

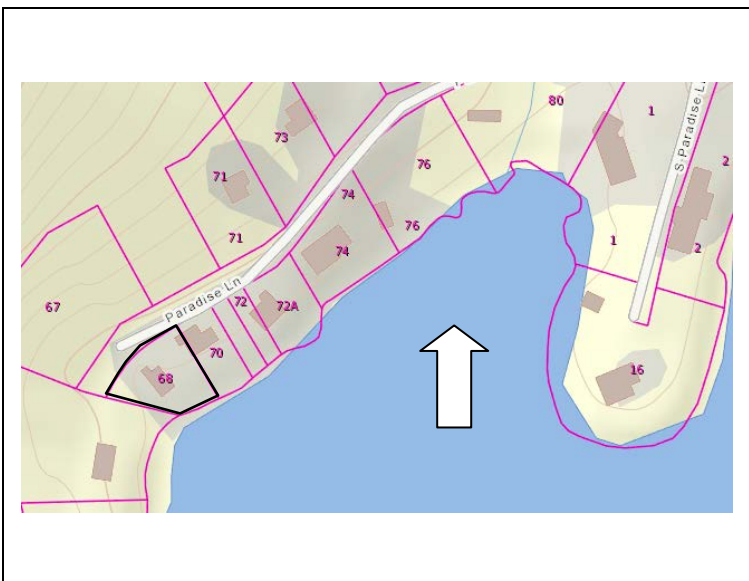
# FORM B – BUILDING

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

## Photograph



## Locus Map



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

505-09E42-068

Warren

STU.293

**Town/City:** Sturbridge

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*): Alum Pond

**Address:** 68 Paradise Lane

**Historic Name:** Alva L. Burroughs House

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

**Date of Construction:** Early to mid-Twentieth Century

**Source:** 1929 Land Plan, 1944 Deed

**Style/Form:** Colonial Revival

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: Raised with concrete footing

Wall/Trim: Clapboard, Wood Shingle/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

### Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

### Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Unknown

**Condition:** Fair

**Moved:** no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

**Acreage:** .25 acres

**Setting:** On northwestern bank of Alum Pond, near the intersection of Paradise Lane with South Paradise Lane. Residential building faces northwest along Paradise, with the water to the southeast.

**Recorded by:** Shannon Walsh, PVPC

**Organization:** Sturbridge Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): March 2017

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

68 PARADISE LANE

## 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 Alva L. Burroughs House, at 68 Paradise Lane, is an example of an early nineteenth century recreational cottage, loosely related to Colonial Revival style and constructed along Alum Pond in Sturbridge. This one and a half story high single family dwelling has a clapboard and wood shingle exterior and wood trim, and a front gable asphalt shingle roof with a minimal eave overhang. It appears to be raised on concrete footings with a small crawl space beneath, with stones set in to block some of the opening. It is three bays wide by three bays deep with a rectangular plan. There is an exterior, stone chimney on the northeastern facing elevation.

The northwestern façade, along Paradise Lane, has a shed roof, enclosed entry ell with a paneled door divided into six upper lights, and a single one light window to the left of the entry. The main section of the building on this façade has a one story 1/1 window and, within the upper half story, there is what appears to be a casement window, with each side divided into eight lights.

The northeastern side elevation has a first story, 1/1 window, as well as the prominent, exterior stone chimney. The southwestern side elevation has a single window on this side of the enclosed entry ell, as well as two, 1/1 windows on the exterior of the main section of the building. The crawl space beneath the building, as well as stones which fill in some of the opening, can be seen from this perspective. There is also another shed roof section off of the waterfront, southeastern elevation, which is not easily visible from Paradise Lane and appears to be enclosed with plastic sheeting.

### 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.*

A late nineteenth century map shows that this section of Alum Pond was not yet developed at that time period. (Figure 1) The area was already utilized for recreation as, "Fed by springs, its clear water abounding in fish, the salubrity of the air and the romantic scenery has given the shores of this pond a local reputation as a camping ground."<sup>1</sup>

By 1929, this property is Lot #44, known as Glendale by the Lake, Big Alum Lake, noted to be connected to Hampden County-based real estate developer Julius Ewig (1884-1940).<sup>2 3</sup> (Figure 2)

Springfield residents, George T. Lemis (born ca. 1883) and Irene B. Lemis (1890-1955), and Robert B. Cowles (born ca. 1895) and Marion W. Cowles (born ca. 1894), owned this property until 1944. It is unknown if there was a building on the site at that time as it is not mentioned in the deed.<sup>4</sup>

