# IV

# Preservation Resources



15 Spring Street, ca. 1848.

The following agencies and organizations can be of assistance in obtaining information on the history of a particular property. Some can also provide assistance with building rehabilitation projects.

# City of Somerville

Office of Housing and Community Development (O.H.C.D.), Housing Rehabilitation Office, City Hall Annex, 50 Evergreen Avenue 02143, 625–6600, extension 2650.

For qualifying low- and moderate-income homeowners, several housing improvement programs may be of use in conserving historic features of a building such as clapboards, shingles, decorative trim and slate roofs.

Somerville Historic Preservation Commission and Somerville Historical Commission, City Hall, 93 Highland Avenue 02143, 625–6600, extension 2500.

The Historic Preservation Commission was established in 1985 to implement the policies and procedures of the Somerville Historic District Ordinance. The purpose of the Ordinance is to encourage the preservation of Somerville's historic resources through the establishment of local historic districts. (See Local Historic Districts section below for listing of historic properties.) The fourteen-member Commission has developed design guidelines for evaluating exterior alterations, additions, and repairs to designated historic properties. The Commission also maintains the City's architectural inventory and can provide information on the National Register, historic districts, tax benefits for owners of National Register properties, and proper rehabilitation and maintenance techniques. Somerville has been designated a Certified Local Government (CLG) in Massachusetts because of its effective administration of its Historic District Ordinance.

The Somerville Historical Commission was established in 1970 with seven members. Like the Preservation Commission it is concerned with the conservation of Somerville's architectural and historical heritage. Both organizations work with the O.H.C.D. to educate residents about the city's cultural resources. The Somerville Old House Fair, a variety of walking tours, and special events such as the Architectural Treasure Hunt are examples of activities which have been sponsored by the Commissions in recent years.

The Somerville Museum 1 Westwood Road 02143, 666-9810.

The Somerville Museum maintains a collection of unique artifacts relating to American and Somerville history, and a research library of local history materials including books, photographs, maps, manuscripts, textiles and furniture. The Museum also sponsors lectures, concerts, and exhibits.

# Other Agencies and Organizations

Massachusetts Historical Commission, 80 Boylston Street, Suite 310, Boston, Massachusetts 02116, 727–8470.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) is the state historic preservation agency responsible for identifying, evaluating and protecting the Commonwealth's historic and archaeological resources. Established in 1963, the MHC is a division of the Office of the Secretary of State. It is also the office of the State Archaeologist.

Historic Massachusetts Inc. Old City Hall, 45 School Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108, 723–3383.

Historic Massachusetts, Inc. (HMI) is the state-wide private, non-profit organization assisting individuals, non-profit organizations, and government entities that seek to preserve the historic, scenic, and archaeological properties, landscapes and areas in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Historic Massachusetts's Committee for Historic District and Historical Commissions was formed by the affiliation of the Massachusetts Alliance of Historic Preservation Commissions with HMI in 1986. HMI, through the Committee, seeks to assist local historical commissions, local historic district commissions, and other interested citizens in protecting their local historic resources by providing educational and support programs.

Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02114, 227–3956.

The Society for the Preservation of New England Antiquities (SPNEA) is the oldest and largest regional preservation organization in the country. SPNEA maintains an excellent library useful in researching local history and house styles, and has a consulting services department which offers technical assistance for a variety of conservation and rehabilitation projects.

The National Trust for Historic Preservation, 1785 Massachusetts Avenue N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036, 202–674–4000. The National Trust, chartered by Congress in 1949, is a private, non-profit national membership organization with the responsibility to encourage public participation in the preservation of sites, buildings, and objects significant in American history and culture. Members of the National Trust receive a monthly newletter, *Preservation News*, and a bi-monthly magazine, *Historic Preservation*. The Trust also has a bookstore from which members can order a variety of publications. A list of Preservation Press publications, including many on historic building rehabilitation, will be sent upon request.

### Research Sources

Somerville Public Library, Central Branch, 79 Highland Avenue 02143, 623–5000.

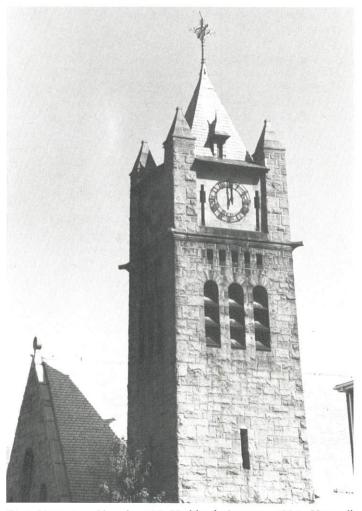
The local history collection of the library contains directories, newspapers, maps, and published works which are useful in researching family, neighborhood, or local history.

Middlesex County Courthouse, Plan and Record Department, 40 Thorndike Street, Cambridge 02142, 494–4000.

The Courthouse contains deeds and plan records useful in documenting the history of a building or area.

Massachusetts State Archives, Columbia Point, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston 02125, 727–2816.

The State Archives contain a variety of source material on Massachusetts towns and cities, including census records and historic maps.



First Unitarian Church, 130 Highland Avenue, 1894. Hartwell, Richardson, and Driver, architects.

# The National Register in Somerville

The National Register of Historic Places is the official list of the Nation's resources worthy of preservation for their architectural, historical, or cultural value. The National Register was established in 1966 as a list of districts, sites, buildings, structures and objects significant in American history, architecture, archaeology, and culture. Buildings which have contributed to the development of the nation and the Commonwealth, which are over fifty years old and are not altered significantly, may be eligible.

Listing on the National Register provides some protection from demolition or alteration. Comment is required from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation on the effect of federally-assisted projects on these properties. Additionally, certain property owners who rehabilitate income-producing certified historic properties are eligible for federal tax credits.

In 1976, fourteen buildings on Bow Street were designated as a National Register Historic District. In 1980, the inventory of Somerville's architectural and historical resources was used to prepare a Multiple Resource Area nomination to the National Register for 175 properties, including three historic districts-Spring Hill, Mt. Vernon Street, and Westwood Road. The National Register nomination was approved by the state and federal government in 1989.

### Local Historic Districts

The residential, industrial, commercial and religious buildings listed on the National Register are protected from alteration by federally-funded actions. Just as importantly, these buildings are also designated as local historic districts, either as individual properties or in districts. Therefore, the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission reviews building permit applications for a variety of exterior work, insuring that any changes are compatible with the historic character of the building and its setting.

In addition to most of the 175 Somerville properties currently listed on the National Register, there are approximately 100 other buildings designated as local historic properties, and four local historic districts which include Campbell Park/Meacham Road, Chester Street, Columbus Avenue/Warren Avenue, and Pleasant Avenue.

### Historic Properties in the City of Somerville: National Register of Historic Places (NR) & Local Historic Districts (LHD) Historia Nama

A 11	Historic Name	Date/ Circa	NR	LHD
Address	or Architectural Style	Circa	INK	
Central Hill				
13-19 Highland Ave.	Mansard/Dutch Colonial	1884		L
28 Highland Ave.	Carvill House	1894		L
48-52 Highland Ave.	Langmaid Building	1889	N	L
66 Highland Ave.	The Highland	1892	N	L
76 Highland Ave.	George Loring House	1895	N	L
79 Highland Ave.	Central Library	1914	N	L
93 Highland Ave.	City Hall Greek Revival	. 1852 1850	N	L L
117–119 Highland Ave. 125 Highland Ave.	First Universalist Church	1916	N	L
130 Highland Ave.	First Unitarian Church	1894	N	L
137 Highland Ave.	Gaut House	1848	N	L
140 Highland Ave.	Queen Anne	1885	N	Ĺ
Davis Square				
40 College Ave.	West Branch Library	1909	N	L
49-55 Davis Square	Somerville Theatre/	1914	N	L
	Hobbs Building			
30 Day St.	Eliza Stebbins House	1878		L
34 Day St.	Knight-Lacount House	1870	N	L
27 Meacham Rd.	Edmund Sparrow House	1890	N	L
197 Morrison Ave.	Gothic Revival	1860	N	L
97 Orchard St.	Edward Russell House	1868	X1	L
25 Russell St.	Russell House	1850	N	L
381 Summer St. 88 Winslow Ave.	Rosebud Diner Walker Garage	1935 1911		L L
Comphell Park / Meacham	Road Historic District (Day	is Sauare	.)	
3–5 Campbell Park	Thomas Murphy House	1892	-/	L
7 Campbell Park	Nathan Simonds House	1891		Ĺ
9–11 Campbell Park	Maurice Buttimer House	1891		L
13 Campbell Park	John Hillman House	1891		L
15 Campbell Park	Julia Holbrook House	1892		L
19 Campbell Park	Henry Weeks House	1891		L
38 Meacham Rd.	Lucretia Waters House	1891		L
39-41 Meacham Rd.	James Lea House	1892		L
42 Meacham Rd.	Nellie Taylor House	1891		L
44 Meacham Rd.	Italianate/Queen Anne	1892		L
45 Meacham Rd.	Vernacular Italianate	1892		L
46 Meacham Rd.	Vernacular Colonial Revival	1892		L
47 Meacham Rd.	Vernacular Italianate	1892		L
48 Meacham Rd.	Vernacular Queen Anne	1892		L
51 Meacham Rd.	Wilbert Farnham House	1890		L
53–55 Meacham Rd.	Queen Anne/Colonial Revival	1892		L
54 Meacham Rd.	Queen Anne/Colonial Revival	1892		L
56 Meacham Rd.	Mansard Cottage	1874		L
57 Meacham Rd.	Vernacular Italianate	1892		L
58 Meacham Rd.	Vernacular Italianate	1892		L
62 Meacham Rd.	Vernacular Italianate	1892		L
64 Meacham Rd.	Mansard Cottage	1874		L
Chester Street Historic Dis 20 Chester St.	strict (Davis Square) K.W. Chapman House	1873		L
23 Chester St.	Perry-Page House	1867		L
24 Chester St.	Alonzo Smith House	1857		L
27 Chester St.	Bacon House	1885	N	L
East Somerville				
1 Arlington St.	Italianate/Eastlake	1858	N	L
10 Arlington St.	Italianate/Queen Anne	1885	N	L
59 Cross St.	Grace Baptist Church	1892		L
108 Cross St.	Charles Williams House	1855	N	
8–16 Cross St. East	Second Empire Rowhouses	1879		L
20 George St.	Lattimore-Pratt House	1874		L
8 Mt. Pleasant St.	Daniel Worthen House	1850	N	

