

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

415-02924-267 Southbridge STU.A STU.32  
NRDIS 11/9/1977

**Town/City:** Sturbridge

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*): Sturbridge Center

## Photograph



**Address:** 267 Main Street

**Historic Name:**

**Uses:** Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

**Date of Construction:** 1829–1844

**Source:** Levine 1971; WCRD 394/143(1844)

**Style/Form:** No Style

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle/Wood Trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** Modern shed

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): Side-ell second story, ca. 1900; rear addition, mid-20<sup>th</sup> c.; window opening alterations, 20<sup>th</sup> c.; vinyl windows, late 20<sup>th</sup> c.

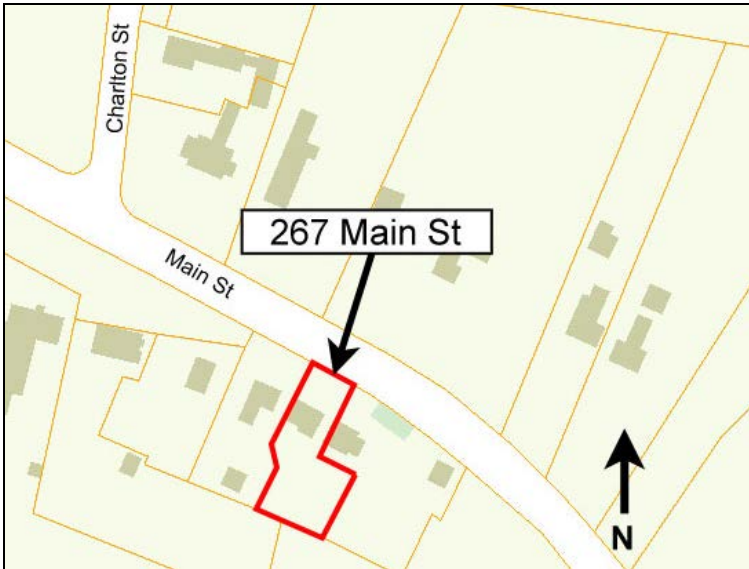
**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** .26 acres

**Setting:** The building occupies a narrow, roughly L-shaped lot on the south side of Main Street, southeast of the Town Common. It is set slightly back from the road, and the parcel slopes down to the south. A gravel driveway on the east side of the house runs from the road to the south end of the property. A dry-laid stone retaining wall at the east side of the house borders the driveway and front lawn.

## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** L. Kline, G. Pineo, E. Giacomarra; PAL

**Organization:** Sturbridge Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): May 2018

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

STURBRIDGE

267 MAIN STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

STU.A

STU.32

 Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

267 Main Street (1829–1844, STU.32) is a north-facing, astylistic, two-story, five-bay-by-one-bay, L-shaped, wood-frame building with a two-story, one-bay, shed-roof addition on the south elevation. The house has a cross-gable roof covered with asphalt shingles and pierced by a brick chimney. The foundation under the original house is not visible, but the addition has a concrete block foundation. The walls of the original house are clad with wood shingles, and those of the addition are clad with wood clapboards. The main entrance in the center of the north (facade) elevation has simple wood surrounds and a shallow awning with a dentiled cornice. The main door is modern and is protected by a metal storm door. Fenestration throughout the building consists of one-over-one, double-hung vinyl replacement sash.

## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The house at 267 Main Street (1829–1844, STU.32) is in the center of Sturbridge, southeast of the Sturbridge Town Common. The area was settled ca. 1725 by residents of Medfield, and Sturbridge was incorporated as a town in 1738 (MHC 1984:3–4).

The property was first occupied by a mechanic shop, likely constructed by or for Hiram Wheelock before 1825 (WCRD 242/382). Deeds through 1829 note the existence of a mechanic shop on the property, which was partially occupied by William Bullock in 1827 (WCRD 256/454; 267/62). By 1844, the property included a house, likely constructed between 1829 and 1844 by or for trader Eli Wheelock or farmer Waterman Potter (WCRD 267/62, 394/143).

In 1844, Potter and other members of his family sold the property to widow Hepzibah Fuller (1805–1851) (WCRD 394/143). Fuller occupied the property until her death, when the executors of her will sold it to shoemaker Charles Mason (b. 1815) (WCRD 521/481). Mason and his wife Sarah lived at the property with their two children for less than ten years, selling the property to painter Lotson S. Hamant in 1856 (WCRD 555/567). Hamant, in turn, sold the property to Nelson Bennet in 1857 (WCRD 575/140). Bennett may have used the property as a rental, as his 1863 deed of sale to Dwight Whittemore makes reference to a tenant, Charles McFillery (WCRD 670/341). Walter Miller purchased the property from Dwight Whittemore in 1865 (WCRD 701/515).

John C. Miller acquired the property from Walter Miller in 1871 and died unmarried in 1878 (WCRD 853/338). His real estate holdings were auctioned, and his sister Elizabeth Crooker (1825–1908) was the highest bidder at \$25 (WCRD 1059/270). Elizabeth and her husband Harrison (1824–1901) lived in West Boylston, Massachusetts, and may have used the Sturbridge property for rental income. The property passed via probate from Elizabeth to Alice Smith, likely Elizabeth's daughter, and then to Alice's husband, John Nelson Smith (WCRD 3813/392). In 1920, John worked as a box maker and lived at the property with Alice; their son Harold, a clerk in a knife shop; John's cousin, Ira Brown, also employed at a knife shop; and Brown's wife, Carrie (US Census 1920). In 1956, the property was sold to Paul and Jane Corriveau, who owned it until 1977, when it was sold to the current owners, Timony and Diane Bardsley (WCRD 3813/392, 6277/342).

The house at 267 Main Street was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 9, 1977, as part of the Sturbridge Common Historic District.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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STURBRIDGE

267 MAIN STREET

**MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

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