

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No: SBR.297
Historic Name: Leland, Charles House
Common Name:
Address: 130 Main St
City/Town: Southborough
Village/Neighborhood:
Local No: 52-5
Year Constructed:
Architect(s):
Architectural Style(s): Craftsman
Use(s): Agricultural; Dairy; Horse Or Cattle Farm; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance: Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):
Designation(s):
Building Materials(s): Roof: Asphalt Shingle
Wall: Stucco; Wood Flushboard; Wood
Foundation: Stone, Uncut; Concrete Unspecified



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

52-5

Marlborough

297; 298

Town Southborough

Neighborhood (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 130 Main Street

Historic Name Charles and Margaret Leland House

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

Date of Construction 1906-1908

Source deeds; assessor's records; visual assessment

Style/Form Arts and Crafts

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation rubble

Wall/Trim stucco

Roof asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

#298: hip-roofed, clapboarded garage--ca. 1915; shed

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition excellent

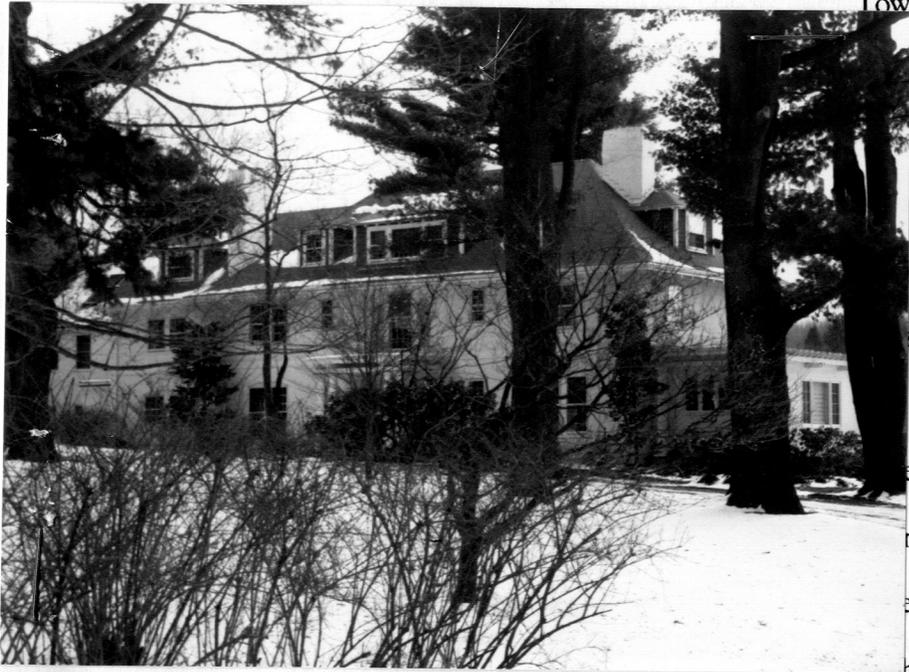
Moved [x]no [] yes Date N/A

Acreage 5.86 acres

Setting S. side of Main St. on large lot backing

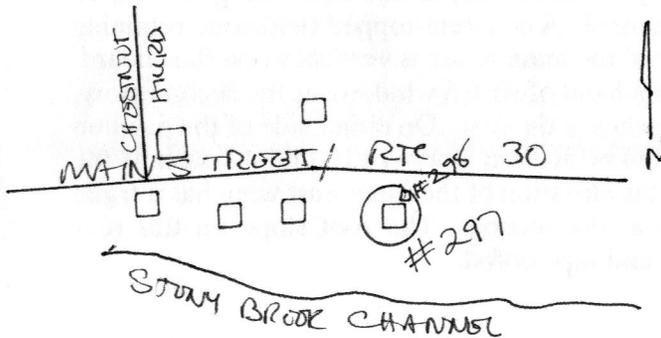
up to Stony Brook channel of Wachusett Aqueduct.

Fieldstone wall across front; mature evergreens.



Sketch Map

Draw a map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets, including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.



Recorded by Forbes/Schuler, consultants

RECEIVED

Organization Southborough Historical Commission

Date JUL 03 2000 January/April 2000

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION [] *see continuation sheet*

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

This large two-story hip-roofed stucco house is set back from the main road at the end of a curved drive in a manner that was fashionable in the first decades of this century. Generally in the Arts and Crafts mode, it is a simply-detailed, yet expansive and comfortable dwelling highlighted with references to both the Chinese influence popular at the time and the more formal aspects of the Colonial Revival.

