Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SBR.A
Historic Name:	Main Street Area
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Southborough
Village/Neighborhood:	Southborough
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Other Governmental or Civic; Other Institutional; Residential District
Significance:	Architecture; Community Planning; Politics Government; Religion
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	

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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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48 properties

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
19-23; 26-42 44-51; 265-274	A

1. Town _____

Name of area (if any) Main Street Area
(proposed Southborough H.D.)

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

3. General date or period _____

_____

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? _____

in condition? _____

in type of ownership? _____

in use? _____

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.

See attached

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
_____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by _____

Organization _____

Date _____

(over)

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7. **Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.**

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

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Precis sent to MHC -

Southborough Historic District Study Committee Preliminary Report

The Southborough Historic District Study Committee has submitted a preliminary report for an historic district running along both sides of Main Street, from School Street and Latisquama Road on the east to Sears Road on the west. This is one of three potential districts to be considered for the town. The Study Committee has chosen to work first on this area since its location at the center of the town makes the possibility of development--and accompanying damage to significant buildings and their setting--greatest here.

This portion of Main Street has been the focus of the town's life since its incorporation in 1727 and illustrates both the architectural and historical development of Southborough. The area contains some forty-one buildings, most in excellent condition, ranging in style from late Colonial to modern ranch. Among them are schools, churches, public buildings and a number of the oldest houses in the town, many of which retain their original design. All the public streets are tree-lined and interspersed in the district are old stone walls and green areas, such as Peters Park, the common, the burial ground, and the town pound, now a memorial garden. The rural-residential atmosphere of the proposed district is enhanced by substantial areas of open space which surround it.

Staff has only two criticisms of the preliminary report, both of which have already been discussed with the Study Committee. 1) The report indicates that one of the buildings in the proposed district houses the fourth oldest library in the United States and that another is the oldest elementary boarding school in the country but neither claim is substantiated. The Study Committee has promised to furnish additional documentation on both buildings. 2) The map of the proposed district does not indicate precise boundaries. The Study Committee has explained that back-lot lines will be followed for all but three properties; because of their large size, set-backs will be used for these. Exact boundaries will appear on the map presented at the public hearing and town meeting.

While none of the buildings in the proposed district is an architectural masterpiece, all are good examples of their respective styles. With the exception noted above, the historical significance of all the buildings has been adequately documented from local sources. Staff therefore recommends that the Massachusetts Historical Commission give full support to the creation of the Southborough district. Southborough should also be complimented on the quality of its preliminary report. The Study Committee has provided the best explanation of the purposes of historic districts and the most effective summary of district controls the Commission has yet received.

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☐ State Inventory Number

and does not introduce a jarring note to the district.

Signed Frederick Quinn Jr.
Frederick Quinn, Jr., Chairman
Historic District Study Committee

The following descriptive list of buildings and structures is keyed to the map.

1) Southborough Professional Building [275] 11 Main Street

Colonial in feeling and blending beautifully into the surrounding district, the newest building in the area stands on the site of the old Southborough Arms. This new building has already made history, for the major part of the building houses the Southboro Medical Group consisting of specialists' suites, a clinical laboratory and x-ray and physical therapy services - offering the most comprehensive medical service under one roof.

2) Levio Cibelli House [45] 15 Main Street

A large colonial style house built in 1811 by Moses Newton, the town carpenter. He brought his bride, P lly Ball, here in 1812. He was considered a wealthy man in his day and at one time owned one of the three covered carriages in town. The house remained in the Newton family until 1964 when Howard Newton, great-grandson of the builder, sold the house to Mr. Cibelli.

3) Bernard Campbell House [44] 17 Main Street

Built about 1843, the land was deeded by Moses Newton to his son Samuel. The house was probably built by both Moses and Samuel. Mr. Campbell bought the house in 1966 and it is he who has been responsible for the extensive and meticulous restoration of the house.

4) Southborough Public Library [42] Main Street

A Georgian style building built in 1911 to house the public library which is the fourth oldest such collection in the United States. The building is brick with limestone trim and pilasters.

5) Pilgrim Congregational Church [31] Common Street

The traditional 'New England white-spired church on the Common.' Built by the town as its second Meeting House in 1806, on the site of the original Meeting House, it was remodeled in the 1850's and new classrooms, kitchen and auditorium were added in 1963.

6) Water Department Building [32] Common Street

Originally built as a school house in 1859, the building was moved from its location on Flagg Road. It has been somewhat remodeled but is instantly recognizable as one of the old school houses.