Alva L. Burroughs (1899-1954) and his wife, Bertha M. Burroughs (1902-1989), of Springfield, were owners of this property by 1944.<sup>5</sup> Alva was a World War I veteran and machine shop apprentice Foreman at the Springfield Armory at the time of his death, and had been employed there for 20 years.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Duane Hamilton Hurd. *History of Worcester County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of Many of the Pioneers and Prominent Men, Volume 1*. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis & Co., 1889, page 103. *Archive.org*, accessed on-line November 2017, <https://archive.org/details/historyofworcest01hurdd>

<sup>2</sup> Plan Book 58 Page 34, 1929. *Masslandrecords.com*

<sup>3</sup> "Julius Ewig," *United States Federal Census*, 1910. *Ancestry.com*

<sup>4</sup> Book 2926, Page 346, 1944. *Masslandrecords.com*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>6</sup> "Alva Burroughs Dies at Armory." *Springfield Union*, June 25, 1954. *Genealogybank.com*

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## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

*Ancestry.com* (see footnotes)

*Genealogybank.com* (see footnotes)

Hurd, Duane Hamilton. *History of Worcester County, Massachusetts, with Biographical Sketches of Many of the Pioneers and Prominent Men, Volume 1*. Philadelphia: J. W. Lewis & Co., 1889. *Archive.org*, accessed on-line November 2017, <https://archive.org/details/historyofworcest01hurdd>

*Masslandrecords.com* (see footnotes)

Figure 1: 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>

Figure 2: *Worcester District Registry of Deeds* Plan Book 58, Plan 34, 1929. *Masslandrecords.com*



Photo 1: Northwestern facing main façade



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Photo 2: Northwestern façade and northeastern side elevation with stone exterior chimney



Photo 3: Southwestern side elevation



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Photo 4: Streetscape along this section of Paradise Lane, camera facing northeast

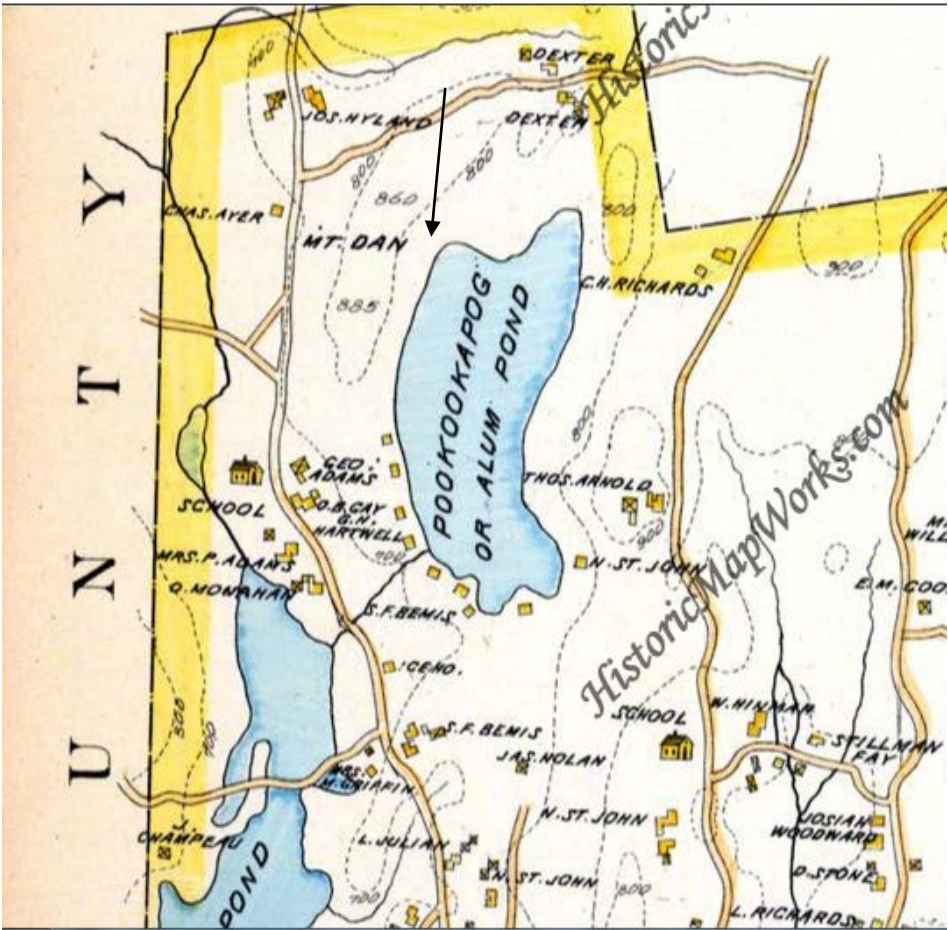


Figure 1: Area is undeveloped by 1898 – arrow shows future location of 68 Paradise Lane

