

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SBR.N
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Stonedale Farm
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>City/Town:</b>	Southborough
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	
<b>Use(s):</b>	Agricultural; Residential District
<b>Significance:</b>	Agriculture; Architecture; Community Planning
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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# FORM A - AREA

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard

Assessor's Sheets

72

USGS Quad

Marlborough

Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

N

390-395; 959-960

Town Southborough

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Area Stonedale Farm

Present Use agricultural, residential

Construction Dates or Period early  
20th century

Overall Condition good

Major Intrusions and Alterations none

Acreage 36 acres

Recorded by Forbes/Schuler, consultants

Organization Southborough Historical  
Commission

Date (month/day/year) January, 2000

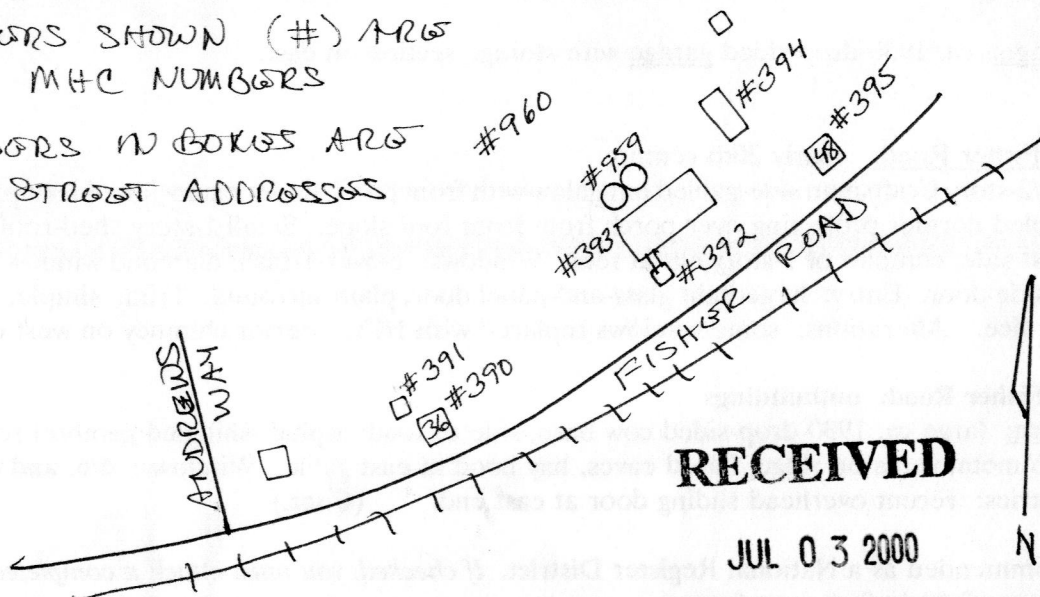
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ii. number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.

NUMBERS SHOWN (#) ARE  
MHC NUMBERS

NUMBERS IN BOXES ARE  
STREET ADDRESSES



RECEIVED

JUL 03 2000

N

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form

MASS HIST. COMM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION [x] *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.*

Stonedale Farm, one of the few working dairy farms remaining in Southborough, presents several building types characteristic of farms that were developed in eastern Massachusetts in the Early Modern period. The farmstead and most of the buildings are located close to the north side of the road, opposite the railroad bed of the former Agricultural Branch/NY, NH, & Hartford Railroad, with the rocky, hilly terrain of the farm's 36 acres rising behind them. Typical of much of the farmland in the north part of Southborough, the agricultural **landscape** (#960) visible from the street is largely rolling pasture land, with some rock outcroppings and intermittent clumps of trees.

Two small, simply-detailed Early-Modern Craftsman houses stand close to the street at either end of the farmstead. 36 Fisher Road, on its own small parcel, is a 2 1/2-story gable-front house, with a freestanding **garage** (#391) of about 1930. 48 Fisher Road is a wide Craftsman bungalow with a large gabled facade dormer projecting over a wide front porch. Between them is the main complex of barns and outbuildings, dominated by a large gambrel-roofed **cow barn** (#393) typical of one of the designs promoted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in the early part of this century. Linked to the long south wall of the barn, between it and the road, is a rare surviving **milkhouse** (#392) of rock-faced concrete block, with a high hipped roof. Abutting the rear wall of the main barn, only partially visible from the street, is a connected pair of round **silos** (#959), one of them with battered walls. Just northeast of the barn is a three-bay open **equipment/tractor shed** (394), with a later 2-car garage attached to its south end. A small gable-roofed, vertical-board shed stands just east of the tractor shed, and up the hill to the northeast is a small one-story mid-twentieth-century, altered cottage.

**Architectural description: principal buildings.** (See Sketch Map and Data Sheet)

**MHC #**

390 36 Fisher Road, early 20th century

2-story gable-front Craftsman house with hip-roofed facade-width front porch now enclosed with large sliding glass windows. Mid-20th C. 1-story hip-roofed ell on E. side, with picture window on facade. Windows: 2-over-1-sash in plain surrounds. Trim: molded and boxed cornice-- a slightly Colonial Revival touch in this otherwise simple Craftsman building. Materials: wood shakes, asphalt shingle roof, rubble foundation (concrete under ell.) Setting: Tall evergreen trees in small front yard; fenced swimming pool in west side yard, with late-20th-C. pool house.

391 **garage**: ca. 1930 drop-sided **garage** with storage section on east.

395 48 Fisher Road, early 20th century

1 1/2-story Craftsman side-gabled bungalow with front porch under extension of roof plane, large gabled dormer projecting over porch from front roof slope. Small 1-story shed-roofed bay on west side; complex of 1-story ells at rear. Windows: 2-over-1-sash; diamond window on facade beside door. Entry: large-light glass-and-panel door, plain surround. Trim: simple, unmolded cornice. Alterations: some windows replaced with 1/1's; exterior chimney on west elevation.

