

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SBR.207
Historic Name:	Fay, Benjamin Haynes House
Common Name:	
Address:	153 Cordaville Rd
City/Town:	Southborough
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	28-1
Year Constructed:	r 1840
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Greek Revival
Use(s):	Agricultural; Dairy; Multiple Family Dwelling House; Poultry Farm; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Vinyl Siding; Wood Foundation: Granite; Stone, Cut



DEMOLISHED

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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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FORM B – BUILDING

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

Assessor's Number 28-1 USGS Quad Marlboro Area(s) Form Number 207

Town SOUTHBOROUGH
Place (neighborhood or village)



Address 153 Cordaville Road
Owner Name Benjamin H. Fay House
Present residential
Original residential
Construction 1831-1850
Maps / visual analysis
Form Greek Revival
Architect/Builder unknown
Primary Material:

Foundation granite block
Wall/Trim vinyl siding
Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures early 20th c. 6-bay long dilapidated barn with tar paper exposed, 6/6 and 2/2 sash, hay door, attached shed with faux brick and plywood siding - mid 20th c. vertical board camp-like building (office?)

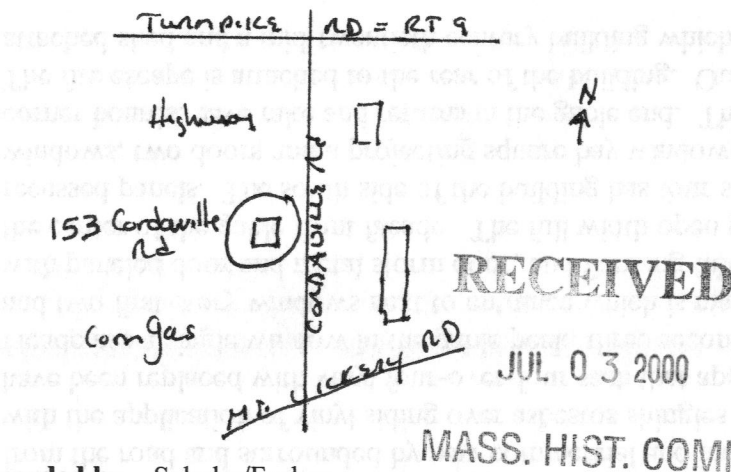
Major Alterations (with dates) siding, vinyl windows, enclosed shed roof addition at rear, fire escape - late 20th c., full width porch, square projecting window bay - late 19th c.

Condition fair
Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date n/a
Acreage 2 acres

Setting Elevated above road in front of transfer station and ComGas and opposite small shopping center, isolated from other residential development - one large Norfolk pine with low stone wall lining driveway.

Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.



Recorded by Schuler/Forbes

Organization Southborough Historical Commission

Date (month / year) 3/00

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

☐ see continuation sheet

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

This asymmetrical three-bay, two and one-half story dwelling that rests on a granite block foundation is set back from the road and surrounded by new commercial and industrial development. The dwelling has been altered with the application of vinyl siding over asbestos shingles that show in the 1971 survey photograph. Windows have been replaced with vinyl four-over-four sash that appear to be smaller than the original windows. The main facade has a single window in the gable peak, three second-story windows that are not symmetrically arranged and two first-story windows next to entrance which is marked by a slightly projecting enclosed entrance porch with paneled door and metal storm door, and flanking full-length side lights. The entrance is just to the right of the center of the gable front facade. The full width open porch is supported by four posts each with vertical recessed panels. The south side of the building has four second-story windows, and at the first-story level, two windows, two doors and a projecting square bay window. All trim has been covered by the vinyl siding including corner boards, eave rake and returns in the gable end. The house has no chimney above the roof line at this time. The fire escape is attached to the rear of the building. Outbuildings include a large dilapidated barn with an attached shed and a mid-twentieth century building which appears to be used as an office.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

☒ see continuation sheet

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.