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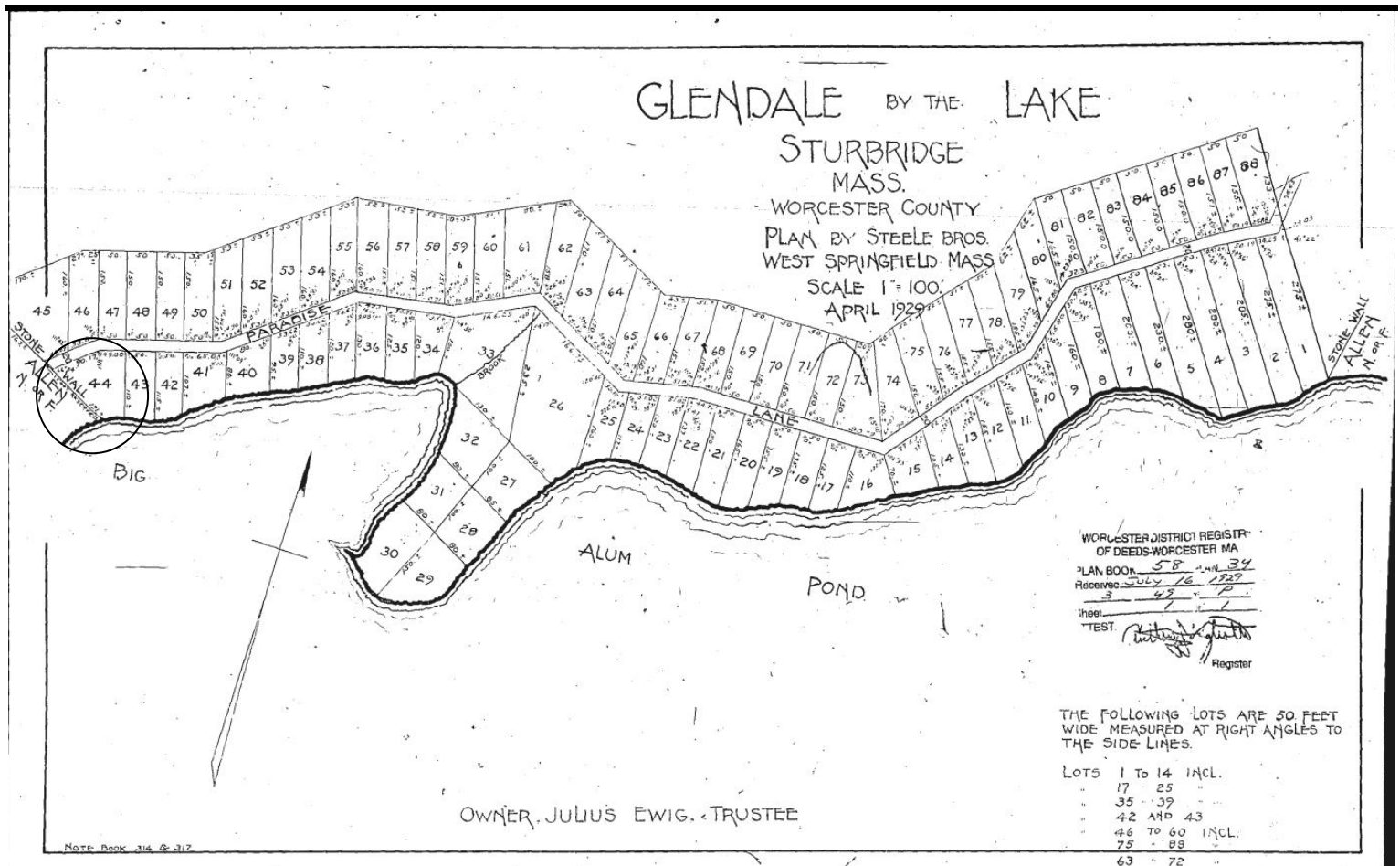


Figure 2: 1929 Plan, Lot 44 (circled)