7) Town House [30] Common Street

This handsome brick building was built in 1870 to replace the original Town House which burned in 1868. It still houses the town's governmental offices.

incl former - 1871

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8) 9) 10) St. Mark's Church, Rectory and Parish House [29] [29] Main Street

This lovely gothic stone church has been a landmark on Southborough's Common since 1864. The section on the North side was added in 1880 and in 1891 the bell tower was added as a memorial to Helen Thompson Choate. The Rectory and Parish houses are stucco structures of compatible tudor styling.

11) 12) Fay School Houses [26] [27] 31 and 33 Main Street

Two charming late Colonial style buildings, the larger, at 33 Main Street was once the Unitarian parsonage. Deacon Gabriel Parker lived here. Both buildings are maintained for Fay faculty housing.

13) George Kakas House [26?] 55 Main Street

This lovely Victorian clapboard house with a Mansard roof is almost hidden from view by the extensive evergreen planting. The house contains a charming white marble fireplace with deeply carved rosettes, said to have been brought from the Daniel Webster house in Marshfield, by Mr. Charles Choate.

14) Stanley Jacks House [23] Main Street

Probably built by 1846. The barn was moved forward on the property in 1968 to become a new wing on the east end of the house.

15) Everett Stephens House [20] 7 Sears Road

Built about 1900 it was once the summer estate of J. Montgomery Sears. The splendid lilac hedge along the road is possibly second only to the Arnold Arboretum collection.

16) Cameron Bradley House [19] 94 Main Street

Built around 1777 by Jedidiah Parker, it is the oldest house in the district. The west wing was added during the Civil War and east wing in the 1890's. Trace of the original kitchen is still evident in the cellar. It was at one time the home of Swain Parker, a prominent Southborough citizen. His daughter, Eliza Ann, did a theorum painting, now in the Abbey Aldrich Rockefeller Folk Art Collection in Virginia. The reeded woodwork in the master bedroom is of the McIntyre School. There is a unique split center stairway, probably altered during extensive remodeling when owned by George Peabody Gardner. Once the Robert Burnett House.

17) Stone Chapel [22] 84 Main Street

Small stone building, once the shop for the old Sawin grist mill which was torn down when the M.D.C. dam was built in the late 1800's. This dam and the large bodies of water on both sides of the road form an attractive natural boundary.

18) Irvin Garfield House [21] 84 Main Street

(19)

Built in 1846 and since extensively remodeled, including the entire third floor with its mansard roof, by Joseph Burnett, founder of St. Mark's School.

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map #

20 19) Mrs. Richard D. Fay House [265] 9 Parkerville Road

Built for Mr. and Mrs. Fay by George Brewster in 1964. At first glance a low weathered New England Cap Cod style house, the back and south gable are glass, affording the owner a spectacular view of the M.D.C. Reservoirs, beautiful in all seasons.

21 20) Eugene Ceramacole House [266] Main Street

A faithful exterior reproduction of a Deerfield house, this as yet uncompleted house features a large ell and connected barn. Narrow weathered clapboards are fastened with hand-cut nails and the lovely double front door boasts a hand-crafted broken pediment. Designed and built by the owner.

22 21) Kidder Estate [267] Main Street

Also owned by Mr. Ceramacole, and locally known as the Kidder Estate or the Pink House, it was built in 1891 by Charles Kidder of Boston. It has been converted into apartments.

23 22) Fay School House [33] 54 Main Street

A Victorian building used by Fay School for faculty housing and painted "Fay School Yellow" to blend with the other buildings on the south side of Main Street. prob. 1870's

24 23) Fay House [34] 52 Main Street

Named for Waldo B. Fay, this is another faculty house for Fay School. It has a handsome pillared porch front, in the Georgian style. G. R. temple - dens tetrastyle

25 24) Alumni House [35] 50 Main Street

Another Fay School house, beautifully maintained in the Fay School complex. prob. 1870's

26 25) Fay School [36] 50A Main Street

This huge building was built by combining two old houses on the site Mansard of the Centre Store. The houses were owned by William Greenwood and the Winchesters.

27 26) Fay School [37] 50B Main Street

A large brick institutional colonial with gambrel roof and a handsome portico.

28 27) Fay School [38] 46 Main Street

Once the house of Dr. Webster who had his dentist's office in the house. It has an unusual three-story round tower on the west end. Q.A. - pres. 1880's

29 28) Fay School [39] 44 Main Street

This small house was built in 1862. It features a quaint Mansard roofed tower.