Located on the main north-south corridor connecting the Village of Southborough with Cordaville and Southville, this property is consistent with mid-nineteenth century development. The first known owners were Fays, one of the best known local families for which Fayville is named. According to the Federal Agricultural Census of 1850 there were 118 farms of varying sizes in Southborough. This property was one of the mid-sized farms for which there are records from ca. 1850. Census and assessor's reports as well as directories indicate that the farm was owned by **Benjamin Haynes Fay** (1815-1884) followed by his son, **Francis Augustus Fay** (ca. 1841-after 1918). Benjamin Fay, son of Moses and Elizabeth Haynes Fay, had married Virrilla A. Smith of Hopkinton in 1840. He had grown up at his parents' farm at 135 Deerfoot Road, the property that was inherited by two of Benjamin Fay's brothers, John A. J. and Charles S. Fay, by the mid 1800s. The 1850 U.S. agricultural census shows that the value of Benjamin H. Fay's approximately 80-acre farm was \$2500. Other information of interest found in this census report shows that he had horses, cows and swine and grew Indian corn, rye, hay, and Irish potatoes and also produced 500 pounds of butter from June 1, 1849 to June 1, 1850. Further, the 1857 map shows Benjamin H. Fay as owner who was assessed in 1860 for \$2200 worth of real estate and in 1870 for a 74-acre farm including a house, barn, wood house, horses, cows, one swine, and a carriage of which the real estate was valued in excess of \$2200 with the passage of ten years. Fay, like other local farmers, also did odd jobs for the Town. For instance in 1866 Fay was paid for 27 days of labor and use of his horse and cart to repair the roads. By the late 1890s the property had passed to **Francis A. Fay** who according to the 1897 assessors report had an 80-acre farm with house, barn, carriage house, horses, cows, hogs, and fowl. By 1909, Francis Fay, who is listed as a farmer, had a similar property with the addition of a storehouse. He continued to be listed as a farmer up through the 1913 street directories and and by 1915, at the age of 75 Fay had a three horses, eighteen cows, a bull, 100 chickens, house, barn, a carriage house, a storehouse, and seventy-seven acre farm. Benjamin H. Fay had a substantial farm by 1850 it is assumed that the house shown on the 1857 Map and the

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Town
SOUTHBOROUGH

Property Address
153 CORDAVILLE ROAD
Area(s) Form No.

	207
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HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (Continued)

assessor's records of 1860 and 1870 all refer to the same property and to this dwelling as well. In all likelihood the barn on the property replaced the mid-nineteenth century barn in the early 1900s. In the 1980s the property lost its acreage to ComGas office building and to the Town Transfer Station and Highway Department.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

☐ *see continuation sheet*

Assessor's Reports: 1860, 1870, 1897, 1909, 1913, 1915.
Atlases/Maps: 1857 (B.H. Fay), 1870 (B.H. Fay), 1898 (F. Fay)
Federal Agricultural Census: 1850.
Directories: 1900, 1903, 1913.
Town Reports - 1860s

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



207

Southborough

address 153 Cordaville Rd

original & present dwelling

ent owner Eva Gulbaurian

to public

Style

Literature Indians
Music Other
Development of town/city
Architectural reason for inventorying:

Source of date

Architect

OR part of Area #

3. CONDITION Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered Added

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material Cement

WALL COVER: Wood Brick Stone Other Asbes. Shingles

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork

CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Interior Irregular Cluster Elaborate

STORIES: 1 2 3 4 ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 Side PORTICO Balcony

FACADE: Gable end: Front side Ornament

Entrance: Side Front: Center/Side Details:

Windows: Spacing: Regular Irregular Identical Varied

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Cornerboards

5. Indicate location of building in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings

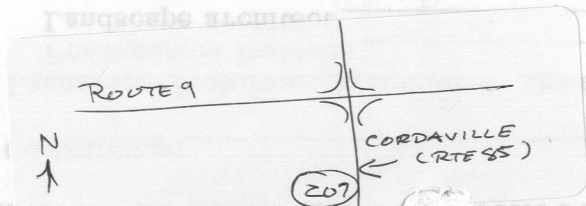
6. Footage of structure from street
Property has feet frontage on street

Recorder

For

Photo # 5-31 Date 1971

SEE REVERSE SIDE



RELATION OF SURROUNDING STRUCTURE

SBR.207

1. Outbuildings _____
2. Landscape Features: Agriculture Open Wooded Garden: Formal/Informal
Predominant features _____
Landscape architect _____
3. Neighboring Structures
Style: Colonial Federal Greek Revival Gothic Revival Italian Villa Lombard Rom.
Venetian Gothic Mansard Richardsonian Modern

Use: Residential Commercial Religious Conditions: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

*Possibly built by Jays.
One of oldest houses*

DESCRIPTION

3' CONDITION Excellent (Good) Fair Deteriorated Moved (Other) Vandal

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND/OR REFERENCE

Atlas-1870-Fay

Muse	Other
Picture	Picture
Government	Religion/philosophy
Education	Military Affairs
Vit/Scripture	Travel/communication
Agriculture	Science/Invention
School	Commerce/industry

following names: (see also reverse side)
Building has historical connection with the

Source of date _____
Date _____ style _____
Open to public _____
Present owner _____
Use: original & present _____
Name _____

RESTRICTIONS

Original Owner: _____
Deed Information: Book Number _____ Page _____, _____ Registry of Deeds