Address	Historic Name or Architectural Style	Date/ Circa	NR	LHD	Address	Historic Name or Architectural Style	Date/ Circa	NR	LHD
29 Mt. Vernon St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	45 Columbus Ave.	Artemus Richardson	1889		L
46 Mt. Vernon St.	George Poole House	1885		L		House			
47 Mt. Vernon St.	Fred Coburn House	1885		L	47 Columbus Ave.	Phillip Eberle House	1882		L
64 Mt. Vernon St.	Webcowit Club	1870		L	50 Columbus Ave.	Aaron Gould House	1897		L
68 Mt. Vernon St.	Lewis Lombard House	1879		L	53 Columbus Ave.	Second Empire	1874		L
74 Mt. Vernon St.	Walter Durell House	1873		L	55 Columbus Ave.	Thomas McCormic	1874		L
31 Pearl St.	Henry Wright House	1896	× 1	L	56011	House	101222		700
81 Pearl St.	Italianate	1860	N	L	56 Columbus Ave.	Charles Cushman House	1875		L
77 Perkins St. 65–67 Perkins St.	Bailey House Gustavus G. Prescott	1830		L	57 Columbus Ave. 58 Columbus Ave.	William Canavan House	1877		L
03-07 Perkins St.	House	1940	N	T	59 Columbus Ave.	Melville Parkhurst House William Cananvan	1874		L
132 Perkins St.	Charles Waters House	1840 1860	19	L L	39 Columbus Ave.	House	1887		L
143–145 Perkins St.	Dr. Horace Hemenway	1000		L	61 Columbus Ave.	James H. Brooks House	1880	NI	L
143-143 Perkins St.	House	1884		L	63 Columbus Ave.	S. E. Brackett House	1880	N N	L
157 Perkins St.	Roberts Brothers House	1850		L	67 Columbus Ave.	Henry Ryder House	1873	14	L
113 Washington St.	Buddy's Truck Stop	1930		L	68 Columbus Ave.	John Ambrose House	1890		L
117 Washington St.	Ireland House	1792	N	Ĺ	69 Columbus Ave.	Benjamin Thompson	1885		L
Mt. Vernon Street Historic	District (Fast Samouville)				70 Columbus Ave.	House Lindley Sturtevant	1075		L
8 Mt. Vernon St.	Ebenezer Davis House	1850	N	L	70 Columbus Ave.	House	1875		L
12 Mt. Vernon St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	73 Columbus Ave.	Charles Drouet House	1885		L
12R Mt. Vernon St.	Federal/Greek Revival	1820	N		75–77 Columbus Ave.	Richard Sturtevant	1884		L
16 Mt. Vernon St.	H.M. Hutchins House	1850	N	L	15 11 Columbus 11vc.	House	1007		L
18 Mt. Vernon St.	Italianate	1850	N	L	76 Columbus Ave.	Robert Sanborn House	1882		L
20 Mt. Vernon St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	78 Columbus Ave.	Robert Sanborn House	1882		Ĺ
22–24 Mt. Vernon St.	Second Empire	1880	N	_	24 Warren Ave.	Almy-Ellis House	1874		Ĺ
22 2 juint. Verilon et.	bulleting bulleting	1000			26 Warren Ave.	Shattuck House	1875		Ĺ
Industrial Park					27 Warren Ave.	George Baxter House	1874		Ĺ
14 Chestnut St.	Italianate	1855	N		28 Warren Ave.	Emery Munroe House	1875		Ĺ
					29 Warren Ave.	Richard Hines House	1873		Ĺ
Powderhouse					30 Warren Ave.	A. Lovejoy House &	1871	N	L
37 Albion St.	F. G. Williams House	1860	N	L		Stable			
25 Clyde St.	Brickworker's House	1850	N	L	31 Warren Ave.	Hazen Sturtevant House	1873		L
343 Highland Ave.	Queen Anne	1880	N	L	32 Warren Ave.	John Ambrose House	1880		L
44 Kidder Ave.	Laurence Lewis House	1895		L	33 Warren Ave.	George Kimball House	1877		L
302 Lowell St.	Michael Spelan House	1884		L					
140–148 Morrison Ave.	Mansard Rowhouses	1870		L	Pleasant Ave. Historic Di				
222 Morrison Ave.	William Shedd House	1873		L	4–6 Pleasant Ave.	The Hollander Block	1890	N	L
Nathan Tufts Park/	Powderhouse	1703	N	L	8-10 Pleasant Ave.	James Tyler House	1883		L
Powderhouse Park	Fieldhouse	1936	N	L	9 Pleasant Ave.	Second Empire	1884		L
29 Powderhouse Terr.	Z. E. Cliff House	1900	N	L	11 Pleasant Ave.	Second Empire	1884		L
					12 Pleasant Ave.	Elijah Walker House	1873		L
-					15 Pleasant Ave.	Italianate/Stick Style	1884		L
Prospect Hill	A T 1 11 6	10.00			16 Pleasant Ave.	Italianate	1874		L
17–19A Aldersey St.	A. Taylor House &	1869		L	18 Pleasant Ave.	Queen Anne	1895		L
3 P: 1 G	Stable	1000		T-	20 Pleasant Ave. 22 Pleasant Ave.	Queen Anne	1895		Ļ
2 Bigelow St. 17 Bonner Ave.	Henry Robbins House	1886 1845		L L	23 Pleasant Ave.	Queen Anne Henry Colson House	1890		L
The state of the s	William Bonner House Elizabeth Blodgett House	1887		L L	24 Pleasant Ave.	Frank Wellington House	1893		L
65 Boston St.		1892		L	45 Vinal Ave.	Lizzie Wellington House	1875		L
83 Boston St. 91 Boston St.	Jennie Marden House Munroe-Hill House	1850		L	48 Vinal Ave.	Italianate	1875 1873	N	L L
27 Columbus Ave.	Iulia Gustin House	1892		L	49 Vinal Ave.	Hailey House	1894	N	L
Munroe St.	Prospect Hill Tower	1903		L	50 Vinal Ave.	Second Empire	1873	14	L
15 Munroe St.	Gilson House	1845		L	54 Vinal Ave.	Wright House	1895	N	L
82 Munroe St.	The Grandview	1896	N	_	56 Vinal Ave.	Colonial Revival	1913	14	L
88 Munroe St.	Benjamin Munroe House	1850		L	Jo villai Ave.	Three-Decker	1913		L
97 Munroe St.	Louville Niles House	1890	N	L	56-58 Walnut St.	The Hollander Block	1890	N	L
5 Prospect Hill Ave.	Queen Anne	1880	N		60 Walnut St.	Tudor Revival	1935	18	Ĺ
5-11 Putnam St.	David Lord Apartments	1892		L		rudor receivus	1933		
15 Quincy St.	The Quincy	1895		L	Spring Hill				
18 Sanborn Ave.	Colonial Revival	1908		L	81 Benton Rd.	Queen Anne	1890	N	L
	Apartments				85 Benton Rd.	Queen Anne	1890	N	L
26 Summit Ave.	John Sylvester House	1885		L	36 Cherry St.	Shingle Style	1890	N	L
11 Thorpe St.	Federal/Greek Revival	1830		L	8 Cherry St.	Brick Three-Decker	1908		L
42 Vinal Ave.	Shingle Style	1895	N		23 Craigie St.	Andrew Craigie Spring	1860		L
8-10 Walnut St.	Somerville Journal	1894	N	L	16 18 1 1 0	House	10/0		i i
	Building				16–18 Laurel St.	Bonner-Snow House	1860	<b>X</b> 1	L
37 Walnut St.	Robert Munroe House	1849	N	L	45 Laurel St. 11 Linden Ave.	Alexander Foster House	1860	N	L
45 Walnut St.	Louville Niles House	1890	N	L	10 Mossland St.	Isaac Story House	1860	N	L
gi 12 gi 2500000 ro	Light to be the control of the control	[6]2000.001.001.001			22 Porter St.	Jacob Foster House Gothic Revival	1875 1850		L L
Columbus Ave. / Warren A	0.50	***			22 Porter St. 23 Porter St.	Gothic Revival	1850		L L
41 Columbus Ave.	Artemus Richardson	1865		L	16–18 Preston Rd.	Colonial Revival		X.I	
	House				to to rieston Nu.	Three-Decker	1910	N	L
						THICC-DECKEI			
									1.4

Address	Historic Name or Architectural Style	Date/ Circa	NR	LHD	Address	Historic Name or Architectural Style	Date/ Circa	NR	LI
20 Preston Rd.	George Ireland House	1853		L	154 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
101 School St.	Colonial Revival	1889		L	156-158 Summer St.	Somerset Chambers	1930	N	
	Apartments				162 Summer St.	Colonial Revival	1960	N	
117 School St.	James Long House	1870		L	166-168 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1895	N	
104 Summer St.	Colonial Revival	1908		L	170 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
	Apartments				172 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
125 Summer St.	Jacob Homer House	1848		L	174 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
151 Summer St.	John Haigh House	1891		L	176 Summer St. 184 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890 1890	N N	
	x								
oring Hill Historic Dist	Martin W. Carr School	1898	N	L	Westwood Road Historic D  2 Benton Rd.	Colonial Revival	1910	N	
35 Atherton St.		1856	N	L	3 Benton Rd.	Craftsman	1910	N	
36 Atherton St.	The Round House	1860	N	L	12 Benton Rd.		1903	N	L
40 Atherton St.	William Robinson House		N	L	1717 - Fried Cown 2017 (1982)	Francis Raymond House	1910	N	L
44–48 Atherton St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	18 Benton Rd.	Eugene Carr House	1898	N	L
47 Atherton St.	Colonial Revival	1880			58 Central St.	Shingle Style			
53 Atherton St.	Greek Revival	1850	N		1 Westwood Rd.	Somerville Historical	1929	N	L
54 Atherton St.	Italianate	1880	N		2 W 1 D 1	Society	1000	N.T.	τ.
55–57 Atherton St.	Colonial Revival	1900	N	_	2 Westwood Rd.	Berry-Kelley House	1898	N	L
58-60 Atherton St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	3 Westwood Rd.	Edwin Sibley House	1898	N	L
61 Atherton St.	W. L. Edgerton House	1860	N	L	5 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1898	N	L
5-67 Atherton St.	Italianate	1870	N		6 Westwood Rd.	Dutch Colonial	1910	N	L
4 Central St.	Colonial Revival	1895	N		7 Westwood Rd.	Georgian Revival	1898	N	L
6 Central St.	Queen Anne	1885	N		8 Westwood Rd.	Elbridge Newton House	1898	N	L
0 Central St.	Dutch Colonial Revival	1910	N		9 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1898	N	L
2-24 Elm Place	Colonial Revival	1910	N		10 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1898	N	L
3 Elm Place	Italianate	1880	N		11 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1900	N	L
5 Elm Place	Queen Anne	1890	N		12 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1900	N	L
-3 Harvard Place	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	L	14 Westwood Rd.	Colonial Revival	1900	N	L
–11 Harvard Place	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	Ĺ	15 Westwood Rd.	English Revival	1900	N	L
O Harvard Place	Mansard	1870	N	L	16 Westwood Rd.	Colonial Revival	1910	N	L
4 Harvard Place	Mansard	1870	N		17 Westwood Rd.	English Revival	1900	N	L
		1910	N		18 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1900	N	L
–9 Harvard St.	Three-Decker		N		16 Westwood Rd.	Stringle Style	1900	14	L
1 Harvard St.	Colonial Revival	1920			T 11:11				
2 Harvard St.	Greek Revival/Italianate	1860	N		Ten Hills		1077		T
6 Harvard St.	Colonial Revival	1920	N		257 Broadway	Chauncey Holt House	1877		L
8 Harvard St.	Colonial Revival	1920	N		52 Main St.	Benjamin Hunt House	1870	5.7	L
0 Harvard St.	Cape	1950	N		35 Temple St.	Colonial	1750	N	L
2 Harvard St.	Cape	1950	N		939				
5 Harvard St.	Italianate/Colonial Revival	1890	N		Tufts 88 College Ave.	Charles H. Lockhardt	1890	Ν	L
7 Harvard St.	Italianate	1880	N			House			
8 Harvard St.	Dutch Colonial Revival	1910	N		52 Powderhouse Blvd.	Colonial Revival	1916		L
0 Harvard St.	Queen Anne	1885	N		17 Summit St.	John F. Nichols House	1890	N	L
Mardell Circle	Italianate	1880	N		Tr Cummic Ct.	Joint 111 Honese 110 and			
Monmouth St.	Queen Anne	1895	N		Union Square				
		1870	N		Somerville Av.	Somerville Cemetery	1804	N	L
Monmouth St.	Italianate		N			Greek Revival	1830	N	L
0 Monmouth St.	Queen Anne/Colonial	1895	IN		437 Somerville Av.		1870	N	L
	Revival	1050			439–441 Somerville Av.	Italianate			т
3–25 Monmouth St.	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	L	439R-441R Somerville	Greek Revival	1840	N	L
1–33 Monmouth St.	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	L	215 Washington St.	William Walker House	1865		L
Phillips Place	Colonial Revival	1900	N		237 Washington St.	U. S. Post Office	1935	N	
5 Spring St.	Gothic Revival	1845	N	L	275–277 Washington St.	John Smith House	1870		L
8–20 Spring St.	Queen Anne	1885	N						
2-24 Spring St.	Queen Anne	1875	N		Bow Street Historic Distric				
8 Spring St.	Colonial Revival	1960	N		17 Bow St.	Prospect Hill	1887	N	L
1–33 Spring St.	Brick Colonial Revival	1920	N			Congregational Church			
32 Spring St.	Ranch	1950	N		26 Bow St.	Queen Anne/Stick Style	1874	N	L
4 Spring St.	Brick Colonial Revival	1920	N		30 Bow St.	Vernacular/Georgian	1874	N	L
5 Spring St.	Italianate/Colonial	1900	N			Revival			
J Opinig Ot.	Revival	1,00			33-37 Bow St.	The Richmond	1892	N	L
7 Spring St.	Brick Colonial Revival	1920	N		34 Bow St.	Queen Anne	1874	N	Ĺ
	Second Empire/Italianate	1875	N		36 Bow St.	Plummer House	1874	N	L
8 Spring St.	A STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR		N		38–40 Bow St.	Market Building	1928	N	L
2 Spring St.	Greek Revival	1860					1920	N	L
4 Spring St.	Italianate	1875	N		39–49 Bow St.	Crescent Row			
15 Spring St.	Ranch	1950	N		42 Bow St.	Mansard	1874	N	L
6-46A Spring St.	Italianate	1890	N	9	46 Bow St.	Queen Anne	1874	N	L
7 Spring St.	John Woods House	1860	N	L	50 Bow St.	Police Station	1874	N	L
9 Spring St.	Christopher Rymes House	1883	N	L	56 Bow St. 58–68 Bow St./	Vernacular Italianate The Drouet Block	1874 1900	N N	L L
50 Spring St.	Italianate/Colonial	1890	N		365-377 Somerville Av.				
4 Spring St.	Revival Italianate	1880	N		1 Summer St.	First United Methodist	1874	Ν	I
		I XXII	IN			Church			

