

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SBR.322
Historic Name:	Bertonazzi, Louis J. House
Common Name:	
Address:	51 School St
City/Town:	Southborough
Village/Neighborhood:	Southborough
Local No:	65-7
Year Constructed:	c 1900
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Victorian Eclectic
Use(s):	Agricultural; Orchard; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Asbestos Shingle; Wood; Wood Shingle Foundation: Stone, Uncut



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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

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

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

65-7

Marlborough

322

Town Southborough

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

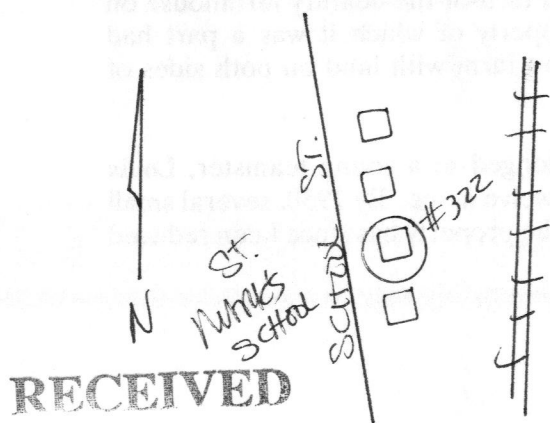
Southborough center51 School StreetName Louis J. Bertonazzi HousePresent dwellingOriginal dwellingConstruction ca. 1900tax records; visual assessmentForm stylistic 2 1/2-story gable-front houseArchitect/Builder unknown

Material:

Foundation mortared rubbleWall/Trim asbestos shingleRoof asphaltOutbuildings/Secondary Structures vertical-board garage/shed--mid-20th C.; shingled, gable-
front garage--early-mid-20th C.; greenhouses to rear.Major Alterations (with dates) noneCondition goodMoved ☒ no ☐ yes Date N/AAcreage less than one acreSetting Opposite St. Mark's School tenniscourts; in line of houses dating to ca. 1890-1950.Small orchard to rear.

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.



JUL 03 2000

Recorded by Forbes/Schuler, consultants

MASS. HIST. COMM

Organization Southborough Historical CommissionDate May, 2000

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

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

Like two similar houses at 6 and 8 Middle Road, 51 School Street is an excellent illustration of one type of large, simply-detailed, gable-front house that was being built at the turn of the twentieth century in the Southborough area. It is 2 1/2-stories, with a three-bay, side-hall-entry facade and two-bay sides. A hip-roofed facade porch is supported on turned posts, with saw-cut decorative brackets, and a square-doweled balustrade. The windows are 2-over-2-sash, with molded surrounds; one square, multi-light stair window appears toward the front of the south side. Like the porch and windows, the main entry has a door that is typical of the period--with one large square light over horizontal panels.

The roof has a molded, boxed cornice, with returns on the gable ends; any cornerboards were later obscured by the siding. In one interesting decorative note, a triangle of wood shingles remains at the top of the front gable peak, above the single attic window.

Several outbuildings on the property illustrate its function as a small farm. Three modern greenhouses still occupy the rear portion of the lot. Closer to the front is a gable-front shed with its roof extended south over a short leanto. It is now a garage, with a wood-and-glass paneled overhead door. Another, side-gabled, vertical-board garage or shed located northeast of the house appears to date to the mid-twentieth century.

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 determine the earliest owners of this house. It was built about 1900, apparently as the farmhouse of a small farm that formerly encompassed several acres on the upper part of School Street, just north of the former Hefferan farm at 49 School Street. As such, it is one of the better surviving examples at Southborough center of a turn-of-the-century farmhouse on part of its original agricultural property. Prior to 1900, the property of which it was a part had belonged to Mrs. Emory Taylor. The Taylors had owned a 20-acre farm with land on both sides of School Street.

By 1921, the property, with ten acres, the house, and a barn, belonged to a young teamster, **Louis Bertonazzi**. He owned it until at least 1947, increasing the land to twelve acres. By 1950, several small parcels had been divided out of the farm for Bertonazzi children. The property has since been reduced to one acre.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Town of Southborough: Assessor's records and Tax Valuations (various dates).

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