

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

415-02434-454

Southbridge

STU.C

STU.106

Town/City: Sturbridge

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Snellville

Photograph



Address: 454 Main Street

Historic Name: Livingston Shumway House

Uses: Present: General Retail Store

Original: Single Family Dwelling; Multiple Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1846

Source: WCRD 413/99 (1846)

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Stone

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboard/ Wood Trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Attached barn

Major Alterations (*with dates*): conversion to multiple apartments, by 1973; addition of retail units, by 1999; vinyl windows, late 20th century

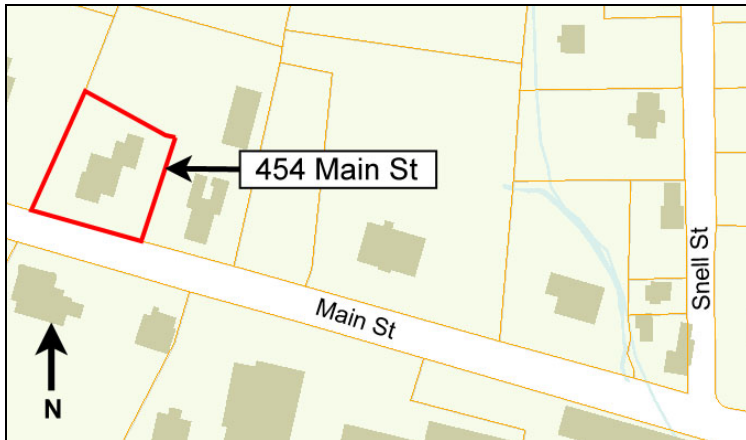
Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .53 acre

Setting: The building occupies a square-shaped lot on the north side of Main Street. It is set back from the street atop a small incline in a mixed-use area in Snellville. The lot is mostly paved, and a U-shaped driveway curves around the house providing parking. A small curved stone retaining wall is at the southeast corner of the property.

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

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

STURBRIDGE

454 MAIN STREET

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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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

The Livingston Shumway House (ca. 1846, STU.106) is a south-facing, Greek Revival-style, two-and-one-half-story, three-bay side-hall plan, wood-frame building with a cross-gable roof and a stone foundation. Two-story ells project from the north and east elevations. A side-gable barn is attached to the north elevation of the north ell. A brick chimney pierces the north ell's roof. The walls are clad with wood clapboards, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. The south (facade) elevation of the main house has square corner pilasters. A wrap-around porch supported by square wood posts with scrollwork brackets encloses the south half of the main block and the south elevation of the east ell. The original main entrance is in the east bay of the south elevation and consists of a nine-light, multi-panel door flanked by multi-light sidelights and a wide wood surround. Secondary entrances are in the west bay of the south elevation of the east ell and in the west bay of the barn. The barn entrance is protected by a shed-roof entry porch. A two-story bay window in the east elevation of the east ell has rectangular panels with scrollwork between the stories. A modern oriel window is north of the two-story bay window. Fenestration consists of one-over-one, double-hung vinyl sash; casement windows; and an original six-over-six, double-hung wood-frame window in the gable peak of the south elevation.

The property was converted into multiple apartments by 1973, with retail space added by 1999. It is currently in retail use only.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The Livingston Shumway House (ca. 1846, STU.106) is in the west part of the village of Snellville in the town of Sturbridge. Sturbridge was settled ca. 1725 by residents of Medfield and was incorporated as a town in 1738 (MHC 1984:3–4).

The Shumway House is believed to have been constructed about 1846 for farmer Livingston Shumway (1796–1874). Shumway was briefly a partner in the Wight mills (see Wight-Snell Manufacturing Area, STU.N for more information). He purchased the property from Alpheus Wight in 1846 and lived at the property until his death (WCRD 413/99). Shumway married four times (all his wives predeceased him) and fathered seven children, only two of whom reached adulthood (Find A Grave 2015). After his death, his oldest daughter, Catherine, sold the property to Lydia Bond, wife of Rufus Bond (WCRD 1102/121). Prior to owning the Shumway property, the Bonds lived in Orange, Massachusetts, northwest of Sturbridge (US Census 1880). By 1893, George Kay owned the property, which consisted of a building matching the footprint of the current building and an outbuilding to the northwest (WCRD 1413/237; Richards 1898). Kay, an English immigrant, was a forger at the nearby Snell auger shop and lived at the property with his second wife, Annie (née Holmes), and their three children (US Census 1900).

In 1934, the property was sold to Scottish immigrant John W. Anderson (WCRD 2604/195). Anderson, a bookkeeper at the auger shop, came to the United States in 1910 and in 1930 lived in a rented house in Sturbridge with his wife Elizabeth, who arrived from Scotland in 1929 (US Census 1930). The Andersons owned the subject property until 1964, when they sold it to Ellis Smith (WCRD 4447/475). Smith and his wife Barbara owned the property until 2003 and appear to have converted the house into apartments by 1973. Retail businesses also occupied the building as well by 1999. The Smiths sold the property in 2003 to ATM Associates, who sold it to the current owner, Garieri Properties LLC, in 2013 (WCRD 32559/356, WCRD 51856/379).

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454 MAIN STREET

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PHOTOGRAPH



Photo 2. Livingston Shumway House, 454 Main Street, looking northwest.