

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	sbr.1
Historic Name:	Fay, Nathaniel W. House
Common Name:	Bray, Frank H. House
Address:	26 High St
City/Town:	Southborough
Village/Neighborhood:	West End
Local No:	40-7
Year Constructed:	r 1830
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Federal
Use(s):	Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood Shingle; Wood; Wood Clapboard; Board and Batten Foundation: Stone, Cut; Granite; Concrete Unspecified



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

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

This file was accessed on:

Friday, July 08, 2016 at 12:59 PM

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

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

40-7

Marlborough

1

Town Southborough

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

West EndAddress 26 High StreetHistoric Name Nathaniel W. Fay HouseUses: Present dwellingOriginal dwellingDate of Construction ca. 1825-1832Source former owner; visual assessment; mapsStyle/Form late FederalArchitect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation graniteWall/Trim wood clapboard and shingle;
board-and-battenRoof asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

attached barn

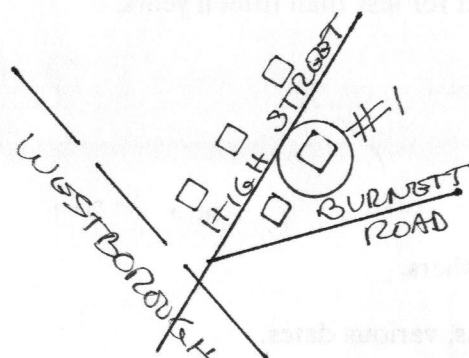
Major Alterations (with dates) ca. 1955: rear ell
 raised to 2 stories; late-20th C.: 1-story n. ell added

Condition goodMoved [x] no [] yes Date N/AAcreage 1.07 acres

Setting On former country road, now developed
 with late-20th-C. houses on large lots. Early modern
 or rebuilt fieldstone wall across front, with sq. posts.

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, consultantsOrganization Southborough Historical CommissionDate JUL 03 2000ember, 1999

MASS. HIST. COMM

BUILDING FORM

SBR.1

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION [] *see continuation sheet*

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

26 High Street, which is not shown on the 1831 map of Southborough, is a tall, 2 1/2-story side-gabled building of such Federal proportions and details as to suggest that it was actually standing by 1825. A one-room-deep house, the main block is five- by one-bays, with one rear-wall interior northeast chimney. The windows are 6-over-6-sash in molded, projecting enframements; a 3-over-3-sash appears at attic level in each gable peak. The main, center entry has an 8-panel door and a three-light transom under a simple triangular pediment that probably represents a rebuilding of a horizontal entablature. The door is flanked by a pair of fluted pilasters with unadorned, flat capitals. The main house trim includes a molded, boxed cornice with bed molding and returns, but without a roof overhang at the gable ends.

A two-part, cross-gabled two-story wing (raised from a one-story ell in about 1955), extends to the rear. A shed-roofed porch spans its south side, and a twentieth-century screened porch with a nearly flat shed roof projects from its north side. According to an owner of the property, the attached rear two-story board-and-batten barn was added in this century, primarily for use as a garage. The barn has a pair of transom-topped carriage doors on the east side, and two overhead garage doors and a walk-in door on the west. A square, louvered cupola punctuates the center of the roof ridge. Windows in the barn include unusual side-by-side two-pane windows. A recently-built one-story ell on a concrete foundation is now attached to the north end of the main house.

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.

Further research will be necessary to verify the date and the builder of this house, which was apparently standing on one of the smaller acreages in the west part of Southborough by the mid-1830s. According to tradition, it was the longtime home of farmer **Nathaniel W. Fay**, and may have been built for him. He is shown as the owner of a small farm in this vicinity as early as 1857. In 1870 he is listed as owning a tiny farm of only two acres, with one cow, a house and a barn. His son, George, however, owned two more cows and 4 1/2 acres of land in that year, and they may have worked the land together for many years.

Nathaniel Fay died in 1885 at the age of seventy, and the property was apparently owned by his wife, **Sally** for several years. **George W. Fay** acquired or inherited his parents' farm, and was listed here through 1905.

In 1922 the property was acquired by **Frank H. Bray**. He apparently owned it for less than fifteen years, as he is not listed in town assessor's records of 1936.

