

## 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 newsletter, *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)

Address	Historic Name or Architectural Style	Date/ Circa	NR	LHD
<b>Central Hill</b>				
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	1852	N	L
117-119 Highland Ave.	Greek Revival	1850		L
125 Highland Ave.	First Universalist Church	1916	N	
130 Highland Ave.	First Unitarian Church	1894	N	L
137 Highland Ave.	Gaut House	1848	N	L
140 Highland Ave.	Queen Anne	1885	N	L
<b>Davis Square</b>				
40 College Ave.	West Branch Library	1909	N	L
49-55 Davis Square	Somerville Theatre/ Hobbs Building	1914	N	L
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		L
25 Russell St.	Russell House	1850	N	L
381 Summer St.	Rosebud Diner	1935		L
88 Winslow Ave.	Walker Garage	1911		L
<b>Campbell Park / Meacham Road Historic District (Davis Square)</b>				
3-5 Campbell Park	Thomas Murphy House	1892		L
7 Campbell Park	Nathan Simonds House	1891		L
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
<b>Chester Street Historic District (Davis Square)</b>				
20 Chester St.	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
<b>East Somerville</b>				
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 House	1889		L
46 Mt. Vernon St.	George Poole House	1885		L	47 Columbus Ave.	Phillip Eberle House	1882		L
47 Mt. Vernon St.	Fred Coburn House	1885		L	50 Columbus Ave.	Aaron Gould House	1897		L
64 Mt. Vernon St.	Webcowit Club	1870		L	53 Columbus Ave.	Second Empire	1874		L
68 Mt. Vernon St.	Lewis Lombard House	1879		L	55 Columbus Ave.	Thomas McCormic House	1874		L
74 Mt. Vernon St.	Walter Durell House	1873		L	56 Columbus Ave.	Charles Cushman House	1875		L
31 Pearl St.	Henry Wright House	1896		L	57 Columbus Ave.	William Canavan House	1877		L
81 Pearl St.	Italianate	1860	N	L	58 Columbus Ave.	Melville Parkhurst House	1874		L
77 Perkins St.	Bailey House	1830		L	59 Columbus Ave.	William Canavan House	1887		L
65-67 Perkins St.	Gustavus G. Prescott House	1840	N	L	61 Columbus Ave.	James H. Brooks House	1880	N	L
132 Perkins St.	Charles Waters House	1860		L	63 Columbus Ave.	S. E. Brackett House	1880	N	L
143-145 Perkins St.	Dr. Horace Hemenway House	1884		L	67 Columbus Ave.	Henry Ryder House	1873		L
157 Perkins St.	Roberts Brothers House	1850		L	68 Columbus Ave.	John Ambrose House	1890		L
113 Washington St.	Buddy's Truck Stop	1930		L	69 Columbus Ave.	Benjamin Thompson House	1885		L
117 Washington St.	Ireland House	1792	N	L	70 Columbus Ave.	Lindley Sturtevant House	1875		L
<b>Mt. Vernon Street Historic District (East Somerville)</b>					73 Columbus Ave.	Charles Drouet House	1885		L
8 Mt. Vernon St.	Ebenezer Davis House	1850	N	L	75-77 Columbus Ave.	Richard Sturtevant House	1884		L
12 Mt. Vernon St.	Greek Revival	1850	N		76 Columbus Ave.	Robert Sanborn House	1882		L
12R Mt. Vernon St.	Federal/Greek Revival	1820	N		78 Columbus Ave.	Robert Sanborn House	1882		L
16 Mt. Vernon St.	H.M. Hutchins House	1850	N	L	24 Warren Ave.	Almy-Ellis House	1874		L
18 Mt. Vernon St.	Italianate	1850	N		26 Warren Ave.	Shattuck House	1875		L
20 Mt. Vernon St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	27 Warren Ave.	George Baxter House	1874		L
22-24 Mt. Vernon St.	Second Empire	1880	N		28 Warren Ave.	Emery Munroe House	1875		L
<b>Industrial Park</b>					29 Warren Ave.	Richard Hines House	1873		L
14 Chestnut St.	Italianate	1855	N		30 Warren Ave.	A. Lovejoy House & Stable	1871	N	L
<b>Powderhouse</b>					31 Warren Ave.	Hazen Sturtevant House	1873		L
37 Albion St.	F. G. Williams House	1860	N	L	32 Warren Ave.	John Ambrose House	1880		L
25 Clyde St.	Brickworker's House	1850	N	L	33 Warren Ave.	George Kimball House	1877		L