Ward II				
33 Beacon St.	George Wyatt House	1860	N	L
28-36 Beacon St.	Queen Anne Brick Row- houses	1880	N	L
245 Beacon St.	George W. Durell School	1894		L
11 Clark St.	J.H. Clark House	1860		L
72R Dane St.	Colonial	1790	N	L
81 Eustis St.	Cooper-Davenport	1808	N	L
of Eustis ot.	Tavern Wing	1000	14	L
30 Forest St.	Franklin Phillips House	1870		L
39 Houghton St.	T. Fairborn House	1854		L
6 Kent Court	Colonial	1750	N	L
122 Prospect St.	John Walsh House	1880	14	L
9 Smith Ave.	Patrick Leonard House	1869		L
384 Washington St.	Italianate	1855	N	L
West Somerville				
Alewife Brook Parkway	Mystic Pumping Station	1863	N	L
21 College Hill Rd.	Thomas Cook House	1850	N	L
13 Fairmount Ave.	L. W. Dow Farmhouse	1848	N	L
53 Moore St.	Mansard Cottage	1870		L
Winter Hill				
12 Adams St.	First Amos Keyes House	1860	N	L
15 Adams St.	Emma Bently House	1894		L
55-63 Adams St.	Second Empire Row-	1880	N	
222 B	houses	DATE BOOK		100
333 Broadway	The Princeton	1914	1200	L
359–365 Broadway	Langmaid Terrace	1889	N	L
392-400 Broadway	Second Empire Double Houses	1874		L
404 Broadway	Broadway Winter Hill	1895	N	L
	Congregational Church			
419 Broadway	Edward Foote House	1865		L
438 Broadway	Adams-Magoun House	1783	N	L
137–145 Central St.	Veazie Row	1889		L
158 Central St.	Samuel Darling House	1879		L
170 Central St.	Cutler Downer House	1868		L
178 Central St.	Adams-Locke House	1840	N	L
192–200 Central St.	Second Empire Row- houses	1880	N	L
21 Dartmouth St.	Queen Anne	1890	Ν	L
27 Maple Ave.	Elias Marston House	1874	14	L
371 Medford St.	James Robinson House	1887		L
156 School St.	The Montrose	1894		L
205 School St.	Second Empire	1870	N	Ĺ
237 School St.	Elisha Hopkins House	1860	N	L
58 Sycamore St.	Russell House	1830	N	L
78 Sycamore St.	Oliver Tufts House	1714	N	Ĺ
143-145 Sycamore St.	Addis Dempsey House	1899		L
45 Tennyson St.	Lawrence Spinney House	1875		L
67 Thurston St.	Otis-Wyman House	1883	N	L
141-143 Walnut St.	John Ayre House	1870		L

The Milk Row Cemetery, later known as the Somerville Cemetery. Photograph ca. 1875.



# A Catalog of Somerville Preservation Projects and Achievements: 1982 to 1990

During the eight years since the first publication of this book, Somerville's neighborhoods and commercial districts have experienced many positive changes, including the improvement of several hundred historic buildings. These examples, from all parts of the City, include projects financed by private owners, by private-public partnerships, and projects which used the tax credits available to developers of certain National Register-eligible historic properties. Some projects have been reviewed by the Somerville Historic Preservation Commission. The scale of the projects vary from painting and exterior trim repair to complete revitalization of the structure.



Drouet Block, 1898.

# Union Square

Since 1981, a number of historic properties have been revitalized through the O.H.C.D.'s Storefront Improvement Program, which offers free architectural services and up to a 50% rebate for storefront and sign improvements. Sidewalk improvements, land-scape design, and the construction of Union Square Plaza in front of the former fire and police stations have also been completed. A new Public Safety building was created in a former MBTA carbarn, and the Police Station (1932) was redeveloped as private office and retail space.

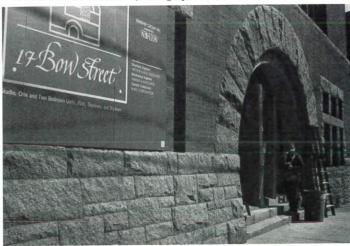


Drouet Block, 56–58 Bow Street and 363–377 Somerville Avenue, 1898. Using the investment tax credit program, this apartment building was restored to its near-original appearance. Vacant and boarded-up storefronts were renovated for a variety of office and retail uses. With its prominent location, the building now provides a focal point for the western edge of Union Square. (Photograph 1989; see page 125 for its appearance before renovation.)

38–40 Bow Street, ca. 1925. This storefront was renovated with new glass and wood panels. Paint was removed from the brick facade and new signs were added that complement the building. (Photograph 1989.)



Prospect Hill Congregational Church, 17 Bow Street, 1887. This Romanesque Revival style church is presently being converted to 17 residential condominiums. (Photograph 1989)



### Davis Square

Private and public revitalization efforts since 1981 include a linear park above the new subway station, storefront renovations, tree planting, the installation of brick sidewalks and period lighting, and a medallion marking the 100-year history of the Square. The nearly-completed Buena Vista urban renewal project includes a 100,000 square foot office and retail building west of the Somerville Theatre and a 200-car municipal parking garage.





Davis Square, 1989. Looking west toward the Somerville Theatre.

48 Grove Street. This early twentieth-century industrial building situated along the former Lexington and Arlington Branch of the Boston and Maine Railroad was renovated as office space in 1986, and currently houses several architectural and design firms. Its former manufacturing tenants included a woodworking firm, a frozen food factory, and, most recently, a clothing manufacturer.



Martha Perry Lowe School, 181 Morrison Avenue, ca. 1903. This Renaissance Revival style school near Davis Square was reused as apartments.



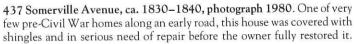
# A Catalog of Somerville Preservation Projects and Achievements: 1982 to 1990



Oliver Tufts House, 78 Sycamore Street, 1714, photograph 1989. This gambrel-roofed house served as headquarters for the commander of the left wing of the American Army during the seige of Boston in 1775–76. Purchased by the Tufts family, it underwent numerous alterations. The Somerville Historical Society rented it as their first home in 1898. (See page 104 for a 1980 view.) Substantially renovated in 1986, the house received new clapboard siding, windows, and a Federal-style entrance similar to that evident in an early photograph (see page 14). The roof was raised slightly to create more living space, but its original gambrel shape was retained. New window openings, a deck, and firestairs were added at the rear of the house where they would have the least effect on the building's historic character, and where they are the least visible from the street.



Cooper-Davenport Tavern, 81 Eustis Street, 1808, photograph 1989. With technical and financial assistance from the City's Housing Rehabilitation Office, synthetic siding was removed and wood clapboards were restored on one of Somerville's oldest buildings. Window, gutter, and foundation repairs completed the project. (See page 91 for a view prior to rehabilitation.)





**437 Somerville Avenue, photograph 1989**. Restored with clapboards, the original siding material on the building, the renovation also included historically appropriate new windows and an entry porch.





The Round House, 36 Atherton Street, 1859, photograph 1989. Complete exterior restoration is in progress on Somerville's most unique residence. The Preservation Carpentry Program from the North Bennett Street School in Boston has provided skill and labor to remove asphalt siding and to repair or replace the original clapboards. Original ornamental trim has been conserved and will be used as patterns for missing pieces.



76 Columbus Avenue, ca. 1882–84, photograph 1988. This vernacular Queen Anne style house and its neighbor at 78 Columbus Avenue were built as investments by Robert Sanborn.



76 Columbus Avenue, photograph 1989. The recent removal of asphalt shingles and a fresh coat of paint have revealed decorative trim and stickwork on the front bay, and a window in the gable peak. A well-conserved carriage house stands in the rear (see page 41).

2 Bigelow Street, 1886, photograph 1980. One of few examples of the Stick Style in the Prospect Hill area, this house was built with a fine vista of the surrounding area.



2 Bigelow Street, photograph 1989. A screened-in porch was removed to better display the sunburst design over the entrance portico. The stick work which articulates the structural design has been enhanced by a contrasting color scheme. Even the chain link fence was replaced with a more appropriate wrought iron fence and the original brick sidewalks were retained.