The arrangement of the 9-bay main facade is asymmetrical, displaying a variety of double-hung windows which range from small 6-over-6's to paired 9-over-9-sash in blind segmental arches (at each end of the first story), larger 6-over-6-sash at the second story, and a large tripartite window over the main entry, composed of an 8-over-12-sash and a pair of 8-pane sidelights.

The large 6-panel entry door is also flanked by large-scale 8-pane sidelights. Its wide, paneled surround features recessed-panel pilasters, volutes on either side of the door, and a classically-detailed entablature with a wide frieze with architrave molding, a course of dentils, and a molded cornice. Fronting the entry is a wide canopy supported at the corners by paired unfluted columns with widely flaring capitals. Their somewhat oriental quality is complemented by the canopy's simple cornice, which has decorative exposed rafter ends that extend out pergola-fashion. The column- and cornice detailing is repeated in the trim around a one-story flat-roofed den or sunroom (apparently a former porch), which abuts the west end of the main house.

While molded wooden band- and string coursing animates the wall surfaces between stories, the main focal point of the house is the high, complex roof, presently clad in bright green asphalt shingle. Its deeply overhanging eaves are slightly flared, revealing large exposed rafter ends, and supported on large, simple corner brackets. The upper roof planes are broken up by a variety of dormers and chimneys. There is a wide shed-roofed dormer over the center facade with three multi-paned windows, and hip-roofed dormers are positioned beside it on the main front roof, on the east wing, and on the main west slope. In addition to the chimney in the east wing, another large stuccoed chimney rises from the rear roof slope, and a third is crowded above the dormer on the west slope.

The building has a succession of two 2-story east wings. The inner one has a high side-gabled roof. Its facade has a paired window set into a segmental-arched opening above a board-and-batten wood panel. At the far east end, attached via a narrow 2-story hyphen-like section is a later wing, three bays long on the front, with a concrete or parged foundation. Its windows are 6-over-6-sash; its west portion is fronted by a square, flat-roofed, windowless ell. Beside it to the east is a recessed entry under a flat-roofed canopy supported at the outer corner on a wide, square, stuccoed post.

Like many country houses of its era, this building has a major rear facade, in this case facing south over a terrace down a slope that descends to the Stony Brook channel. A concrete-topped fieldstone retaining wall supports the terrace. The cladding of the south facade of the main house is vertical wood flushboard. This section is faced with a flat-roofed center pavilion with a band of six 6/6 windows at the second story, and three double modern glass doors set into keystoned arches at the first. On either side of the pavilion is a shallow rectangular projecting bay with a tripartite window at each story--10/10 and 4/4-sash at the second story, and 15/15 with narrow 6/6-sash at the first. This elevation of the inner east wing has a triple 1-over-1-sash window at the first story, and a paired 8/8 at the second. The roof slope on this rear elevation is also animated by several dormers, both shed- and hip-roofed.

[x] Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, a completed National Register Criteria Statement form is attached.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community	Property
Southborough	130 Main Street
Area(s)	Form No.
	297; 298

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE [] *see continuation sheet*

Explain 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.

An unusual building for this old New England town, 130 Main Street is one of a few large stucco houses in Southborough built in the first two decades of the twentieth century. It is also one of the town's best illustrations of the high-style mansions that were built along the Stony Brook Channel of the Wachusett Aqueduct in the early years of this century, after the western section of the brook was dredged and widened into one of the most picturesque waterways in Southborough.

The house was built in 1906-08 by wealthy Bostonian Samuel Carr for his daughter, **Margaret Leland** and her husband **Charles**, who were setting up as dairy farmers on the old Fay/Choate estate, Chestnut Hill Farm (see Area Form M), most of which stretched north of Main Street along both sides of Chestnut Hill Road. The Lelands were among Southborough's major twentieth-century progressive dairy farmers, raising cows on the nearly 150 acres of the farm until 1936. They also owned over seventy acres south of the Stony Brook Channel, where there was a pond and a riding ring. Mrs. Leland lived on in this house, even after her husband's death, until she died in 1967.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES [] *see continuation sheet*