**48 Fisher Road: outbuildings**

393 **barn**: large ca. 1930 drop-sided cow barn, side to road; asphalt-shingled gambrel roof with two metal vents on ridge, flared eaves, hay hood at east gable. Windows: 6/6, and 6-pane. Entries: recent overhead sliding door at east end. (Cont.)

[ ] Recommended as a National Register District. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*



## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

Southborough

Stonedale Farm

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)  
N

Form Nos.  
390-395; 959-960

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION, cont.

- 959 silos: pair of round connected silos abutting rear of barn. Easternmost has battered profile. *Demonstrated*
- 392 milk house: square, rockfaced concrete-block building with asphalt-shingle hipped roof, linked via covered walkway to front of main barn. Vestibule on east, small hip-roofed ell at northwest, with rock-faced concrete-block exterior chimney. Second concrete-block chimney on main roof. 6/6 windows, vertical-board door on S. facade. Exposed rafter ends at roof eaves.
- 394 equipment/tractor shed: early-mid-20th C. side-gabled vertical-board shed, open on west side. Later 2-car garage attached to south end.
- 960 agricultural landscape: rocky, hilly pastures north of Fisher Road, some clumps of mixed deciduous and coniferous trees.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE [ ] *see continuation sheet*

*Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.*

Stonedale Farm is one of the few farms in Southborough which was apparently developed almost completely anew in the twentieth century. It was established as a dairy, and continues as such today. The farm occupies the site of one of only two Fisher Road farms that were located east of Jericho Hill Road in the nineteenth century. The main farmer here for several decades, through 1870, was Hugh Riley, who had a farm of forty acres, where he raised a few cows and pigs. He was succeeded later in the century by Willie N. Cooper--primarily a poultry farmer. He was here until at least 1913, and in his time the property measured about 28 acres.

The old farmhouse burned down shortly after that, and was replaced by one of the two houses at 36 or 48 Fisher Road. The old barn was small, and does not appear to have survived, either. The owner of the Riley/Cooper Farm by 1936 was **Andrew F. Bigelow**, who was associated with the Bigelow family who had carried on farming on Ward Road in the West End, and in the area of what is now Bigelow Road. At the height of the Depression Mr. Bigelow had a herd of over twenty cows, and had built the present barn, milk house, and one of the silos.

By the late 1930s or early 1940s the second house had been built on the farm, apparently for **Donald Banks**, who sold it in 1951 to the **Chernewski** family. At the same time Andrew Bigelow or his heirs sold the larger part of the farm, with the house at 48 Fisher Road, to the **Wright** family.

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

Maps and Atlases: 1937 WPA maps.

The Marlborough Directory. Various dates and publishers.

Town of Southborough: Assessor's Reports, various dates.

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

Southborough

Stonedale Farm

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

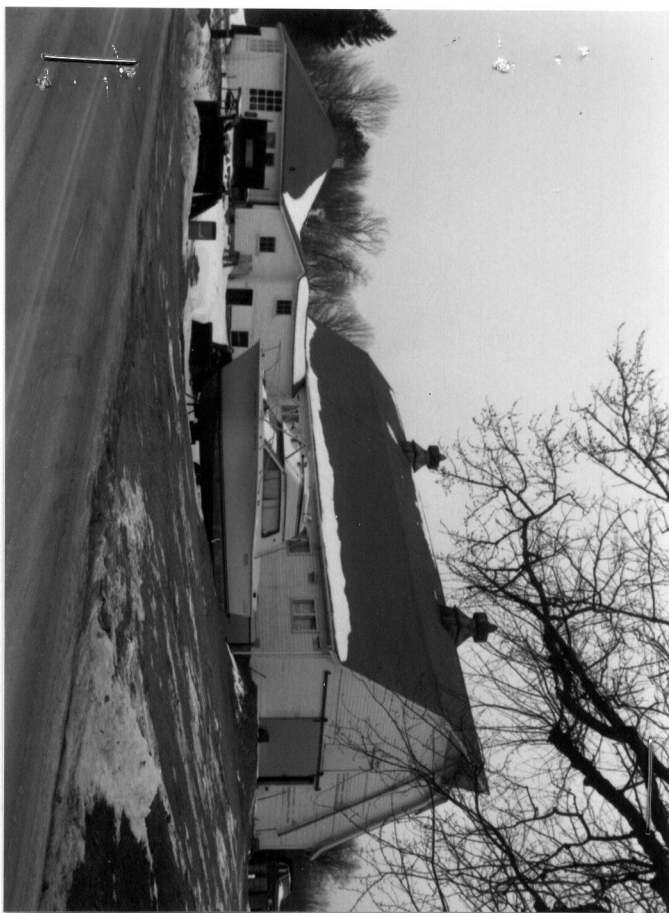
Area(s)  
N

Form Nos.  
390-395; 959-960

## AREA DATA SHEET

MHC#	Parcel #	Street Address	Historic or functional name	Date	Style/type
390	72-5	<u>36 Fisher Road</u>	farmhouse	ca. 1915	Craftsman
391	72-5		garage	ca. 1930	utilitarian
395	72-6	<u>48 Fisher Road</u>	farmhouse	early 20th C.	Craftsman bungalow
393	72-6		cow barn	ca. 1920	utilitarian
959	72-6		connected silos	early-20th C.	utilitarian
392	72-6		milkhouse	early 20th C.	utilitarian -
394	72-6		equipment/tractor shed	early/mid-20th C.	utilitarian
960	72-6		Stonedale Farm landscape	N/A	agricultural landscape





Fisher Road



36 + 48 Fisher Road



48 Fisher Road



48 Fisher Road