### Chapter II: Notes

- Edward A. Samuels, ed., Somerville Past and Present (Boston, 1897).
- 2. In 1832 Cambridge was said to have one of the largest brickyards in the region. (Heinrich Ries & Henry Leighton, History of the Clay-Working Industry in the U.S. (New York, 1909), pp. 107–108.) When State and Federal census figures appeared beginning in 1850, Cambridge consistently led Somerville in annual value of brick produced.
- 3. Ries, pp. 107–108; Abram English Brown, "Brick Making in New England," Boston Sunday Globe, 27 August 1899.
- 4 Brown
- 5. Ibid.
- 6. "Plan of the Middlesex Canal with the neighboring roads, buildings & ca. Surveyed for Loammi Baldwin by George R. Baldwin, Sept. & Oct. 1829." Photostat copy, Massachusetts State Archives.
- 7. Scientific American, 31 July 1847, p. 359. The notice went on to record that of the 20 machines, "ten are at work one day and the other ten the next. They are operated each by four men. A steam engine is employed to prepare the clay."
- 8. "This is said to be the largest brick-yard in the world." Scientific American, 29 January 1848, p. 145.
- This figure seems abnormally small for a yard employing six men. An alternate figure, calculated on the average value of bricks recorded in later censuses, might be closer to 500,000 bricks from Fisk's yard.
- Historian John Ayer wrote that "of all the brickmakers along the turnpike, Mark Fisk made himself more felt than the others; financially stronger, perhaps, than the others, he was looked up to by the smaller makers, some of whom were in his debt and carried on the business with the aid of Fisk's money. He owned twenty-two acres of land—clay land and ledge—was more progressive than the others, for it was Mark Fisk and Gardner Ring who bought of the patentees the sole right to make and sell in Eastern Massachusetts glazed bricks, tiles, etc. This was in 1859 . . . [though] few, if any, were ever put upon the market." (John Ayer, "The Old Medford Turnpike," Historic Leaves vol. 1 (1902), p. 18).
- 10. Carroll Pursell, "Parallelograms of Perfect Form: American Brick-Making Machines," Smithsonian Journal of History, vol. 3, no. 1 (1968), pp. 19–27.
- 11. Somerville Journal, Souvenir of the Semi-Centennial, 1842–1892 (Somerville, 1892). Tufts, however, is not listed among the census returns until 1870, and the patent, no. 64812, was not granted until May 14, 1867.
- 12. The 1855 census figures for Somerville, Cambridge, and the county (see Fig. 1) are a curious anomaly in an otherwise orderly growth pattern. This anomaly is only partially explained by the presence of the Boston Press Brick Co. in Somerville. Examination of the chart of "Available Statistics" (Fig. 1) suggests that all the figures for this year may be off, perhaps through some quirk in the recording process.
- 13. "Joseph B. Wilson's Patent Brick Press." Handbill, ca. 1869. Collection of Baker Library Manuscripts and Archives division, Harvard Business School.
- 14. Interestingly, the same woodcut was used by the Sands Brickyard in Cambridge in an advertisement in that city's 1874 street directory. (Illustrated in the Cambridge historical Commission's **Northwest Cambridge** [1977], p. 31.) The cut was presumably a stock item held by the publisher.
- 15. U.S. Patent No. 64, 812, 14 May 1867.
- 16. Somerville Journal, 5 October 1895.
- 17. Briggs, Lloyd Vernon, History of Shipbuilding on North River, Plymouth County Massachusetts (Boston, 1889), pp. 16–17.
- 18. Somerville Journal, 28 April 1894.
- 19. Watkins, Lura Woodside, "The Union Glass Company, Antiques Magazine (Nov. 1936). pp. 222–225; Somerville Journal, 27 November 1875.
- 20. Somerville Journal, 3 January 1908, p. 8.
- 21. National Cyclopedia of American Biography, v. 6, p. 463.

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# Somerville Population

1842	1,013
1850	3,524
1860	8,025
1870	14,685
1880	24,933
1890	40,152
1900	61,643
1910	77,236
1920	93,091
1930	103,908
1940	102,177
1950	102,351
1960	94,677
1970	88,779
1980	77,372

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### Index

Birch, Albert, 66 Birch, Arthur, 66

Cambridge, 9, 10, 18, 24, 26, 27, 37, 42, 48, 51, 53, 59, 64, 67, 79, 86, 108, 109, 126
Cambridge Mudstone, 4
Cambridge Road, 25, 114
Cambridge-Somerville Boulevard, 48
Cambridge Station, 130
Cambridge Street, 86, 120
Cameron Street, 137
Camp Cameron, 137, 139
Camp Cameron Associates, 137 Clyde Street, 126 A and P Food Warehouses, 51, 79, 97 Bird's Eye View of East Cambridge, 1879, 37 A and P Food Warehouse: Adams, Freeborn, 70 Adams, Henry, 120 Adams, Joseph, 100 "Adams Ledge", 102 Adams-Locke House, 101 5; 129 25; 27 Blaikie, Edwin, 40, 52, 53, 119 Blaikie, Thomas B., 53, 117, 122 Blaikie, Thomas B., 53, 117, 12 Blaikie, William, 53 Blakely Avenue, 96 Bleachery Court, 87 "Blessing of the Bay", 79 Bond Street, 83 Bonelli-Adams Corporation, 84 Bonner, William, 122 and Murdock Street area, 27, 128 Cobble Hill, 5, 7, 12, 16, 22, 52, 56, 59, 63, 72, 86–93, 95 College Avenue, 11, 126, 130, 131, 136, 137, Adams-Magoun House, 16, 100 Adams, Sanford, 22 138 40; 50 Adams Street, 8. Camp Cameron, 137, 139
Camp Day, 137
Camp Day, 137
Campbell Park, 132, 135
Canal Road, 8
Canal Street, 97
Carleton Street, 55 88; 142 97; 55 12; 56, 15; 104 Bonner Avenue, Bonner Avenue, 17; 122
Boring and Tilton, 50
Boston, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 22, 24, 28, 36, 39, 42, 48, 52, 56, 59, 65, 67, 72, 79, 82, 86, 95, 101, 103, 132, 136, 137
Boston and Albany Railroad, 72
Boston and Lowell Railroad, 18, 37, 69, 72, 90, 95, 100, 101, 103, 114, 126, 137, 143
Boston and Maine Railroad, 23, 28, 38, 74, 70, 100 and Morrison Avenue, 135 and Park Avenue, 139 College Hill, 5, 29, 136, 140 College Hill Road, 21; 141 Aerial View, ca. 1950, 132 Agassiz, Louis, 82 Agassiz Museum, Harvard, 75 Albion Street, 128, 129 37; 129 Colonial Revival Style, 40, 42, 51, 88, 101, 102 Carrieton Street, 59
Carmel Street, 139
Carr, Eugene P., House, 112
Carr, M. W., and Company, 76, 112
Carr, Martin W., School, 53, 110
Carr, Martin W., 76
Carriage house, Columbus Avenue, 41 Aldersey Street, 17; 117 102 example of, 97 Colonial Style, 123 examples of, 85, 91 Colson Block, 122 Colson, H. W. P., 55, 109 Columbus Avenue, 41, 63, 115 17; 117 Alewife Brook, 5, 11, 51, 62, 136, 137, 140 and Broadway, 139 Alewife Brook Parkway, 32 Allen, Andrew, 66 79, 100
Boston and Maine Railroad Station, 95
Boston and Worcester Railroad, 72
Boston Avenue, 19; 9 Cast-iron fences, 63 Cedar Station, 127 Allen, Andrew, 66 Allen, George, 112 Allen, Hiram, 69, 120 Allen Street, 69, 120 Alpine Street, 128 Cedar Street, 8, 11, 38, 58, 68, 100, 108, 109, 126, 127, 129 39; 117 50; 53 Boston Basin, 4, 5, 67 Boston Blue clay, 5 126, 127, 129
Cement block houses, 42
Cemetery, 22, 59
Central Club, 55
Central Engine House, 53
Central Hill, 5, 34, 34, 38, 40, 45, 53, 59, 102, 114, 116, 118
View of from Gilman Square, 102
Central Hill Park, 34, 58, 59, 115 61; 115 61, 63; 32 76; 153 "Commuting", 22 Boston Bute clay, 5
Boston Bottleworks, 64
Boston City Hall, 9
Boston Packing and Provision Company, 116
Boston Post, 4, 36, 116
Boston Press Brick Company, 68
Boston Public Garden, 52 American Architect and Building News, 55 American Tube Works, 30, 66, 70, 71, 86 Ames Street, 103
Annual Reports, 140
Apartment buildings, 45, 48, 51, 102, 110, 118, 139 Conant, L. E., 73 Concord, 12, 114 Concord Avenue, 88 Concord Square, 1981, 88 118, 139 Apartment hotels, 44–45, 115, 122 examples of, 44–45 Apartment rows, 88, 93, 96, 107 examples of, 45 Boston State House, 52 Boston Street, 115, 116, 127 Central Hill Park, 24, 36, 39, 113 and Fountain, 60 Central Park, New York City, 59 Central Street, 11, 56, 63, 100, 101, 103, 107, 108, 109, 110, 115, 126, 129 Concrete Block Concrete Block
garage, 47
Cook, Susanna Russell, 136
Cooper-Davenport Tavern, 91
Copeland, R. Morris, 63
de Cordova, Julian, 39
"The Corner", 103
Cottage Place, 130
Cottage Residences, 30 91; 117 Boston suburbs, 11, 114, 120 33–37; 125 50; 34, 122 Appalachian Mountain Club Guide, 1898, 128 178; 101 192–200; 105 Argillite, 4 Arlington, 10, 11, 12, 59, 62, 65, 100 131 Arlington and Lexington Branch Railroad, 42 Arlington Branch Railroad, 29 58-68; 125 192-200; 105 Central Street Rangeway, 128 Chakalis, George, 90 Chakalis, John, 90 Chakalis, Louis, 90 Chakalis, Louis, 90 Chamberlain, Samuel C., 101 Chandler brick machine, 68 Chandler Street, 132, 138 9: 142 and Summer Street, 125 Boundary Marker 19, 9 Bow Street, 17; 124, 150 33–37; 125 38–40; 150 58–68; 125 and Summer Street; 125 Arlington Heights, 139 Arlington Street Cottage Street, 130 (Avenue) Arlington Street
1; 98
10; 41
Armory Plan, 1896, 53
Art Deco Style, 48, 132
definition of, 51
Assembly Square, 79
Assembly Square Mall, 79
Asylum Hill, 29, 46, 57, 89
(see also Cobble Hill)
Atherton Street, 109, 110
36: 100 (Avenue)
Cotting, Timothy, 140
Country Life, 63
Court Street, Boston, 98
Craddock's Bridge, 11
Craigie Bridge, 18, 86
Craigie Street, 109
Cram, Ralph Adams, 116
Crescent Row, 125
Cross Street, 11, 48, 52, 53, 69, 94, 95
49; 99
108: 31, 96 Chandler Streer, 132, 138 9; 142 Charles River, 5, 10, 59, 86, 89, 94 Charles River Basin, 48 Charles River Bridge, 11, 18 Charlestown, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 15, 18, 22, 25, 26, 28, 32, 42, 59, 65, 69, 79, 84, 86, 94, 95, 100, 101, 103, 108, 110, 114, 120, 126, 136 Bowdoin station, 42 Bowman, Francis, 22 Bowman, Francis, 22
Bradford Court, 48
Bradford, W. R., 70
Bradshaw, Charles, 45, 110, 112
Bradshaw, Charles, House, 55, 112
Bratstow, George O., 25, 60, 108–109, 110
Brastow Street, 8
Breed Hill, 10
Brick Bottom, 37, 46, 48, 89, 90
Brick Manufacture, 51, 67–69, 83, 86
Brickworker's houses, 82, 83, 85
examples of, 27 36; 109, 117, 153 43–45; 111 and Beech Street, 109 108; 31, 96 and Medford Street, 22 126, 136 Charlestown "Beyond the Neck", 8, 22, 86, 91 Charlestown Bleachery, 18 Charlestown Branch Railroad, 18, 69 The Cumberland, 44 Curtis farm, 29 and Beech Street, 109
Austin Street, 96, 97
Automobile garage, 47
Automobile repair garage, 93
Ayer Estate, 58
Ayer, John F., House, 105
Ayer Park Plan, 1891, 127 Charlestown Bridge, 65
Charlestown Lane, 10, 11, 12, 65, 114, 120
Charlestown, Map of, 1634, 10
1830, 19 Curtis Street, 11, 19, 136 23; 51 examples of, 27
Brickyards, 6, 7, 18, 27, 28, 39, 42, 57, 62, 67, 85, 101, 108, 120, 126
Bridges, 18 23; 51
97; 141
Curtis Street Rangeway, 141
Cutter, Edward, 16, 95
Cutter, Edward, House, 17
Cutter Street, 95
Cypress Street, 109
Dairy farms, 5, 12
Dalton, Charles X., House, 41
Dana, J. F., 4
Dane Avenue, 88
Dane Oxpo Bridges, 18
Bridgewater, 52
Broadway, 10, 11, 15, 16, 32, 36, 37, 38, 51, 52, 58, 61, 62, 67, 83, 84, 94, 95, 96, 97, 100, 101, 102, 103, 108, 126, 127, 130, 131, 136, 138, 139
47; 15
359–365; 45
380; 107
404-107 Charlestown Neck, 11, 18 Charlestown Peninsula, 5 Chase and Sanborn, 102 Chauncey Street, 83 Chelsea, 48 Back Bay, 5 Back Bay, 5 Back Bay, 5
Bacon, Clifton, House, 135
Bailey, Ernest, 62, 116
Bailey Park, 38, 62
Baldwin, Loammi, Colonel, 18, 67
Ball Square, 1910, 48
"Balloon frame", 24
Ballou Hall, 140
Banks Street, 109
Barberry Lane, 94, 116
Barrell estate, 86
Barrell, Joseph, 63, 89
Barrell, Joseph, House, 16, 17, 52
Barrister's Hall, 125
Barrlett Street, 103 Cherry Street, 52, 108, 109, 110, 112 32; 112 Chester Street, 130 24; 134 26; 134 27; 135 404; 107 419; 106 Dane Avenue, 88
Dane, Osgood, House, 20
Dane, Osgood B., 8, 20
Dane Stone Quarry Ad, 20
Dane Street, 70, 88
72; 15, 91
and Washington Stret, 86
Dane's Ledge, 108
Daneses Ledge, 108 27; 135
Chestnut Street, 90, 92
"Chicago of New England", 72, 79
Chicago World's Fair, 1893, 71
Church Street, 28, 109
Citizen Building, 103
City Beautification Society, 102
City Directory, 1873, 53
1900, 45
1904, 55
City Hall, 25, 34, 35
City Hospital, 139
City Ledge, 6
City of Somerville, Map of the 438; 16, 100 783; 129 and Adams Street, 30 and Central, 22, 100 and Central, 22, 100 and Curtis Street, 139 and Franklin Street, 22 and Holland, intersection of, 139 and Main Street, 102 Bartlett Street, 103 and Page, 70 Danvers, 53 Dartmouth Street, 101, 102 Barton Street, 136 Battle of Lexington, 108 and Sycamore Street, 102 and Sycamore Street, 25 and Vernon Street, 103 and Walnut, 101 21; 106 51; 101 Dattle of Lexington, 108
Bay State Avenue, 42, 127
Beach Street, 91
Beacon Street, 18, 58, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91
28–36; 93 51; 101
Davenport-Brown Company, 75
Davis and Taylor, 131
Davis, Person, 131, 132
Davis-Porter Square area, 130
Davis Square, 18, 26, 29, 36, 38, 39, 48, 50, 51, 76, 109, 115, 126, 128, 130–135, 136, 137, 138
ca. 1910, 131, 157
Dav exten, 131 at Cross Street East, 17 near Cedar, 22 City of Somerville, Map of the 1852, 28 near Cedar, 22 Broadway Brake, 15 Broadway (Foss) Park, 36, 48, 49, 58, 60, 61, 84, 85, 97, 102, 103 Plan of, 84 33; 93 245; 93 1879, 35 See also Somerville, Map of 309, at Miller Street, 75 336, 338, 91 347–349; 93 Bedrock, 4, 5 Beech Street, 109, 130 See also Somerville, Map of City Square, 11 City Stables, 53 City Stone Crusher, 6 Civil War, 22, 24, 26, 29, 30, 32, 36, 56, 58, 59, 72, 83, 86, 87, 91, 92, 95, 97, 101, 108, 109, 115, 120, 121, 130, 131, 137 Civil War Monument, 59 Clapp, Nathaniel G., 58 Clarendon Block, 131, 132 Clarendon Hill, 59, 136, 138, 139, 141 Clarendon Street, 139 Classical Revival Style, 45, 46 Clay Henry, 82 rian of, 84 Broadway, View of, 1905, 47 Broadway, View of, 1982, 51 Broadway Winter Hill Congregational Church, 53, 107 Day estate, 131 Day Street 30; 134 34; 134 Beech treet, 113 Beldrey, O. H., 55 Bell, Alexander Graham, 98 Belmont Street, 18, 108, 109 46; 112 53, 107 Brookline, 52, 55, 65 Brooks, James H., 115 Brown, I. H., Moulding Company, 75 Browning Road, 25 34; 134
58; 76
Derby Desk Company, 74–75, 104
Derby, Elias Haskett, 82
Derby, George H., 74
Derby Street, 8, 83
Dickerman, George H., 56, 63
Dickson, Augustus, 98
Dillboy Field, 62
Dillaby, Frank, 48
Dimick Street, 8
Directory of Somerville, Arlington Henjamin, Asher, 25 Benedict Street, 96, 97 Benton farms, 110 Benton Road, 110 16; 25
"Bryant Chambers", 139
Building industry, 39, 40, 55, 74–76
Bulfinch, Charles, 16, 17, 52, 89
Bunker Hill, 7, 10, 89, 94
Bunker Hill Monument, 102 Clay Henry, 82 Cliff Building, 139 Cliff, Zebedee E., 8, 42, 48, 55, 127, 139 Berry, Arthur, 55 Bigelow Street, 2; 153 "Bunker Hill Pickle", 72
"Bunker Hill Pickle factory, 101
Burlington, 10
Burnside Street, 109 Cliff, Z. E., House, 129 Clough, G. A., 34, 53, 55, 122 Directory of Somerville, Arlington and Bikeways, 62 Belmont.