30 29) T. P. Stone House [40] 42 Main Street

Built prior to 1870. Dr. Stone has his medical office in the ell, which years ago was the town barber shop. late G. R. trans.

map #

31 30) Donald Morris House [41] 40 Main Street

A Georgian-style building, once a private home, it is now a funeral home with living quarters on the second floor. Colonial Revival

32 31) Francis Ramelli House [2701] 36 Main Street

A little New England cottage now converted to a two-family dwelling. late G.R. Thom.?

33 32) Fred B. Williams [271] 34 Main Street

Situated across from the Library, it was once the home of Charles Fairbanks, a town official for many years.

34 33) Ernest B. Sweed House [272] 1 Cordaville Road

A contemporary brick front ranch house at the cross-roads of Routes 85 and 30, it fits unobtrusively into the district. - somewhat by this

35 34) Community House [46] 28 Main Street

Deeded to the Village Society by Charles Choate to be maintained as a community meeting house for the town of Southborough. shingle / Col. Rev. prob. 1890's

36 35) Eva B. and Delia N. Davis House [47] 26 Main Street

Built before 1832 by M ses Newton. The porch and dormers were added. Known by many as the Sally Winchester House.

37 36) Donald Leavitt House [48] 24 Main Street

Built in 1802, according to a date found during restoration. It was at one time a shoe shop.

38 37) Congregational Parsonage [273] 22 Main Street

This little house of Colonial style was built sometime between 1870 and 1898.

39 38) Marston Clough House [49] 18 Main Street

This charming white house was once used as a tavern. The date of construction is unknown, but it was built prior to 1851.

40 39) Mrs. Clarence Wentworth House [50] 16 Main Street

Built about 1808-11 by Moses Newton, who built the houses across the street. late Fed. At one time it, too, was a tavern and during that period the ell was used as a stable.

41 40) Business Building 14 Main Street

This was the General Store for some time. It is now occupied by Adams Cleaners and Colonial Music.

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Map #

42 41) Mrs. Alfred Howes House [51] 10 Main Street

The ell of this house was probably the original house. It was built between 1831-1844. At one time the Post Office was in one room of the house, the mail being handed through the parlor window.

Structures

8 structures

a) Peters Park Main Street

Named Peters Park in 1971, this tree-shaded area once contained the first Congregational Church which was purchased by Mr. Henry Peters in 1859. He gave the building to the town for use as a high school. This building was sold and moved away to make more room for Peters High School in 1900. Peters High has since been torn down, only Peters Annex converted to a Police Station, remains on the lot.

b) Town Common Common Street

Southbrough's traditional tree-shaded common with a German cannon from World War I, a soldiers monument dedicated to the participants in the Civil War, and a new Veteran's Memorial standing at the foot of the Common.

c) Old Burial Ground Common Street

Established in 1728 and used continuously until 1840. A survey of the Burial Ground is on file with the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Many notable Southborough residents are buried here, including the first minister, Reverend Nathan Stone, who served the town from 1731 until his death in 1781.

d) Town Pound

Built in 1750 and restored by the Southborough Rotary in 1967. Dedicated as a memorial garden in 1972.

e) A stone marker reading "27 miles from Boston ET 1769" which marks the western extremity of the district.

f) A state marker, erected in 1930, describing the John Matthews Garrison House built in 1690 and still standing on Gilmore Road, to the south.

g) A small road Bound Stone at the south-west corner of Main Street and Cordaville Road.

h) Marker describing the passage of General Knox through Southborough when transporting cannon to Washington at Dorchester Heights.

It should be noted that the Southborough Historical Commission is considering need documentation erecting markers at the Southborough Library, housing the fourth oldest public library in the country, at Fay School, the oldest boys primary school in the country, and at the grist mill shop which served for some time as the first Episcopal Church.

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Southborough Historic District

