

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

552-04456-531

Southbridge

STU.301
STU.302

Town/City: Sturbridge

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Leadmine Pond Area

Photograph



Address: 531 Route 15

Historic Name: Samuel Thompson House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling/Agricultural

Date of Construction: possibly by 1857 to end of 19th c.

Source: 1857 Map, Deed Research

Style/Form: Altered

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Vinyl Siding, Stone/ Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Vinyl Siding (date unknown)

Replacement Windows (date unknown)

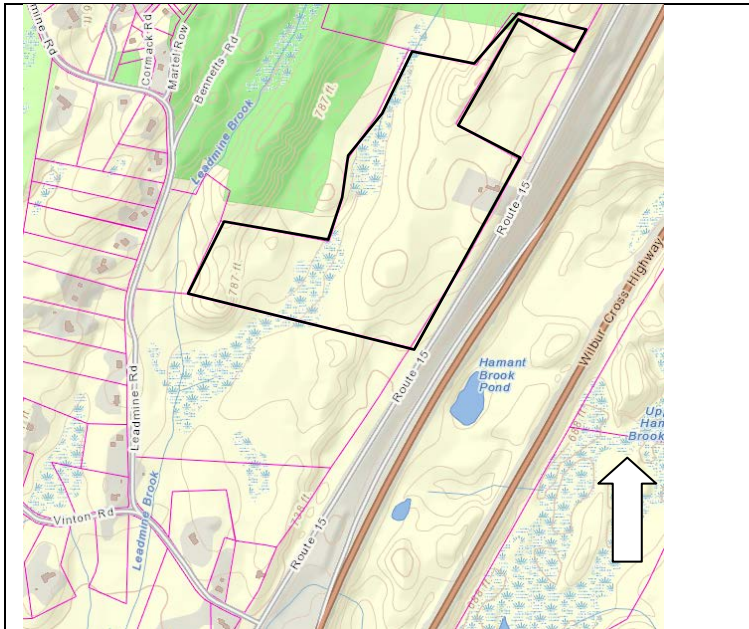
Condition: Fair

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 73 acres

Setting: Very large, irregularly shaped parcel with residential building and garage facing east along Route 15. Near the intersection of Route 15 with Leadmine Road and parallel to Interstate 84.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Shannon Walsh, PVPC

Organization: Sturbridge Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): March 2017

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

531 ROUTE 15

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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 Samuel Thompson House, at 531 Route 15, is an example of a single family dwelling which was constructed between the mid-to late nineteenth century, with later alterations, and provides evidence of the residential and agricultural growth and development near Leadmine Pond in Sturbridge. This building is seven bays wide by two bays deep with a north/south aligned rectangular plan. It is one and a half stories high with a stone foundation, vinyl siding, and some wood trim. It has a side gabled, asphalt shingle roof with overhanging eaves and eave returns on the gable ends. There is an interior chimney set slightly off-center along the roof ridge.

The main, eastern facing façade has stone on the lower half of a shed roof enclosed addition which runs the length of this elevation. There are steps which lead to a paneled door with nine upper lights and there are three, 6/6 windows on either side of the entry, for a total of six windows. A cross gable wing with an east/west aligned rectangular plan is off of the western rear elevation.

A north/south aligned rectangular plan outbuilding, identified as a garage, is four bays wide and has a side gable, asphalt shingle roof and is positioned to the southwest of the main residence. The exterior is clapboard with wood trim. Four windows on the eastern elevation are each 6/6.

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.

This property was connected to the Thompson family from at least the mid-nineteenth century through the late twentieth century. Preliminary deed research found that an early owner was farmer Samuel Thompson (1783-1869), who was married to Dolly S. Thompson (1781-1854).¹ (Figure 1) In 1869, the property was passed on to their son, farmer Samuel L. Thompson (1824-1893) and their daughter, Ruth C. Thompson (1818-1887) who had both been living with their father since at least 1865.^{2 3} At the time, Ruth was working as a teacher.⁴ (Figures 1 and 2)

The land was later divided into two tracts and in 1891, the "farm with buildings" was passed on to Sarah E. Thompson (1858-1933), wife of Samuel R. Thompson (1854-1919), (married in 1877), and then a second tract was added in 1892.⁵ Samuel R. was the son of Daniel C. Thompson (1814-1888) and Amanda E. Thompson (1818-1891), and was Samuel and Dolly's grandson and Samuel L. and Ruth C.'s nephew.⁶ (Figure 2) The rear, east/west aligned ell may have been constructed by 1898. (Figure 3) Barn outbuildings are also shown on the 1898 map, which may be related to the current garage. (Photo 2, Figure 3)

Farmer Wilse Willey Hubbell (1881-1942) and his wife Amanda E. Hubbell (1891-1971) were the next residents. Amanda was a daughter of Sarah E. and Samuel R. Thompson. The property was later passed on through Amanda's estate, through their daughter, book keeper Eunice M. Hubbell (1912-1954).