Foss (Broadway) Park, 36, 48, 49, 58, 60, 61, 84, 85, 97, 102, 103 Plan of, 84 Foster, Alexander, House, 30, 31 Divinity (Miner) Hall, 55 Hawthorne Street, 126 Joy, Benjamin, 89 Joy Street, 90, 92, 95 Doctor's Row, 122 Doddington Hall, Cheshire, 17 Hay, John, 24 Haynes, Amos, 72 14. 92 Dorchester, 42 Hazeltine, Channing, 55 Headstones, 5 Joy's Farm, 89 Dover Street, 130 Foundation stone, 5 Fountain Street (Avenue) Kelley, James, 41 Kelley, Samuel Dudley, 115, 118 Kent Court, 91 93; 133 Heath, Charles, 68 Heath Street, 83, 85 93; 133 Dow, Lorenzo, 29, 138, 140, 141 Dow, Lorenzo, House, 141 Dow Street, 141 34; 21 worker's houses, 98 Heptorean Women's Club, 58, 102, 116, 138 Hepwood Wakefield Furniture Company, 74 Hicks, A. M., 137 High Field, 96 Fowler, Orson, 109 15; 98 6: 91 Downer, Cutler, 105 Downer, Cutler, 105
Downing, Andrew Jackson, 26, 30, 59, 63
Drake, Samuel Adams, 82, 87, 89, 96
Draper, Martin Map of Somerville, 1852, 5, 86, 100, 108, 114, 126
Mt. Benedict, 94
Powderhouse Area, 126
Prospect Hill, 114
Spring Hill, 109 Kent, Samuel, House, 23 Franklin Hall, 121 Franklin Institute, 121 Kent Street, 91, 108 32; 66 High School, 34 Highland, 58 Franklin Street, 11, 94, 95, 118 15; 98 Kent Street Station, 121 Keyes, Amos, House, 104 Highland, 36 66; 118
The Highland, 45, 115, 118
Highland Avenue, 6, 28, 40, 48, 51, 59, 60, 62, 114, 115, 116, 126, 130, 131 15; 98
74; 21
79; 21
Fremont Street, 27; 27
French Second Empire Style, 30, 32
Fresh Pond, 18, 94, 108
Fresh Pond Ice Company, 77
Fright, Addon, 38 Kidder Avenue, 6, 127 Kidder-Bay State Avenue area, 42 Kiley, James A., 78 Kiley, James A., Wagon Shop, 78 Spring Hill, 108 Ward II, 86 40-42; 44 76; 53, 55, 116 Kiley, James A., Wagon Sh Killoren, Andrew, 42 King Solomon's Lodge, 103 Kingman, Caleb, 70 Kingman Court, 70 Winter Hill, 100 99; 41 130; 145 Winter Hill, 100 Drouet Block, 122, 125, 150 Drumlins, 5 Durant, Michael, 72 Durrell, George, School, 93 Dykeman, William, 113 Early Italianate Style, 24 Frink, Alden, 38 Fruit Street, 101 Fuller, Stephen W., 101 G. A. R. Hall, 103 132; 116 Kingman Court, 70 Kingman, Herbert S., 110 Kingsley, C. W., 130 Kinsley, 68 Kirkland Street, 92, 121 134; 46 137; 116 Gage, General, 12 Gage, Hittinger and Company, 77 Galletly, Henry, 70 287: 39 291; 48 343: 42 Early Roads, Map of, 11 East Boston, 42 Kirkpatrick, C. A., ad, 39 Klous, Seman, 97 Knox, Colonel, 89 343; 42 and Central Street, 55 and College Avenue, 132 Highland-Cherry Street area, 42 Highland Road, 58, 127, 128 61; 128 1981; 128 Highlands of Roxbury, 26 East Boston, 42
East Cambridge, 86, 101
East Somerville, 16, 21, 24, 25, 29, 32, 36, 38, 46, 48, 50, 69, 94–99, 101
Eastlake Style, example of, 98
Eaton, Horace, 12, 61
Eberle Block, 121
Eberle Block, 121 Galletly, James, 69 Gambrel roof, 15 Gardens, 63 Gedess, Alexander, 95 Lake, George W., 55 LaFever, Minard, 25 George Street, 15 Georgian Style, 15 Lake Potanipo, 77 Landscape design, 57, 58, 61, 63, 84, 97, 110, 127, 138 Georgian Revival Style, example of, 55 Gibones Creek, 86 Eberle Biock, 121 Eberle Building, 123 Eberle, Phillip, 121 Edgerly, John S., 22, 102 Edgerly School, 53, 102 Edgel, 79 Highway Department crew, 61 Hill Building, 53, 121–122 Hill, Ira, 8, 53, 115, 117, 122, 132, 138 Hill, Ira, House, 117 Langmaid Terrace, 45, 47 Latin High School, 34, 53, 102 Laurel Street, 108, 109 Gibones Creek, 86 Giles Park, 6A and B, 119 Gilman, Charles E., 103 Gilman, Charles, House, 21 Gilman Square, 38, 39, 48, 102, 103 45; 31 49–53; 113 Hill, James, Jr., 22 Hill-Michie Company Garage, 47 Hill, William House, 41 Hillcrest Apartments, 48 Eglantine Street, 101 Gilman Street, 8 108; 21 Lawrence, 52 Lechmere Square, 48 Elks Club, 55 Elliot, Charles D., 35, 60, 84, 127 Ellsworth Street, 31 Gilman tract, 103 Glacial clay deposits, 5 Leda clam, 5 Lee, Gen. Charles, 100 Hills, George, 119 Hinkley, Holmes, 70 Elm Place 109 Glass, 70 Glass House Court, 87 Lee Street, 102 Leighton, Mark, 118 Elm Street, 8, 11, 12, 108, 109, 130, 131, 137 and Beech Street, intersection of, 130 Elmwood Street, 137 Hinkley Locomotive Works, 70 Historic Leaves, 80 Glen Street, 21, 62 Glendale, 137 Lewis, Thomas M., 110 Lewington, 18, 65, 114 Lexington and Arlington Branch Railroad, 126, 127, 130, 131, 132, 137 Hittinger, Jacob, 77 Hittinger, Thomas, 77 Holden, Simon, 140 Holden, Simon, House, 141 Glendale, 137 Glenwood Road, 8, 103 Glidden, Walter, 107 Glidden, Walter, House, 107 Glines, Edward, Mayor, 62, 101 Emerson, Enoch, 26 Emerson Pickle Factory, 127 Engine House, 1871, 34, 53 English Revival Style, 40 Lexington Avenue, 127
"Liberty Pole Square", 120
Lime, 95
Lincoln Park, 88, 93 Holiday Inn, 69, 95
Holland Estate, 139
Holland, Martha (Rogers), 139
Holland, Silas Harvey, 139, 141
Holland-Simpson area, 42
Holland Street, 8, 130, 131, 137, 138, 139 Glines School, 55 Glover, Henry, 132, 135 example of, 40 Essex Street, 102 Essex Street, 102 Eustis Street, 81; 91, 152 Evergreen Street, (Avenue), 101 Gold, 5
"Gold Mine", 4
Gorham and Howard Streets, 76
Gothic Revival Style, 24 Lincoln Parkway, 88 Lincoln School, 139 and Vernon Street, 100 Evergreen Terrace, 36 Linden Street, 108 Linwood Street, 90, 92 211; 142 211; 142
"Home-grounds", 63
Homer Court, 115
Homes for the People in Suburb and Country, 24
"Homestead Series", 40–41
Hood, H. P., 124 Gothic Revival Style, 24 definition of, 26 examples of, 26, 30, 52, 91, 133 Gould, Aaron, 38, 53, 101, 110, 125 Grace Baptist Church, 99 Grand Junction Railroad, 72, 73 Fairmount Street, 141 13; 141 78; 90 and Fitchburg Street, 78 Fall River, 42 Faneuil Hall, 22, 52, 73 Littlefield, Samuel, 85 Littlefield, Samuel, House, 85 Littlefield, Walter T., 53, 122, 123 Locatelli, John, 48, 110 Farmer, Luke, 101 Farrier, Amasa, 59 Grand Junction Mailtoad, 12, 13
The Grandview, 45, 118
Grandview Avenue, 53
Granite posts, 63
Granite Street, 4, 8, 20, 108, 109
Gray, George W., 52
Gray, John, 52
"Gray John, 52"
"Gray Person", 114 Hopkins, Elisha, 104 Farrington, Thomas, 55 Federal Census of Agriculture, 1850, 82 Hopkins, Elisha, House, 104 Hopkins, G. M., 115 Lockhardt, Charles, House, 142 London Street, 92 London Street, 92
Loring and Phipps, 38, 51, 101
Loring, George F., 34, 38, 40, 41, 53–55, 93, 112, 116
Loring, George F., House, 54, 116
Loring, George F., House, 54, 116
Low, John, 59, 109, 130
Lowell and Arlington Branch Railroad, 36
Lowell Railroad, 7, 121
Lowell Street, 11, 18, 51, 52, 53, 64, 100, 103, 108, 109, 137 Federal-period, 136 Federal Revival Style, 55 Horace Street, 73 The Horticulturist, 59 definition of, 40 example of, 40 Hotel Warren, 53 "Great Pasture", 114 Great Road, 130 Houghton, Armory, 71, 87, 91 Houghton, Francis, 71 Houghton-Oak-Bolton Street area, 87–88 Federal Style definition of, 16 Great Road, LSU
Great Western Union billboard, 90
Greaves, Thomas, 4, 11, 58
Greek Revival Style, 24, 41, 109, 110, 114, 117, 120 examples of, 16, 17, 20, 21, 52, 91 Fellsway, 48, 84 Fellsway West, 83 56; 85 Houghton Street, 26-32; 91 Howard Seminary, 52 Howe Street, 101 Hubbel, Peter, 67 definition of 24–25 examples of, 22, 24, 25, 27, 34, 52, 56, 85, 91, 96, 97, 101, 104, 111, 123, 126, 141 Green Street, 112 Lowell Street, 11, 18, 51, 52, 53, 64, 100, 103, 108, 109, 137 and Somerville Avenue, intersection of, 108 Luther Bell School, 53 Lyman, C. W., and Company, 75 Lyman, Charles W., 75 Magnus Avenue, 88 Magoun, John C., 100 Magoun Square, 48, 100, 103 Main Street, 11, 95, 100 52, 85 Maine, 10 Felton and Parker, 95 Hudson Street, 128 and Benton Road, intersection of, 128 Fenceposts, 5 Fernald, Joshua, 52, 133 Ferries, 11, 12 Files, R. F., 52, 53 and Cedar Street, 129 Hunt, Benjamin, 85 Greenville Street, 19; 117 Greenwood Terrace, 89 Hunt, Benjamin, 65 Hurst Broadway Theater, 97 Hutchins, H. M., House, 98 Hutchins, Harrison M., 98 Hutchins, Horatio H., 102 The Ideal, 45, 115 Industrial Park, 89–93 Fire Station, 122
First Methodist Episcopal Church, 114
First National Stores, 51, 79
First United Methodist Church, 124 Gridley Apartments, 48 Grimmons, Charles, 101 Grove Street, 131 48; 151 48; 151
Guild, Charles H., 46, 96
Gulliver, Lemuel, 30
Haigh, John, House, 54, 55
Hales, John, 19
Hall House, 130
Hall, John, 109
Hall Street, 109
Hamblin, Samuel, 70
Hampshire Street, 86
Hancock Street, 109, 127 First Unitarian Church, 35, 116, 145 First Universalist Church, 116 Maine, 10 Makepeace, Royal, 86 Malden, 10, 48 Malden Bridge, 11, 18 Ionic capital detail, 25 Fisk, Mark, 68 Ireland, George, 18, 110 Ireland, George, House, 110 Fitchburg Division of the Boston and Maine Railroad, 114