343 Highland Ave.	Queen Anne	1880	N	L	<b>Pleasant Ave. Historic District (Prospect Hill)</b>				
44 Kidder Ave.	Laurence Lewis House	1895		L	4-6 Pleasant Ave.	The Hollander Block	1890	N	L
302 Lowell St.	Michael Spelan House	1884		L	8-10 Pleasant Ave.	James Tyler House	1883		L
140-148 Morrison Ave.	Mansard Rowhouses	1870		L	9 Pleasant Ave.	Second Empire	1884		L
222 Morrison Ave.	William Shedd House	1873		L	11 Pleasant Ave.	Second Empire	1884		L
Nathan Tufts Park/ Powderhouse Park	Powderhouse Fieldhouse	1703 1936	N N	L L	12 Pleasant Ave.	Elijah Walker House	1873		L
29 Powderhouse Terr.	Z. E. Cliff House	1900	N	L	15 Pleasant Ave.	Italianate/Stick Style	1884		L
<b>Prospect Hill</b>					16 Pleasant Ave.	Italianate	1874		L
17-19A Aldersey St.	A. Taylor House & Stable	1869		L	18 Pleasant Ave.	Queen Anne	1895		L
2 Bigelow St.	Henry Robbins House	1886		L	20 Pleasant Ave.	Queen Anne	1895		L
17 Bonner Ave.	William Bonner House	1845		L	22 Pleasant Ave.	Queen Anne	1890		L
65 Boston St.	Elizabeth Blodgett House	1887		L	23 Pleasant Ave.	Henry Colson House	1893		L
83 Boston St.	Jennie Marden House	1892		L	24 Pleasant Ave.	Frank Wellington House	1875		L
91 Boston St.	Munroe-Hill House	1850		L	45 Vinal Ave.	Lizzie Wellington House	1875		L
27 Columbus Ave.	Julia Gustin House	1892		L	48 Vinal Ave.	Italianate	1873	N	L
Munroe St.	Prospect Hill Tower	1903		L	49 Vinal Ave.	Hailey House	1894	N	L
15 Munroe St.	Gilson House	1845		L	50 Vinal Ave.	Second Empire	1873		L
82 Munroe St.	The Grandview	1896	N		54 Vinal Ave.	Wright House	1895	N	L
88 Munroe St.	Benjamin Munroe House	1850		L	56 Vinal Ave.	Colonial Revival 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		L
5-11 Putnam St.	David Lord Apartments	1892		L	<b>Spring Hill</b>				
15 Quincy St.	The Quincy	1895		L	81 Benton Rd.	Queen Anne	1890	N	L
18 Sanborn Ave.	Colonial Revival Apartments	1908		L	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 House	1860		L
8-10 Walnut St.	Somerville Journal Building	1894	N	L	16-18 Laurel St.	Bonner-Snow House	1860		L
37 Walnut St.	Robert Munroe House	1849	N	L	45 Laurel St.	Alexander Foster House	1860	N	L
45 Walnut St.	Louville Niles House	1890	N	L	11 Linden Ave.	Isaac Story House	1860	N	L
<b>Columbus Ave. / Warren Ave. Historic District (Prospect Hill)</b>					10 Mossland St.	Jacob Foster House	1875		L
41 Columbus Ave.	Artemus Richardson House	1865		L	22 Porter St.	Gothic Revival	1850		L
					23 Porter St.	Gothic Revival	1850		L
					16-18 Preston Rd.	Colonial Revival Three-Decker	1910	N	L

Address	Historic Name or Architectural Style	Date/ Circa	NR	LHD	Address	Historic Name or Architectural Style	Date/ Circa	NR	LHD
20 Preston Rd.	George Ireland House	1853		L	154 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
101 School St.	Colonial Revival Apartments	1889		L	156-158 Summer St.	Somerset Chambers	1930	N	
117 School St.	James Long House	1870		L	162 Summer St.	Colonial Revival	1960	N	
104 Summer St.	Colonial Revival Apartments	1908		L	166-168 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1895	N	
125 Summer St.	Jacob Homer House	1848		L	170 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
151 Summer St.	John Haigh House	1891		L	172 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
					174 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
					176 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
					184 Summer St.	Queen Anne	1890	N	
<b>Spring Hill Historic District</b>					<b>Westwood Road Historic District (Spring Hill)</b>				
35 Atherton St.	Martin W. Carr School	1898	N	L	2 Benton Rd.	Colonial Revival	1910	N	
36 Atherton St.	The Round House	1856	N	L	3 Benton Rd.	Craftsman	1905	N	
40 Atherton St.	William Robinson House	1860	N	L	12 Benton Rd.	Francis Raymond House	1910	N	L