Wilse and Amanda's younger daughter, Doris E Barrett (1912-2005), owned the house up until the early 1990s.⁷

¹ Book 686 Page 194, *Masslandrecords.com*

² Book 805 Page 25, 1869. *Masslandrecords.com*

³ "Samuel L. Thompson," *Massachusetts State Census*, 1865. *Ancestry.com*

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Book 1359, Page 492 (1891) and Book 1682, Page 199 (1892), *Masslandrecords.com*

⁶ "Samuel R. Thompson," *Findagrave.com*

⁷ Book 08323 Page 0085, *Masslandrecords.com*

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BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Ancestry.com (see footnotes)

FindaGrave.com

Masslandrecords.com (see footnotes)

Worcester District Registry of Deeds (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: L. J. Richards & Co. "Charlton & Dudley & Southbridge & Sturbridge." Plate 021, *New Topographical Atlas of Worcester County Massachusetts*. 1898. *HistoricMapWorks.com* (site). Accessed on-line October 2017.
<http://www.historicmapworks.com/Atlas.php?cat=Maps&c=US&a=6717>



Photo 1: Eastern facing main façade

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Photo 2: Eastern elevation of outbuilding

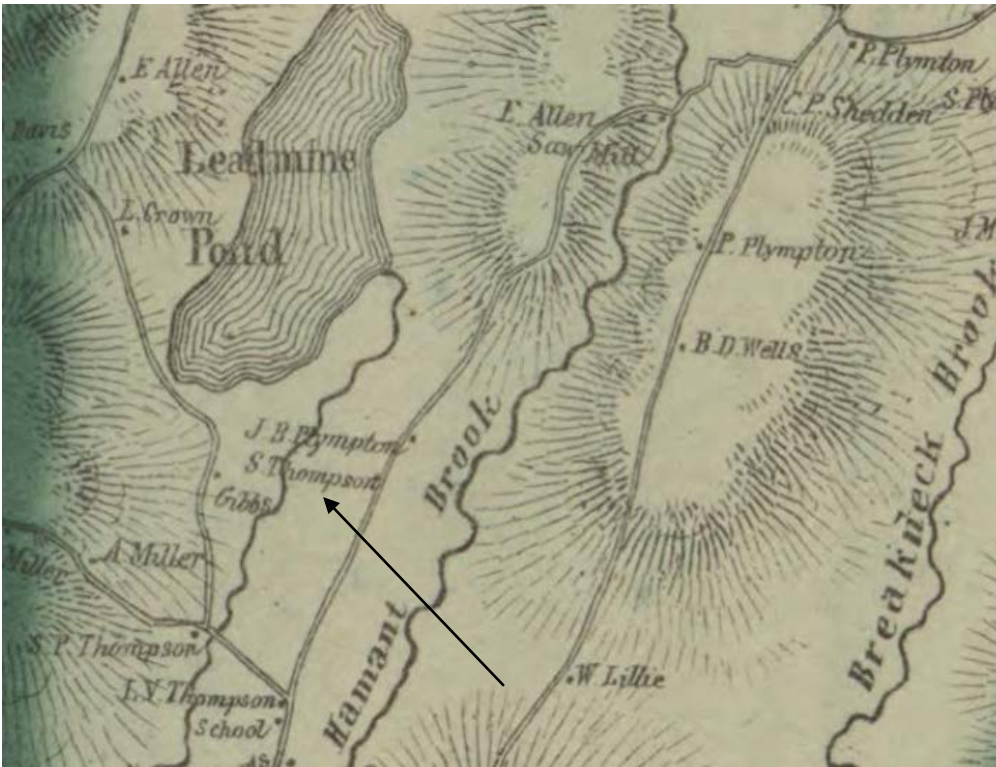


Figure 1: 1857 Map, Samuel Thompson property

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Figure 2: 1870 Samuel L. and Ruth C. Thompson property

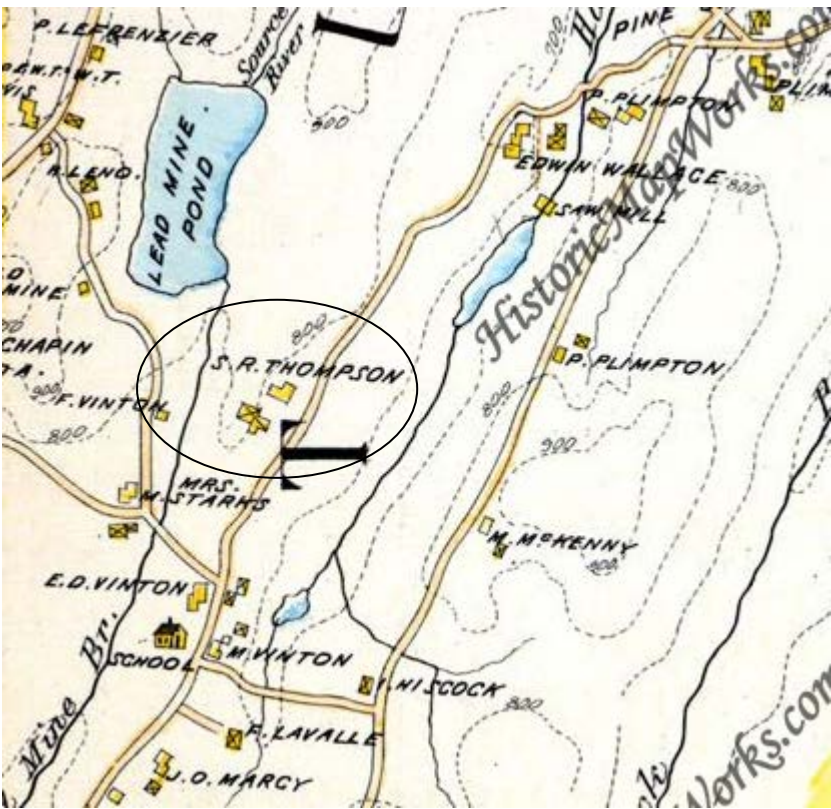


Figure 3: 1898 Map (Samuel R. Thompson) showing property and barns, which have a different configuration than the current garage outbuilding, but may be related.