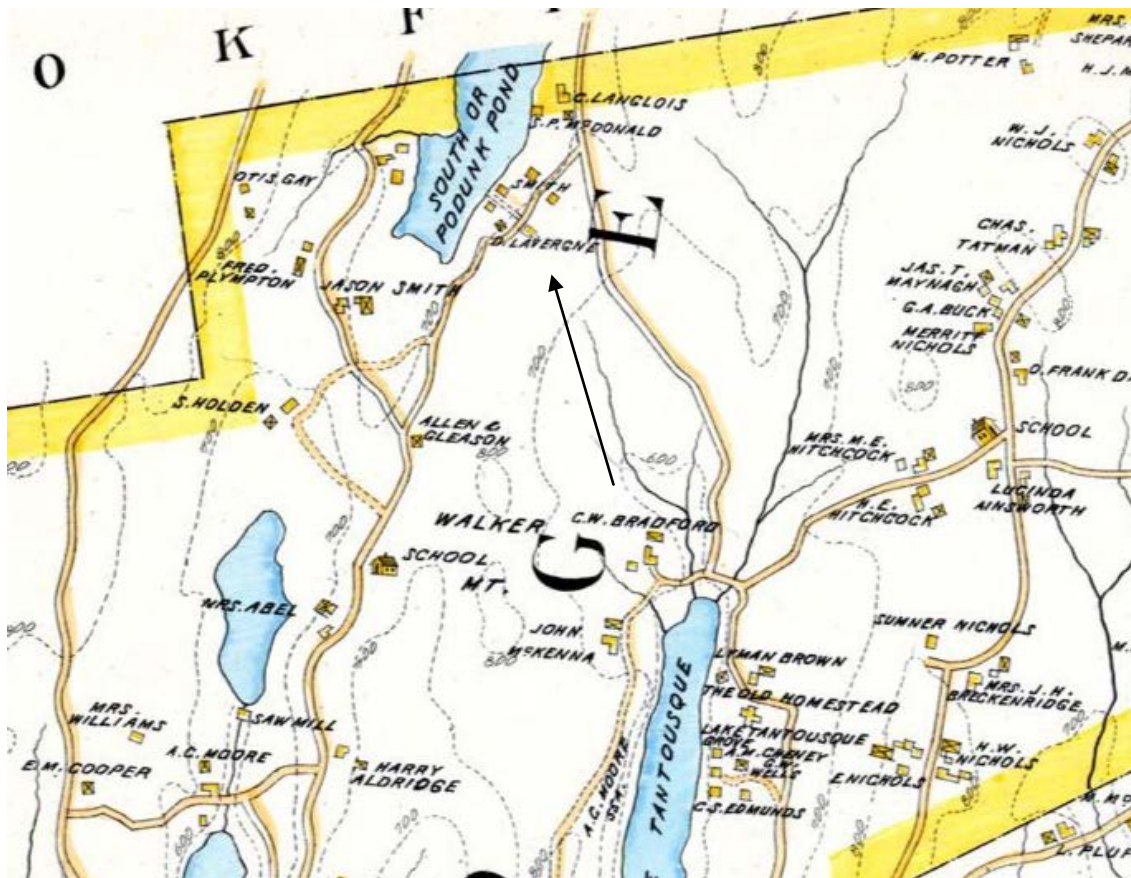


Figure 3: 1898 Desire Lavergne