

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

73-158,
73-184

Sandwich

SDW.X

SDW.802

Town Hall Sq. NRDIS, 1975

Town/City: Sandwich

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Town Hall Square

Address: 3 Water St

Historic Name: Parson's Walk

Uses: Present: Open Space

Original: Open Space

Date of Construction: N/A

Source: SDW.X

Style/Form: No Structures

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation:

Wall/Trim:

Roof:

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: Unimproved woodlands

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: Approx. 2.5

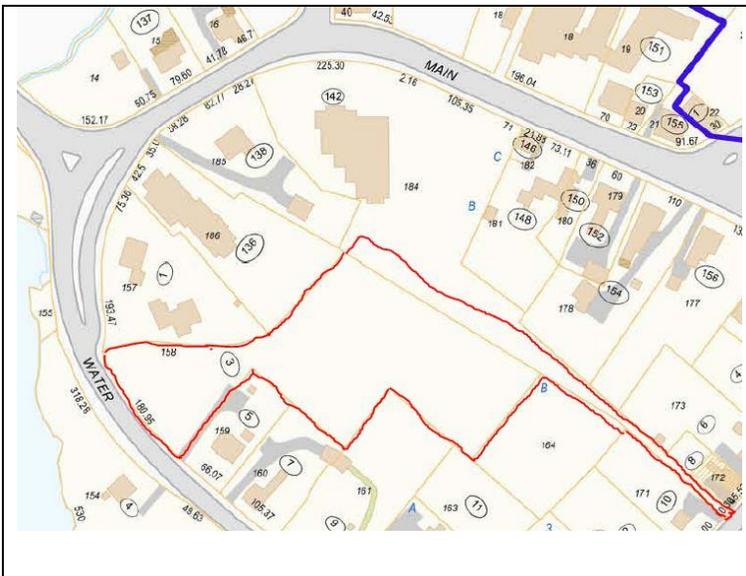
Setting: The Town Hall Square Historic District is a cohesive district unified by the Lake and streetscapes, with mature plantings, broad lawns, and uniformly sited dwellings articulating the settlement history of Sandwich from the 17th into the 20th century. The district includes several well drained, level to moderately sloping knolls, terraces, and other landforms located in close proximity to wetlands.

Photograph



1 Northeast from Water Street

Locus Map



Recorded by: T. Blake and W. Blake

Organization: Sandwich Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): February, 2012

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

SANDWICH

03 Water St.

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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.

There are no structures extant on the site and there are no records of any structures having been there.

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 "Parson's Walk" is an area of open space primarily located behind the church, houses and businesses that surround it on Main, Water and School Streets. The area bounds Water Street along a 180.95 foot arc facing historic Shawme Pond at 3 Water Street. A 10.30 foot wide easement connects the area with School Street between numbers 8 and 10. The northern edge of the Parson's Walk is defined by the southern edge of the Town Library parking lot and the back of the lots fronting Main Street. The eastern boundary is defined by the back of the lots fronting School Street. The southern boundary is defined by the back of lots fronting Water Street. The western boundary is defined by the back of the First Congregational Church and 1 Water Street.

The Parson's Walk is named for the pathway from School Street to the back of the 1st Church of Christ (136 Main Street, MHC #239, 1848), connecting it with the historic Parsonage at 14 School Street (MHC #248, ca. 1870). The path was also used by pedestrian traffic between the Town Hall Square and points west and north, and the baseball field, grammar school and casino on School Street (both now demolished). The property is owned by the Town of Sandwich, under the care of the Conservation Commission. There is a primitive gravel and granite step path leading from the Library parking lot to the back of the 1st Church parking lot, dedicated to Jack and Clara Field. This path is unrelated to the historic Parson's Walk.

The area is heavily wooded and provides a relatively unencumbered natural habitat for flora and fauna. The area includes the top of a moderately sloping knoll at 38.8 ft SL and a wetland depression at 17.5 ft SL. Only the southwest-facing slope of the knoll, as viewed from Water Street, is landscaped. Care is provided by the Town of Sandwich.

The area has never had archeological testing, but it is likely that natural soil horizons containing ancient artifacts are intact and the site does have integrity.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Town Hall Square Historic District SDW.W

Prepared By: E. Dray and G. Schuler, with B. Friedberg, MHC NR Director, MHC, July 2010

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2 Southwest from 1st Church Parking Lot



3 Marking Path from Library to Church

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

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4 South from Library Parking Lot



5 Southwest from Library Parking Lot

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6 Southwest from Knoll to Shawme Pond



7 Northwest from School Street. to 10' Easement