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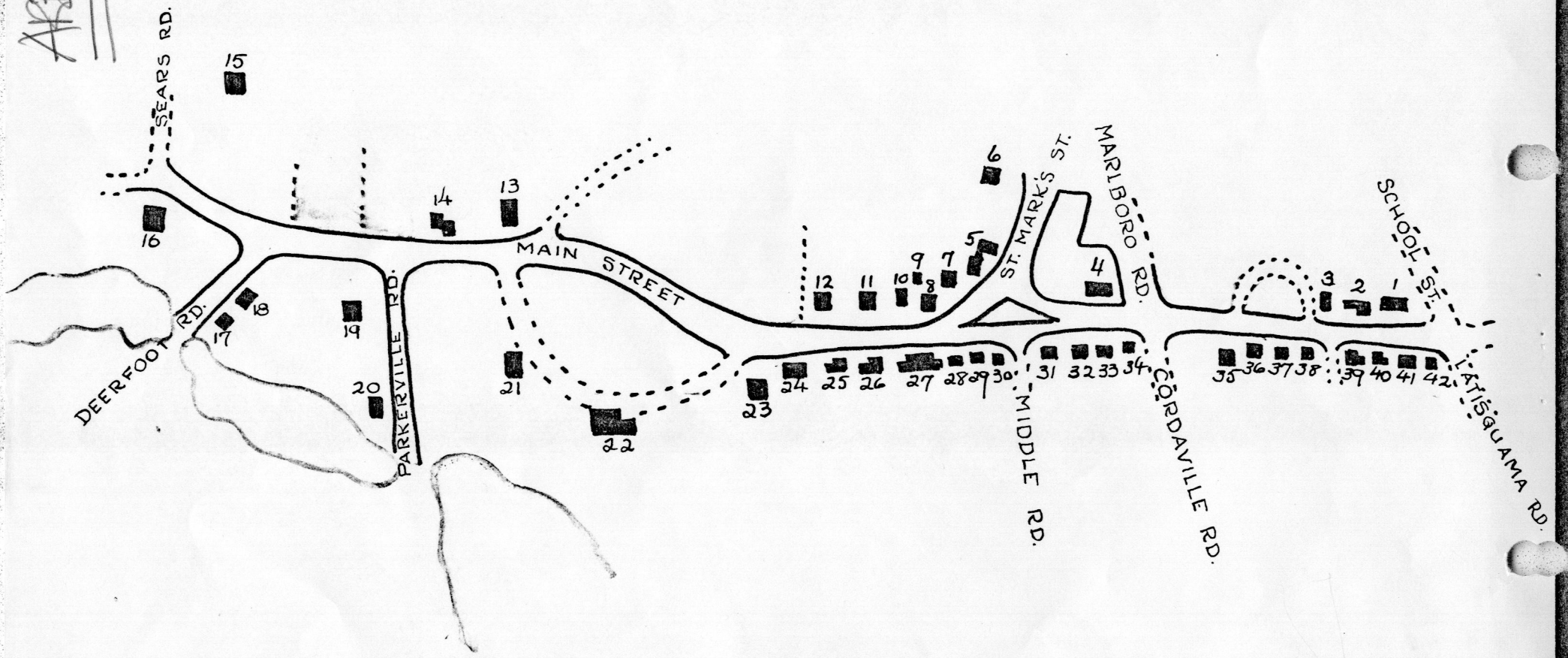

☐ Open land

☐ Water

SBR.A

SOUTHBOROUGH HISTORIC DISTRICT

KEY TO MAP

275 1. Professional Building
45 2. Mr. and Mrs. Lee Cibelli
44 3. Mr. and Mrs. Bernard M. Campbell, Jr.
42 4. Southborough Library
31 5. Pilgrim Congregational Curch
32 6. Southborough Water Department
30 7. Southborough Town Hall
29 8. St. Mark's Episcopal Church
28 9. St. Mark's Rectory
269 10. St. Mark's Parish House
26 11. Fay School Residence
27 12. Fay School Residence
268 13. Mr. and Mrs. George Kakas
23 14. Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Jacks
20 15. Mr. and Mrs. Everett W. Stephens
19 16. Mr. and Mrs. Cameron Bradley
22 17. First Episcopal Church - owned by Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Garfield, Jr.
18. Barn - owned by Mr. and Mrs. Irvin Garfield, Jr.
21 19. Mr. and Mrs. Irvin McD. Garfield, Jr.
265 20. Mrs. Richard D. Fay
266 21. Mr. and Mrs. Gene Ceramacoli
267 22. Mr. and Mrs. Gene Ceramacoli
33 23. Fay School Residence
34 24. Fay School House
35 25. Fay School Alumni House
36 26. Fay School Administration Building
37 27. Fay School House
38 28. Fay School House
39 29. Fay School House
40 30. Dr. Timothy P. Stone
41 31. Donald C. Morris Funeral Home
270 32. Mr. and Mrs. Francis E. Ramelli
271 33. Mr. and Mrs. Fred B. Williams

