

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

73-116	Sandwich	A, X	SDW.230
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Photograph



Town/City: Sandwich

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

Address: 166 Main Street

Historic Name: Charles Burgess House

Uses: Present: single family dwelling

Original: single family dwelling

Date of Construction: 1877

Source: articles in *Seaside Press*, 19 May & 15 Sep 1877

Style/Form: Second Empire

Architect/Builder: Gustavus Howland/T.C. Harlow

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards, wood shingles

Roof: asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

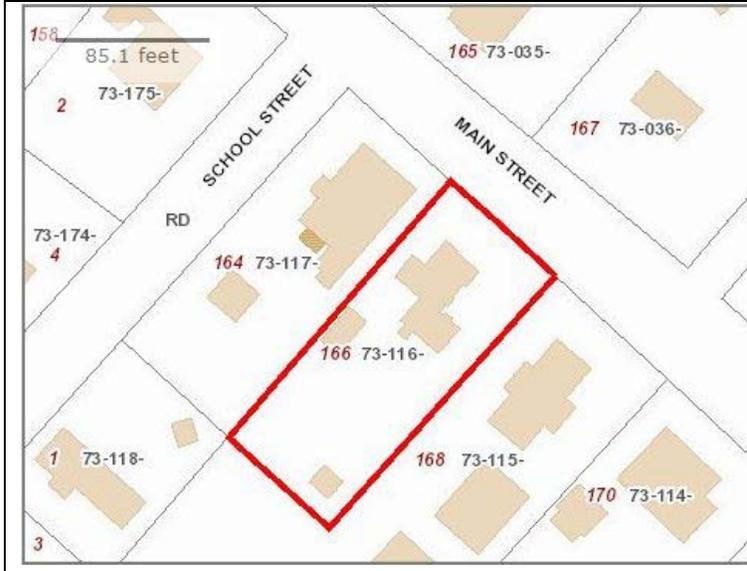
Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .29

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 (*month / year*): Feb/2012

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

SANDWICH

166 Main St.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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 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.

The Second Empire style is not common within the district, with just two residential buildings: the Congregational Parsonage (14 School Street, SDW.248, ca. 1870) and the subject Charles Burgess House which is a one and one-half story L-plan mansard roof cottage located close to the street. The house rests on a brick foundation, is sheathed in wood clapboards on the front elevation and wood shingles on the side elevation additions, and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles and has a centered interior chimney. The primary two-bay elevation has a side-hall entrance with a heavy entablature and an entrance canopy supported by square posts, and a hexagonal bay with 1/1 and 2/2 sash. The mansard roof has corner brackets and single-window hipped roof dormers with replacement windows with 2/2 sash. On the front elevation of the wing, there is a second entrance with a projecting hipped roof porch. A small flat-roofed addition projects from the right rear elevation. A modern one-bay garage is located behind the house.

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.

The mid 19th century brought substantial new residential building to the village and adjacent areas boosted by the success of the glass works. The houses in the village proper tended to be more elaborate than the workers' houses constructed near the factory. The Second Empire style was inspired by Napoleon III. In America the style was especially popular during Ulysses S. Grant's term in office (1869-1877) and was sometimes referred to as General Grant style. And it was in 1877 that the house at 166 Main was built.

About 1858 Charles Henry Burgess, a direct descendant of Thomas Burgess, one of the first Sandwich settlers, opened a general store at Jarves and Cross Streets. His son, Charles Seymour Burgess (1847-1926) became a grocer in town and married Mary Abbie Howland (1850-1938). The May 19th, 1877 edition of *Seaside Press* has a brief note: "Mr. F. O. Lovell commenced laying the foundation, on Wednesday, for the new house of Mr. C. S. Burgess on Main Street." In the September 15th, 1877 edition we read: "The French roof (mansard) cottage of Mr. Charles S. Burgess on Main Street is about completed and is quite an improvement to that part of the village. The rooms are large, well lighted and ventilated. On the first floor is the parlor, 15 feet square, with a bay window, the front hall 18 feet long, the sitting room, 15x16 ft. with a bay window, bedroom 12x15 feet with a clothes press, dining room 16x11 feet with two cupboards, kitchen 10 ft. square, and pantry with shelves, drawers, lockers etc., opening into both the dining room and kitchen. On the second floor there are five good sized rooms...The plan was originated by Mr. Gustavus Howland, who in connection with Mr. T. C. Harlow, has superintended the building of it; and the finished structure does them credit."

Per the 1870 Census, Mr. Howland was Charles Burgess' father-in-law. Incidentally, one of Charles Burgess' three brothers was Thornton Waldo Burgess, Sr., the father of Thornton Waldo Burgess, the famous author and naturalist.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

1870 & 1880 Federal Census, Massachusetts, Barnstable, Sandwich

Conry, Jaci, *A History Through Houses, Cape Cod's Varied Residential Architecture*, The History Press, 2010

Hiam, Katharine W., *Burgess Genealogy*, New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston 1997, Lee Drew library

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

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Massachusetts Historical Commission Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS) Inventory No: SDW.A : Sandwich Center - Village

Nye, L. Bert, *American Nyes*, Nye family of America Association, East Sandwich, Mass. 1977-1980

Seaside Press, 19 May and 15 Sep 1877

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