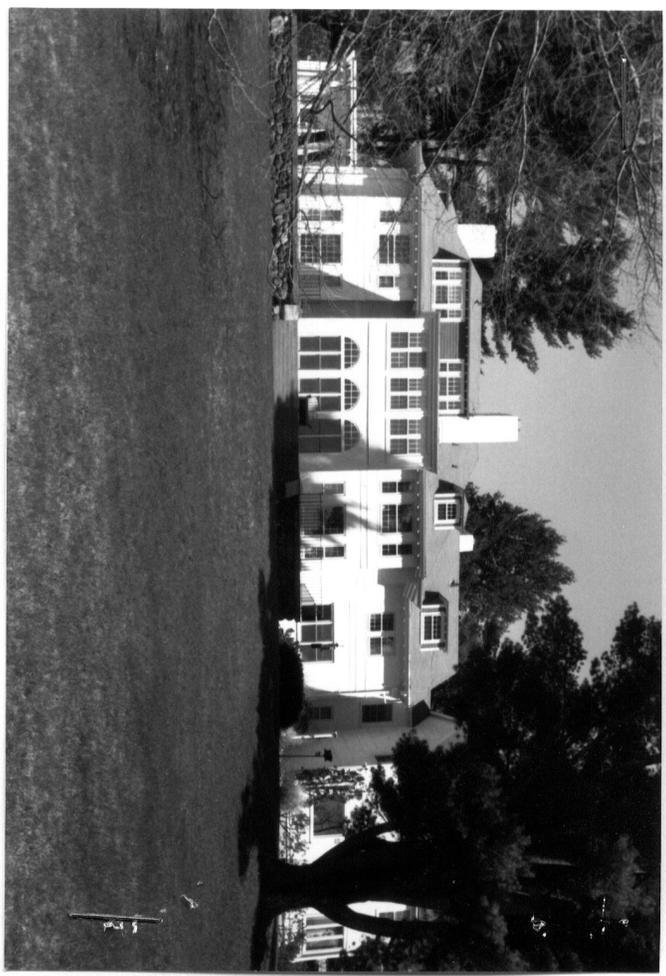
Maps and Atlases: 1937 WPA maps.

Plan of land in Southborough, Mass, owned by Margaret Leland, 3/1/1958.

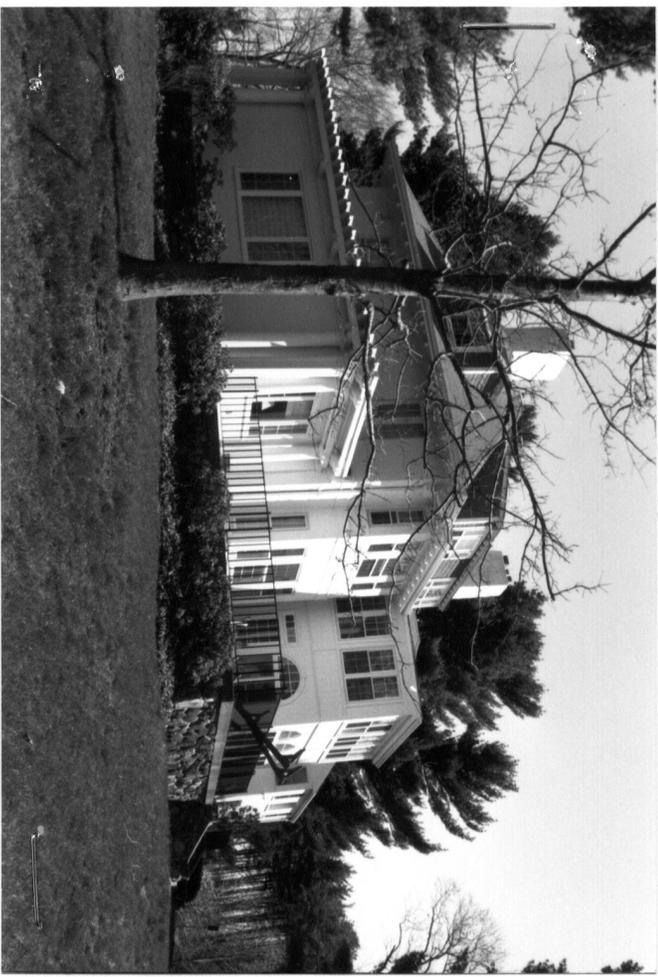
The Marlborough Directory. Various dates and publishers.

Town of Southborough: Vital Records; Annual Reports and Tax Valuations, various dates.

Worcester County Registry of Deeds.



Rear.



Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community
Southborough

Property Address
130 Main Street

Area(s)

Form No(s).
297; 298

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

Individually eligible Eligible only in a historic district
 Contributing to a potential historic district Potential historic district

Criteria: A B C D

Criteria Considerations: A B C D E F G

Statement of Significance by Forbes/Schuler, Consultants

The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The Charles and Margaret Leland House is eligible individually for the National Register under Criterion C as a unique example in Southborough of a large, hip-roofed, Arts and Crafts stucco mansion built in the early years of this century. It is also eligible under Criterion A for its association with the prominent Leland family, gentleman dairy farmers who acquired and worked the 150-acre Chestnut Hill Farm until the mid-twentieth century.

The property retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting and association.