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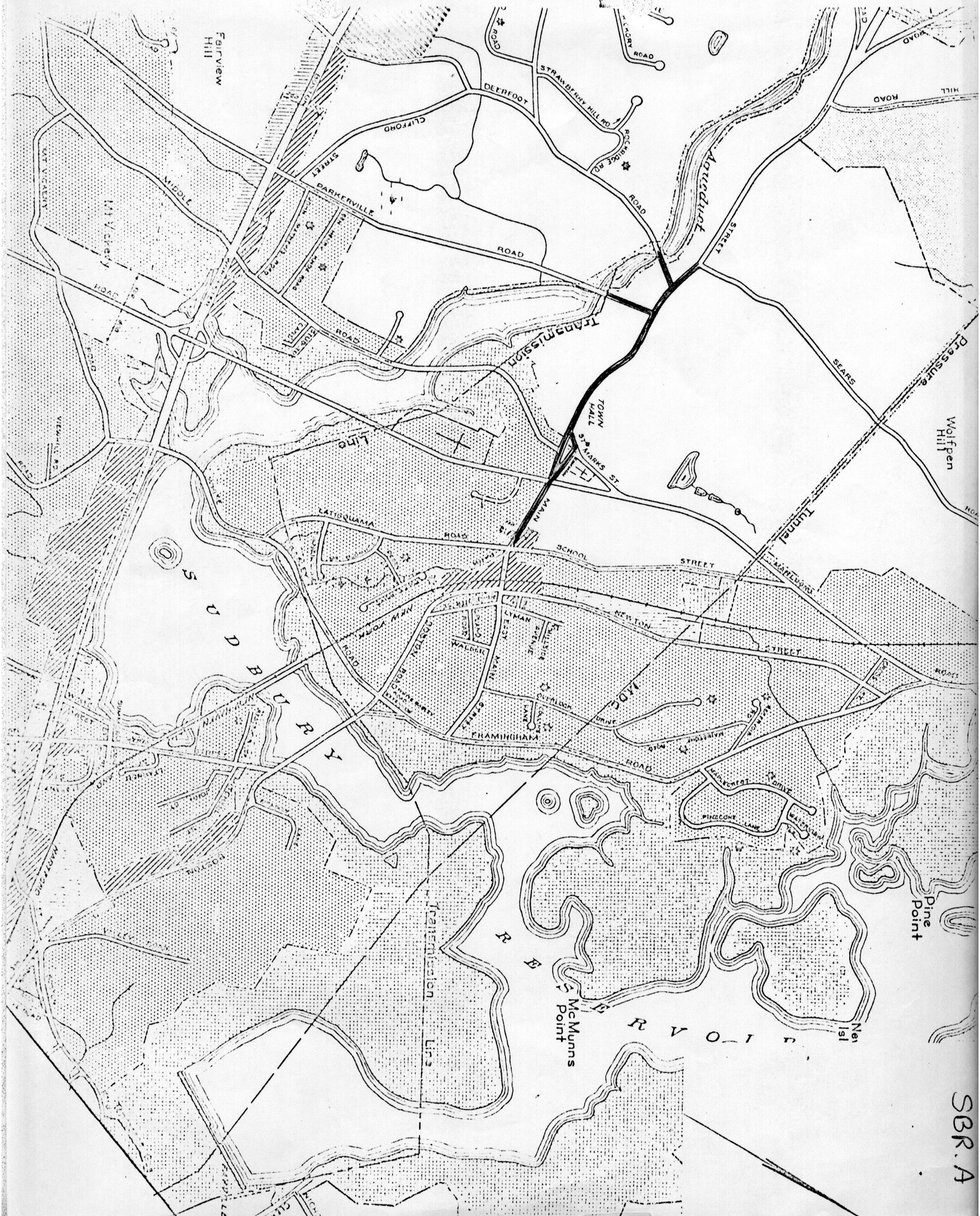
SOUTHBOROUGH HISTORIC DISTRICT

KEY TO MAP CONT'D

272 34. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest B. Sweed
46 35. Southborough Community House
47 36. Mrs. Eva B. and Delia Davis
48 37. Mr. and Mrs. Donald M. Leavitt
273 38. Pilgrim Church Parsonage
49 39. Mr. and Mrs. Marston Clough
50 40. Mrs. Clarence W. Wentworth
274 41. Business Building
51 42. Mrs. Alfred W. Howes

A. Peters Park
B. Town Common with Monuments
801 C. Old Burial Ground
D. Town Pound
E. Road Marker on the Corner of Sears Road and Route 30
F. Garrison House State Marker
G. Road Boundary Stone
H. General Henry Knox State Marker


Fairview Hill
Strawberry Hill Rd
Deerfoot
Clifford
Hickory Road
Rockridge Rd
Hill Road
Aqueduct
Street
Parkerville Road
Middle
Mt Vickery
Transmission Line
Town Hall
St Marks St
Main
Sears
Pressure Tunnel
Wolfpen Hill
Latisquama Road
School Street
Newton Street
Lyman
Walker
Framingham Road
Overlook Drive
Pinecone Lane
S U D B U R Y
R E S E R V O I R
McMunns Point
Pine Point
Transmission Line

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