

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number
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73-181	Sandwich	A	SDW.236
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town/City: Sandwich

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Sandwich Village Center

Photograph



Address: 148-150 Main Street

Historic Name: The W. E. Boyden House

Uses: Present: Two Family Residential

Original: Residential

Date of Construction: 1857

Source: Assessors Records

Style/Form: Greek Revival and Italianate

Architect/Builder: Ellis Howland

Exterior Material:

Foundation: cut granite

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards

Roof: ridge

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: good

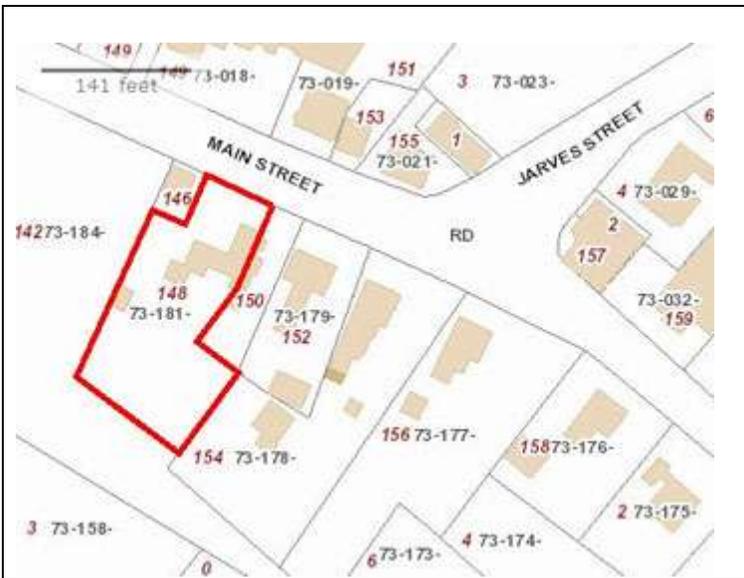
Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .49

Setting:

This is the historic village of Sandwich, traversed by the original east-west route of the Old King's Highway (Main Street), and by the principal historic roads leading north to the harbor, and south to southern Sandwich. The village remains the most densely developed part of the town, where excellently preserved, fine and typical, 18th century, 19th century, and a few early 20th century buildings convey its history.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Don Bayley

Organization: Sandwich Historical Commission

Date May / 2012

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

By the 1850s, architectural ornamentation and form began to transition from the Greek Revival to the Italianate and other styles popular at the time. A few large mid-century Italianate houses are found on Main Street, one is located on Water Street. Other transitional houses display both Greek Revival and Italianate ornamentation. The W. E. Boyden House is a large 2½ story house built with both Greek Revival and Italianate features. The house consists of a four-bay, gable-front main block, and a five-bay, two-story wing extending from the rear of the right side elevation. The house rests on a granite foundation, is sheathed in wood clapboards, and has windows with 6/6 sash set in molded surrounds and wood shutters. Centered in the five-bay wing is an Italianate door with denticulated entablature. A second entrance on the right side elevation of the main block has similar detailing. A one-story porch supported by paired posts encloses the right side elevation of the main block and the full width of the wing. The main block has two chimneys rising from the ridge, and the wing has one interior chimney. The roof eaves have decorative paired brackets. In addition to the wing, there is a 1½-story end-gable ell extending from the rear of the house. There is also a one-bay garage set in the back of the property, and the street edge of the property has a granite and wood fence.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the 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.

William Ellis Boyden was born in 1806. He ran the Plymouth/Sandwich Stage coach operation starting in 1822. When the Cape Cod Branch Railroad came to town in the mid 1800s, he formed the Cape Cod Express Company for handling, packing, picking up and delivering local freight and for moving the mail between post offices and trains. Boyden was a chief supporter of a Universalist religious society which built a church in 1845 on the corner of Main and Summer Streets. Membership soon declined and the church was closed in 1869. In 1857 he built what became known as the "Boyden Block" on Main Street between the Unitarian Church and the Central House. It consisted of a long building of several shops and a meeting hall upstairs. He also built a large livery stable adjoining where he kept his old Plymouth stage coaches. The Boyden Block was destroyed by fire in 1913.

William Boyden served as President of the new Sandwich Savings Bank which was founded in 1856 by glass factory owner Deming Jarves and other local merchants and landowners. He supported the Sandwich troops in the Civil War and gave a sword to Captain Charles Chipman of the Sandwich Guards. Boyden also supported the building the Casino on School Street in 1884.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1860 Census, Sandwich, Barnstable, Massachusetts; Roll: M653_486; Page: 24; Image: 24; Family History Library Film: 803486

Lovell, Russell. *Sandwich. A Cape Cod Town*. Town of Sandwich Archives and Historical Center. William S. Sullwold Publishing, Inc. Taunton, Mass. 1984.

Massachusetts Historical Commission Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS)
Inventory: SDW.A: Sandwich Center Village; SDW.S, SDW.X: Town Hall Square Historic District

Shaw, Jonathan, Sandwich Historical Commission

Town of Sandwich Archives and Historical Center: Historic Resource Survey Files, SHC Asset Files.