Fitchburg Railroad, 7, 18, 22, 28, 69, 72, 73, 75, 77, 86, 91, 93, 108, 110, 121, 130

Fitchburg Street, 92 Ireland, Jonathan, 14 Ireland, Samuel, House, 1792, 14, 15 Mallet, Jean, 11 Mallet Street, 8, 127 Mallet Street, 8, 127
"Mansard" Style, 30, 32, 128
definition of, 32
examples of, 32, 33, 36, 55, 93, 134
Maple Street, 101
28; 101
Market gardening, 5, 137, 139
Marshall Street, 101, 102, 103
and Broadway, 85
Marston, Elias, 101
Marston, Elias, 101
Marston, Elias, 101
Marston, Elias, 101 Ireland's Rangeway, 110 "Italian" villas, 30, 31 3-25; 79 Fletcher, Dr. W. K., 102 Italianate Style, 41, 88, 103, 112, 128, 132 definition of, 30 Hancock Street, 109, 127 "Happy Hollow" houses, 105 Flint Street, 95 Florence Street, 96 examples of, 30, 31, 36, 53, 93, 96, 97, 99, 101, 104, 118, 129 Harper's Weekly, 40 Hartwell, Mrs. Frank, 128 Food Processing, 72, 86 Foote, Edward, 72, 106 Jaques, Frederick, 82 Jaques, Samuel, 82 Hartwell and Richardson, 116 Hartwell, Richardson and Driver, 53 Foote, Edward, 72, 106
Ford Motor Company, 79
Ford Motor Company Assembly Plant, 51, 97
Forest Street, 129
Forg, Peter, 76
Forg, Peter, Manufacturing Company, 76
Forster, Charles, 25, 58
Forster-Sawyer House, 25
Forster-Sawyer House, 25 Jaques Street, 83, 85 Jaques, William, 82 Hartwell, Richardson and Driver, Harvard Bridge, 48 Harvard College, 109 Harvard Place, 25, 109 Harvard Square, 11, 86, 121, 131 Harvard Street, 25, 108, 109 1–3, 9–11; 111 Marston, Elias, House, 101 Masonic Apartments, 103 Masonic Block, 121 Masonic Building, 55 Jasper Street, 101 Jenney Gas Station, 125 Jenny Lind Street, 103 Johnson, Phillip, 56, 105 Johnson, Phillip, House, 105 Jones, William, 55 Massachusetts Avenue, 42, 48, 65, 130, 131, Hastings, Charles F., 119 Hathaway, J. F., 76 136 Massachusetts Bay Colony, 11 Massachusetts Bay Colony Council, 82 Massachusetts Bay Company, 10 Massachusetts Brick Company, 68 Forster School, 56 Fosket Street, 4 Josephine Avenue, 129 house, 129