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

Maps and Atlases: 1857 (NW Fay); 1870 (W. Fay); 1898 (G. Fay).

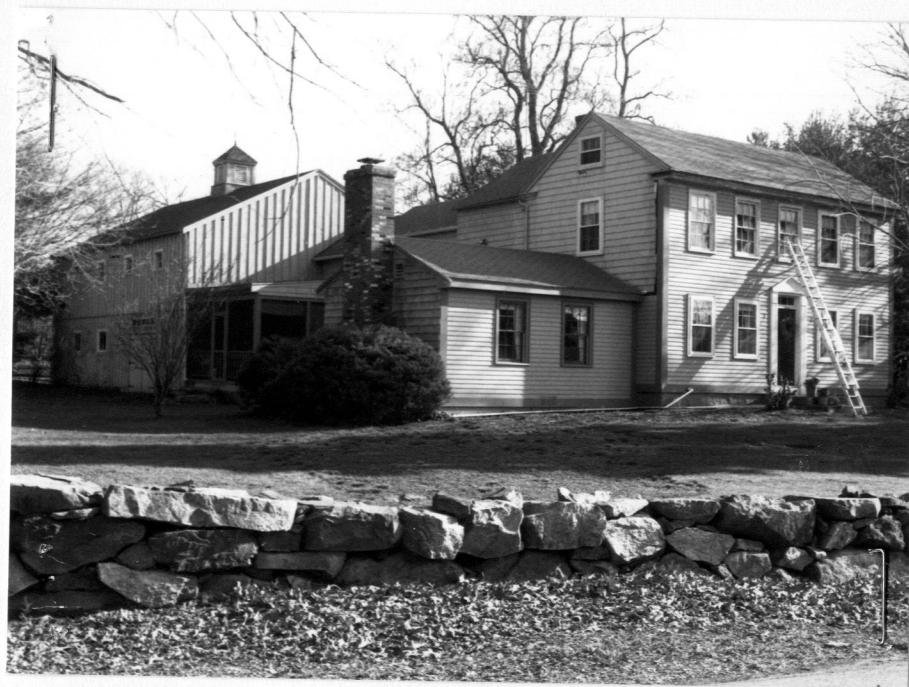
Marlborough and Southborough street directories. Various dates and publishers.

Simpson, Louise. Old Houses in Southborough. 1904.

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

US Census--Agricultural Schedule: 1850.

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





own Southborough Mass.
 Street address 26 High Street
 Name _____
 Original use dwelling
 Present use _____
 Present owner Miss Gertrude Posnett
 Open to public no
 Date C. 1832 Style _____
 Source of date owner 140 yrs. +

Music _____ Development of town/city _____ Architect _____
 3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered Added garage

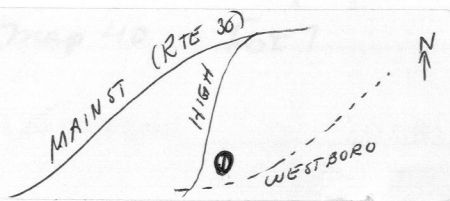
4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: Fieldstone
 WALL COVER: Wood Shingle Brick Stone Other _____
 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 added 2nd floor to ell @ 1955
 PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 PORTICO _____ Balcony _____
 FACADE: Gable end: Front/Side Ornament: _____
 Entrance: Side Front Center Side Details: center
 Windows: Spacing: Regular Irregular Identical Varied _____
 Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Cornerboards _____

5. Indicate location of structure in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings
 6. Footage of structure from street
 Property has _____ feet frontage on street

Recorder _____
 For _____
 Photo 1-1 Date March 1971

SEE REVERSE



RELATION OF SURROUNDING TO STRUCTURE

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)

Thinks all was the original house

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND/OR REFERENCE

Map 40 Lot 7 - 2757-154

Other owners

Frank H. Bray 8/11/1922

(book 2277-127)

1898 map - G. Fay

1870 map - W. Fay

RESTRICTIONS

Original Owner:

Deed Information: Book Number 2757 Page 154 , 1970

Registry of Deeds

Low'r. Co.