Hawkins, Guy, 22

Pollard, Warren, House, 104 Pollution, 86, 110, 120 "Polly Swamp", 6, 128, 129 Poor, John R., 32, 57, 58, 101 Massachusetts General Hospital, 16, 89 Massachusetts Horticultural Society, 63, 82 Rowhouses, 45, 87, 92, 98, 122 example of, 45 Mystic Branch of the Boston and Maine Massachusetts Horticultural Society, 63, 82
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 52
McGrath Highway, 43, 48, 84, 89, 90, 97, 114
McGray, H. D., 42, 55
McKay, Henry S., 53, 124
McLean Asylum, 16, 22, 52, 56, 59, 89–90
McLean, John, 89
Meacham, George, 130
Meacham Road, 27; 135
Meacham Street, 130
Meat-packing plants, 72–73
Medford, 59, 10, 11, 18, 26, 29, 59, 67, 82, 95, 100, 108, 130, 137, 140
Medford Andover Turnpike, 18
Medford Cattle Market, 127
Medford diabase, 4, 12, 61, 136
Medford Street, 37, 48, 56, 57, 73, 86, 87, 93, 101, 103, 107, 114, 115, 120
93, at Walnut, 47
200; 93 Railroad, 97 Rowse, Arthur, 72 Roxbury, 42, 65 Mystic Housing Project, 4 Mystic Lake 32 Mystic Lake, 32
Mystic peninsula, 94
Mystic River, 4, 5, 7, 11, 18, 46, 51, 58, 59, 62, 69, 79, 82, 83, 84, 96, 102, 136
Mystic River flats, 39, 48, 57
Mystic Valley Parkway, 140
Mystic Water Works, 32
Nanepashemit, 10 Ruby Street, 101 Runey, John, 95 Runey, Lydia M., 115 Runey, Pottery, 69, 95 Russell farm, 29, 138 Russell House, 130, 136 Pope School, 55 Poplar Grove, 89 Poplar Street, 90, 92 and the Northern Artery, intersection of, Population chart, 149 Population chart, 149
Porter Cattle Market, 130
Porter Square, 24, 130, 138
Porter Street, 36, 43, 108, 109
22; 26 Russell, Irving, House, 138 Russell, James, 137 Natick, 53 Russell, Philemon Robbins, 18, 130, 136, 137, 139 National Biscuit Company, 76 National Biscuit Company, 76
"The Neck", 25
Neck Village, 15
Neighborhood Atlas Survey Map, 81
Neo-Classical Style, 51, 122 Russell Street, 8, 130 25; 130 Porter's Hotel, 130 Pottery, 5, 69, 95 Pound, 83 25; 130 Russell Tavern, 136 Russell, Thomas, 82, 136 Russell, William, 138, 142 Rymes, Christopher, 112 St. Ann's Catholic Church, 107 St. Catherine's Church, 113 Powder House City, 84 Powderhouse, 4, 5, 12, 61, 126–129, 130, 136, example of, 55 Neoclassicists, 17 New England Dressed Meat and Wool Company, 57 New England Glass Company, 71 New England Prospect, 10 140 Powderhouse Boulevard, 45, 61, 136, 140 200; 93 341; 103 467; 104 Powderhouse Farm, 127, 128 Powderhouse Terrace, 45, 61, 127, 128, 139 St. James Episcopal Church, 118
St. James Episcopal Church, 128
St. Joseph's Church, 124
Salem, 67, 82
Samuels, 139
Samuels, Edward, 80, 84 and Central Street, 105 and Pearl Street, 103 New Moon, 10 New Orleans, 136 29; 129 1899, Construction of, 128 anu reari street, 103 and Washington Street, 120 at School Street, 107 Medford Turnpike, 27, 37, 67, 83, 85, 95, 120 Medford Turnpike Corporation, 83 New York City, 48 Newburyport, 82 Newbury Street, 136, 138, 139 Newton, 26, 55 Newton, Eldridge, House, 45 Prenhite, 4 Prescott, Gustavus, 96 Prescott, Gustavus G., House, 98 Prescott Street, 115 Sanborn Brick Manufacturing Company, 64, 69
Sanborn, James S., 102
Sanborn, Joseph, 68
"Sandpit Square", 120
Sanford Terrace, 89
Sargent, Captain Gilman, 130
School, Dartmouth and Thurston Street Medina Block, 131 Memorial Hall, 55 Preston, Jane, 110 Preston Road, 110 Newton, Eldridge, House, 45
Newton Highlands, 46
Newton Street, 88, 120
Nicolson's New Carpenter's Guide, 24
Niles, Louville, House, 40
Niles, Louville V., 116, 119
Norris-Gulliver House, 30
North Cambridge, 126
North Cambridge Cattle Market, 130
North, Charles H., 39, 72, 73, 87
North, Charles H., Meat Packing Plant, 37, 56, 72–73, 93 Memorial Hall, 55 Plan for, 1891, 55 Menotomy, 11 Menotomy River, 136, 137 Merrimack River, 18 Methodist Episcopal Church, 121 Metropolitan District Commission, 58 Metropolitan Park Commission, 36, 58, 61, 62, 84, 140 Middle Wyw. 94, 116 16-18; 43 20; 110 25; 46
Proctor, Catherine Eldridge, 102
Proctor, George O., House, 110
Proctor-Sanborn House, 102
"Professor's Row", 29, 140
8; 140 School, Dartmouth and 1 nurston Street subdivision, 45
School Street, 11, 34, 59, 82, 94, 100, 101, 104, 108, 110, 114, 115
156; 44
201; 33
232; 107 8; 140 "Proprietors of the Middlesex Canal", 18 Prospect Hill, 5, 7, 8, 12, 18, 27, 32, 36, 38, 39, 40, 45, 53, 55, 58, 59, 62, 63, 69, 96, 114–119, 138 Middle Way, 94, 116
Middlesex Avenue, 97
Middlesex Bleachery and Dye Works, 18, 25, 29, 36, 55, 66, 91 56, 72–73, 93 North, 11 235; 106 237; 104 North, 11 North Somerville Station, 143 North Street, 136, 141 Northern Artery, 48, 97 Northwest Cambridge, 27 Norton, George W., 73 Norton, Henry, 73 Norton Tallow Company, 73 "Norton's Tidy Soap", 73 Oak Street, 120 29, 36, 55, 66, 91 (see also Middlesex Dye, Milk Row Bleachery) Middlesex Canal, 8, 18, 67, 69, 83, 95, 97 Middlesex County, 9, 18, 51, 64 Middlesex County Courthouse, 52 Middlesex Dye and Bleachery Company, 23, 237; 104 Schubeler, Charles, 92 Sears Roebuck and Company, 42 Second Empire Style, 88, 110, 115 examples of, 53, 96, 101, 102, 124 Prospect Hill Avenue, 48
Prospect Hill Monument dedication, 116
Prospect Hill Congregational Church, 53, 121, Prospect Hill Improvement Society, 62, 116 Prospect Hill Park, 62 Prospect Hill railroad station, 38 Seven Pines, 137 Sewall Street, 83 Sewall Street, 83 Shaw, Frederick, 17 Shaw, Richard Norman, 40 Shingle Style, 40, 101, 110 definition, 40 examples of, 40, 42, 45, 112, 129 Shore Drive, 4, 62, 84 86 Middlesex Fells, 4, 61 Middlesex Fells Parkway, 58 Prospect Hill School, 22 Prospect Street, 63, 87, 120, 122 94; 93 Oak Street, 120 The Oasis, 120, 121, 123 Odd Fellows Building, 55, 102 Odin-Hittinger-Edgerly House, 102 Middlesex Fells Parkway, 58
"Middlesex Square", 132
Middlesex Turnpike, 18
Miles, Frank, 107
Milltary Works, 1775–1776, 12, 13
Milk Row, 11, 12, 15, 18, 22, 23, 28, 36, 59, 65, 66, 86, 91, 108, 109, 110, 114, 120, 130
Milk Row Bleachery and Dye Works, 29, 66
Milk Row Cemetery, 22, 70 (see Somerville 105; 31 Prospect Street garden, 1982, 63 Public Library, 34, 38, 102 Oliver Street, 95 Olmsted, Frederick Law, 59 1982, 84 Shute estate, 110 Sibley, Edwin D., 110 Orchard Street, 130 Osgood, H. P., 26 Pumps, 70 Putnam, General, 89 Ossippee Road, 139 Oris, William, 105 Ortis-Wyman House, 105 "Outside the Neck", 8 Signet Commandery Building, 103 Putnam Street, 115 Pythian Block, 122 Silver, 4 Silver, 4 Simpson, Greenleaf W., 115 Simpson, Jesse, 138 Quarry Hill, 4, 5, 11, 12, 127, 136 Queen Anne Style, 40, 41, 42, 46, 55, 101, Cemetery)
Milk Row Primary School, 22
Mill Pond of the Charles River, 89
Miller Brothers Coffin Factory, 75 Simpson, Jesse, 138
Simpson Avenue, 8, 136, 141
Skilton, George, 72, 107
Skilton Pickle Factory, 101
Sloan's Constructive Architecture, A Guide to the Practical Builder and Mechanic, 1866, 30
Smillle, James, 7
Soon meking, 73 Queen Anne Style, 40, 41, 42, 40, 33, 101, 116, 128 definition of, 40, 41, 45, 53, 85, 96, 106, 107, 112, 117, 118, 119, 123, 129, 135 Quincy granite, 63 The Quincy, 44 Radcliffe Road, 101 Oxford Street, 109 Pacific Mill, (Lawrence), 52 Miller, Ellis F., 75 Miller, Henry C., 75 Miller's Creek, 94 Miller's Hill, 89 Packard Avenue, 136 Palliser, George, 33 Panama-Pacific Exposition, 1915, 76 Panic of 1873, 101 remuler's Fill, 89
the Miller's River, 5, 7, 18, 22, 26, 36, 58, 59, 66, 86, 87, 89, 90, 110, 116, 120
the Miller's River, pollution of, 58, 59, 87
Miner Street, 103 Radcliffe Road, 101 Railroad, 18, 22, 23 Railroads, Map of, 1835–75, 23 Rands Woods, 131 Rangeway, 4, 95 Rangeways, 11, 15, 19, 24, 30, 94, 100, 103, 108, 114, 128, 136 Park Avenue, 138 Park, Eldbridge G., 118 Park, Snow and Company, 132 50; 76 Soap making, 73
Socony Gasoline Station, 49
Somerset Bank 51, 132
Somerset Chambers, 48 Somerville Avenue, 10, 11, 12, 20, 29, 36, 37, 38, 53, 59, 65, 69, 70, 86, 91, 95, 108, 110, 114, 120, 122, 130, 131
Somerville Avenue 50; 76
Parkland Street, 88
Parks, 36, 58, 59, 84, 127
Partridge, Horace, 103
Partridge Avenue, 84, 103, 105
Paulina Street, 136 Mishawum, 10 Misticks River, 10 Mitchell, 67-68 Model Homes for the People, 33 Modern Builder's Guide, 25 Monks and Johnson, 79 Raymond Avenue, 77; 42 Reading, 10 Reitenbach Brothers Mink Tannery, 91 437; 152 439-441; 33 Renaissance architecture, 53 Renaissance Revival, 110 Pawtuckets, 10 461; 20 at Poplar Street, 1925, 90 Monmouth Street, 25, 109 Pearl Street, 52, 95, 96, 101, 103 Report of the Committee on Highways, 1871, at Poplar Street, 1925, 90
near Dane Street, 22
Somerville Cemetery, 22, 59, 149
"Somerville Chambers", 110
Somerville Citizen, 103
Somerville City Improvement Society, 39
Somerville City Hospital, 138
Somerville City Hospital, 138
Somerville Congregational Society, 110
Somerville Congregational Society, 110
Somerville Directory, 1851, 98, 108
Somerville Directory, 1851, 98, 108
Somerville Highlands, 45, 127
Somerville Highlands, 45, 127
Somerville Highlands Stations, 1888, 127
Somerville Highlands Stations, 1888, 127
Somerville Home Bailroad Company, 131
Somerville Horse Railroad Company, 131
Somerville Hospital, 110 The Montrose, 44 Moore, George A., 53 Moore Street, 139 31; 53 77; 99 Revolution, 12, 18, 94–95, 96, 100 108, 114, 116, 130 79, 81; 99 53; 141 81; 31 53; 141 Morrison Avenue, 126, 127, 131 197; 26, 133 Mount Auburn Cemetery, 59 Mount Benedict, 5, 12, 15, 38, 42, 46, 58, 94, Pelham, Henry, 12 Pennsylvania Avenue, 96, 97 Rice, A. D., 42 Rice, Wilbur P., 55, 58, 127, 129 Rice, Wilbur House, 129 Richardson, Artemas C., 117 Richardson, Henry Hobson, 40 Richardsonian Romanesque Style, houses, 97 Perkins, Dana, 58, 89 Perkins Street, 95, 96 96. 97 Mount Benedict Community, 96 65-67: 98 Mount Pleasant Street, 95 Mount Vernon Street, 24, 95 definition of, 45 example of, 45 67-69; 96 Perry, Mayor, 61, 62 Phillips, Franklin F., House, 142 Phillips Grammar School, 101 8; 96 16; 98 Richdale Avenue, 102 The Richmond, 122, 125 16; 98
Perkins Street area, 24
"Mrs. Baker", 36
Munroe, Edwin, 8
Munroe, Robert, 114
Munroe, Robert, House, 117
Munroe Street, 8, 115
92, 118 Philips Grammar School Phipps, Sanford, 40, 55 Pierce, Charles, 95 Pinckney Street, 95, 96 Pine Street, 120 Pine Tree diner, 132 The Road to Newtowne, 11, 15, 94 Robinson, Charles, 103 Robinson, Enoch, 109 Robinson Street, 103 Somerville Hospital, 110 Somerville Insprovement Association, 58 Somerville Industrial Park, 90 Somerville Journal, 27, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 46, 47, 90, 94, 97, 100, 110, 114, 115, 128, Robinson, Warren J., 88 Rogers Foam Corporation, 74–75, 104 Rogers, H. R., 109 Piper's Tavern, 120, 125
Place Names and Natural Features, Map of, 9
"Plan of the Middlese Canal", 67 82; 118 97; 40, 119 houses, 119 Murdock, Asa, 126 Murdock Street, 126 Rogers Store, 98 136, 139, 140 Somerville Journal Building, 123 Somerville Junction, 126, 129, 137 Somerville Light Infantry, 59 Romanesque Revival Style, 53 example of, 34 Ropemaking, 69–70 Planning Board, 48 Playgrounds, 62 Pleasant Hill, 12, 94, 96 Murphy, James, 124 Plymouth Council, 10 Police Station, 53, 122 Rose Street, 88 Myrtle Street, 96 Mystic Avenue, 4, 18, 27, 64, 67, 68, 69, 83, Rosebud Diner, 132 Somerville Lodge of Elks, 110

The Round House, 109

Rowe, Elias, 100

Pollard, Darius, 103 Pollard Square, 103 Pollard, Warren, 101

85, 101, 120 356: 75

Somerville, Map of 1852; 5, 28, 86, 94, 100, 108, 114, 126 1874; 27, 87, 90, 95, 115, 120, 137 1879; 35, 87 1884; 59 Early Roads, 11 Place Names and Natural Features, 9 Railroads, 23 Somerville Municipal incinerator, 90 Somerville, naming of, 22 Somerville National Bank, 121 Somerville Past and Present, 80, 139 Somerville Public Library, 50, 55 Somerville Savings Bank, 125, 139 Somerville, separation from Charlestown, 22 Somerville Slate, 4, 63 Somerville Spike Works, 70 Somerville stone, 5 Somerville Theatre, 50, 51 South Street, 73 Sparrow, E. S., Hardware Store, 132 Spike Works, 70 Sprague and Hathaway Picture Frame Sprague and Hathaway Picture Frame Company, 76, 131
Sprague, W. D., 76
Spring Hill, 5, 7, 18, 24, 25, 26, 29, 30, 32, 38, 40, 50, 55, 57, 59, 62, 101, 108–113, 114, 129 Spring Hill apartments, 48 Spring Hill Primary, 110 Spring Hill Standpipe, 1889, 38 Spring Hill Subdivision Plan, 1843, 108 Spring Street, 109 15; 26 44; 110 Squaw Sachem, 10 Squire, John P., 72–73, 87 Standard Vinegar Company, 72 Stearnes farm, 128 Stearnes House, 15, 129 Stearnes, Joshua, 15 Stearnes' Marsh, 89 Stearnes, William, 128 Stickney and Poor, 101 Stickney Building, 103 Stickney, Rufus B., 45, 101, 103 Stickney Street, 8 Stickney Street, 6 Stickney Subdivision, 103, 105, 107 Stinted Common, 86, 96, 108, 114, 126, 136 "Stinted Pasture", 11, 12 Stone Avenue, 120 Stone Avenue, 120 Stone Block, 122, 125 Stone, Jonathan, 120 Stone, Orra, 79 Stone wall, 19 Stoneham, 10, 59
"Strawberry Hill", 8, 10
Streamlined Moderne Style, 48 Stud wall, 24 Stud wall, 24
Subdivision, 24, 36–39, 45, 57, 58, 59, 64, 83, 84, 86, 87, 88, 91, 95, 97, 101, 102, 103, 108, 109, 110, 111, 114, 115, 117, 127, 128, 130, 131, 135, 138, 141 "Suburbanites", 22 Suffolk County, 9 Sullivan, R., 95 Sullivan Square, 95 Summer Street, 38, 48, 108, 109, 110, 113, 151; 54, 55 152; 40, 41 156; 110 175; 55, 112 371; 51 381- 133 and Central Street, intersection of, 109 Summit Avenue, 115 3; 119 9–11; 119 14; 115 26; 118 Summit Street 17, 19; 141 Sycamore Street, 56, 100 58; 104 78; 104, 152 155; 41 155; 41 Sylvester and Company, 70 Sylvester, John E., 70, 118 Tapley, John, 108, 112 Taylor, Adoniram J., 117 Technical Advisory Corporation of New York City, 48 Teele farm, 29 Teele, Jonathan, 138 Teele, Samuel, 141 Teele Square, 39, 48, 136, 137, 138, 139 1905, 139 Teele, Thomas, 139 Telephone, 98 Temple House, 15 Temple-Jaques House, 82, 83 Temple Road, 84 Temple, Sir Robert, 15 Temple, Robert, House, 82 Vincent, George, 112 Vincent, George, House, 112 Temple Street, 15, 27, 83 35; 85

Ten Hills, 5, 6, 8, 10, 11, 12, 27, 37, 42, 45, 46, 67, 82–85, 101
Ten Hills farm, 10, 15, 39
Ten Hills Land Advertisement, 1888, 83
Ten Hills, Plan of, 1637, 3
Ten Hills, View of, 1883, 83
Tenney Court, 97
Tenney, 86bets form, 97 Tenney, Robert farm, 97 Thayer, Samuel J. F., 34, 53 Theatres, 50, 51, 97
The Theory and Practice of Landscape Gardening, Third Universalist Church, 133, 135 Thorp, Ira, 116
Three-deckers, examples of, 42, 43 Three Pole Lane, 95
Thurston-Dartmouth-School Street tract, 36 Thurston Street, 101, 102 67; 105 72; 101 92; 101 Tilton, Edward L., 50 Toll roads, 18 Tower Street, 8 Town Hill, 10 Town Ledge, 108 Town Lot, 83 Town of Somerville, Map of the, 1852, 28 Town Reports, 1859, 28 Townsend, H. T., 137 Tracy, Nathaniel, 82 Trull Lane, 109 Trull Street, 40; 105 Trum Field, 62 Tube Works Court, 87 Tubes, 70 Tubor, Frederic, 77
Tufrs, Anne, 100
Tufrs area, 130, 136–142
Tufts Brick Manufacturing Company, 27, 68, Tufts Brick Manufacturing Company, 27, 68, 126, 127
Tufts, Charles, 101, 140
Tufts College, 29, 139
Tufts, Francis, 127
Tufts Land Plan, ca. 1813, 15
Tufts, Nathan, 12, 45, 61, 98, 120, 127
Tufts, Nathan-Charles Williams, Jr. House, 98
Tufts, Nathan, Park, 4, 36, 58, 61, 136
Tufts, Nathan, Park, 4, 36, 58, 61, 136 Tufts, Nathaniel, 114 Tufts, Oliver, 102 Tufts, Oliver, House, 14, 15, 56, 104, 152 Tufts, Peter, 67, 100 Tufts, Samuel, 22 Tufts, Sarah, 100 Tufs, Sarah, 100
Tufs, Timothy, 68, 108
Tufs, Ind tract, 103
Tufs University, 55, 136
Two-family houses, 42-45; 48, 51, 57, 58, 84, 88, 96, 97, 102, 127, 128, 139, 140
Tyler, Columbus, 110
Tyler, Columbus, Estate, 113
Union Glass, 39
Union Glass Company, 70, 71, 120
Union Glass Showroom, 71
Union Glass Works, 71, 87, 91
Union Glass Works, 71, 87, 91
Union Square, 18, 25, 26, 28, 29, 34, 38, 53, 65, 69, 70, 75, 95, 109, 114, 115, 117, 120-125, 131, 132
15; 123 15; 123 15; 123 26; 48 31–34; 121, 123 57–61; 125 66–70; 122 90; 150 Union Square Fire Station, 123, 150 Union Square Police Station, 1874, 34 Union Square, 1892, 123 Union Street, 68, 132 Unitarian Church, 102 Universalist College, 140 Upper Winter Hill Primary school, 22 Ursuline Convent, 96 Veazie Row, 106 Veazie Street, 101 Veazie, William, 101, 107 Vernon Street, 75, 101, 103 20; 74 49; 104 and Central Street, 101; 107 Vernon Street Artists' Studio, 104 Victorian, definition of; 151 Victorian Iron works, 66 Victorian Gothic Style, 33, 122 definition of, 34 examples of, 34, 53 'Victory Gardens", 90 Villa Street, 132 Village Avenue, 88 Vinal Avenue, 8, 53 42; 119 48; 118 Vinal, Quincy A., 22, 27 Vinal, Robert Aldersey, 114, 118, 121, 123

Vinegar, 72

Wadsworth, Alexander, 25, 59, 82, 108, 109 Walker Garage, 132
Walks and Rides in the Country Round About Boston, 128 Wallace Street, 138 Walnut Hill, 29 Walnut Hill School, 22 Walnut Street, 11, 34, 59, 72, 95, 100, 101, 114, 115, 116 8–10; 123 37; 117 45; 40 48; 115; 117 141; 105 Walnut Tree Hill, 5, 29, 136, 140 Waltham, 48 Ward Street, 73 Ward II, 5, 6, 8, 12, 18, 27, 37, 46, 48, 57, 66, 84, 86–93, 95, 129 and Cobble Hill, 86–93 Map of, 1874, 87 Map of, 1879, 87 Ware Street, 141 Warren Avenue, 22, 53, 115 Warren Hotel, 122 warren Hotel, 122 Washburn, David, 68 Washington, General George, 94–95 Washington Street, 11, 15, 28, 36, 37, 53, 62, 69, 70, 72, 82, 86, 87, 89, 91, 94, 95, 96, 114, 120, 121, 122, 131 117; 14, 15 285; 75 321; 77 384; 92 and Dane Street, 10 and Prospect Street, 120 and Union Square, 124 in Union Square, 25 Water Department, 53 Watertown, 5, 10, 65 Wayland, 17 Wayland, 17
Webster Avenue, 48, 70, 86, 87, 95, 121
Webster, Daniel, 82
Webster, T. B., 73
Wellesley, 55
Wesley Court, 120
Wesley Park, 115 Wesley Park, 115
West Boston Bridge, 18
West Cambridge, 10, 12, 65
West End Railway, 139
West Somerville Street Car, 39
West Street Railway Company Carshop, 139
West Somerville, 5, 8, 24, 28, 29, 30, 32, 36, 42, 45, 57, 61, 130, 131, 136–142
West Somerville and Tufts, 136–142
West Somerville Board of Trade, 132
West Somerville Board of Trade, 132
West Somerville Branch Library, 50 West Somerville Branch Library, 50 Weston Avenue, 136 Westwood Road, 45, 57, 110, 112 8; 45 and Central Street, (1 Westwood Road) 113 Wheatland Street, 69 Wheeler, Gervase, 24 Whipple, John, 129 Whipple Street, 126 White, Artemas, 130, 133 White Place, 52
White Place, 52
White Street, 28–30; 133
Whitfield Road, 139
Whitney, William A., 93
Wilcox, F., 51
"Wildcat Hill", 8 "Wildcat Hill", 8 Willard, William, 52 Williams, Charles, 96, 101 Williams, Charles, House, 31 Williams, Charles, Jr., 98 Williams, Court, 36 Williams, Frank, 129 Williams, Paulinus F., 75 Williams Table and Lumber Company, 75 Willis' Creek, 86 Willow Avenue, 4, 8, 11, 38, 58, 68, 108, 126, 127, 129, 131
"Willow Bridge", 127
Willow Station, 127 Wilmington, 65 Wilson Brick Press, 68 Wisson Brick Frees, 60
Winchester, 59
Winslow Avenue, 132
Winter Hill, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 15, 16, 18, 24, 28, 29, 32, 36, 38, 40, 45, 48, 50, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 69, 96, 97, 100–107, 131
Winter Hill Congregational Church, 53 Winter Hill Congregational Church, 53
Winter Hill from Central and Hudson Streets,
View of, ca. 1869, 56
Winter Hill, Plan of House Lots on, 1847, 101
Winter Hill Primary school, 22
Winter Hill railroad station, 38, 39, 103
Winter Hill Road, 10, 11, 12, 15, 16, 25, 94,
95, 101, 102 Winter Fill Road, 10, 11, 12, 13, 16, 23, 94 95, 101, 102 Winthrop, 55 Winthrop, John, Governor, 3, 10 15, 79, 82 Winthrop Street, 8 Wisconsin glacier, 5
"Without the Peninsula", 8 Woburn, 10 Wolcott, Samuel, 127

Wolrich, John, 10, 86

Wood, Walter, 52-53 Wood, William 10 Woodbine Street, 126, 129
Woodbine Street houses, 129
Woodbridge Hotel, 132
Woodbridge Hotel, 132
Woodbory Locke House, 101
Woodcock, Shepard S., 34, 40, 52, 53
Woolrich, John, 86
Workers' housing, 23, 29, 31, 36, 37, 83, 87, 88, 90, 91, 92, 101, 105, 109, 126, 129, 138
World War I, 42, 84, 90, 132
World War II, 48, 51, 132
World War II, 48, 51, 132
Worthington, Henry R., 38
Wright, Duncan, 66 Woodbine Street, 126, 129 Wright, Duncan, 66 Wright, Henry, E., 53 Wright, Robert S., 119 Wyatt, George, 68, 88, 93 Wyatt, George, House, 93 Wyatt Pit, 27, 62, 93 Wyatt Street, 129 Wyman, Charles B., 105 Yorktown, 137 Zoning ordinance, 48



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