44-48 Atherton St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	18 Benton Rd.	Eugene Carr House	1910	N	L
47 Atherton St.	Colonial Revival	1880	N		58 Central St.	Shingle Style	1898	N	
53 Atherton St.	Greek Revival	1850	N		1 Westwood Rd.	Somerville Historical Society	1929	N	L
54 Atherton St.	Italianate	1880	N		2 Westwood Rd.	Berry-Kelley House	1898	N	L
55-57 Atherton St.	Colonial Revival	1900	N		3 Westwood Rd.	Edwin Sibley House	1898	N	L
58-60 Atherton St.	Greek Revival	1850	N	L	5 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1898	N	L
61 Atherton St.	W. L. Edgerton House	1860	N	L	6 Westwood Rd.	Dutch Colonial	1910	N	L
65-67 Atherton St.	Italianate	1870	N		7 Westwood Rd.	Georgian Revival	1898	N	L
34 Central St.	Colonial Revival	1895	N		8 Westwood Rd.	Elbridge Newton House	1898	N	L
36 Central St.	Queen Anne	1885	N		9 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1898	N	L
40 Central St.	Dutch Colonial Revival	1910	N		10 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1898	N	L
22-24 Elm Place	Colonial Revival	1910	N		11 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1900	N	L
23 Elm Place	Italianate	1880	N		12 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1900	N	L
25 Elm Place	Queen Anne	1890	N		14 Westwood Rd.	Colonial Revival	1900	N	L
1-3 Harvard Place	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	L	15 Westwood Rd.	English Revival	1900	N	L
9-11 Harvard Place	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	L	16 Westwood Rd.	Colonial Revival	1910	N	L
10 Harvard Place	Mansard	1870	N		17 Westwood Rd.	English Revival	1900	N	L
14 Harvard Place	Mansard	1870	N		18 Westwood Rd.	Shingle Style	1900	N	L
7-9 Harvard St.	Three-Decker	1910	N						
11 Harvard St.	Colonial Revival	1920	N		<b>Ten Hills</b>				
12 Harvard St.	Greek Revival/Italianate	1860	N		257 Broadway	Chauncey Holt House	1877		L
16 Harvard St.	Colonial Revival	1920	N		52 Main St.	Benjamin Hunt House	1870		L
18 Harvard St.	Colonial Revival	1920	N		35 Temple St.	Colonial	1750	N	L
20 Harvard St.	Cape	1950	N						
22 Harvard St.	Cape	1950	N		<b>Tufts</b>				
35 Harvard St.	Italianate/Colonial Revival	1890	N		88 College Ave.	Charles H. Lockhardt House	1890	N	L
37 Harvard St.	Italianate	1880	N		52 Powderhouse Blvd.	Colonial Revival	1916		L
38 Harvard St.	Dutch Colonial Revival	1910	N		17 Summit St.	John F. Nichols House	1890	N	L
40 Harvard St.	Queen Anne	1885	N		<b>Union Square</b>				
7 Mardell Circle	Italianate	1880	N		Somerville Av.	Somerville Cemetery	1804	N	L
3 Monmouth St.	Queen Anne	1895	N		437 Somerville Av.	Greek Revival	1830	N	L
9 Monmouth St.	Italianate	1870	N		439-441 Somerville Av.	Italianate	1870	N	
10 Monmouth St.	Queen Anne/Colonial Revival	1895	N		439R-441R Somerville	Greek Revival	1840	N	L
23-25 Monmouth St.	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	L	215 Washington St.	William Walker House	1865		L
31-33 Monmouth St.	Chestnut Court Houses	1850	N	L	237 Washington St.	U. S. Post Office	1935	N	
4 Phillips Place	Colonial Revival	1900	N		275-277 Washington St.	John Smith House	1870		L
15 Spring St.	Gothic Revival	1845	N	L	<b>Bow Street Historic District (Union Square)</b>				
18-20 Spring St.	Queen Anne	1885	N		17 Bow St.	Prospect Hill Congregational Church	1887	N	L
22-24 Spring St.	Queen Anne	1875	N		26 Bow St.	Queen Anne/Stick Style	1874	N	L
28 Spring St.	Colonial Revival	1960	N		30 Bow St.	Vernacular/Georgian Revival	1874	N	L
31-33 Spring St.	Brick Colonial Revival	1920	N		33-37 Bow St.	The Richmond	1892	N	L
32 Spring St.	Ranch	1950	N		34 Bow St.	Queen Anne	1874	N	L
34 Spring St.	Brick Colonial Revival	1920	N		36 Bow St.	Plummer House	1874	N	L
35 Spring St.	Italianate/Colonial Revival	1900	N		38-40 Bow St.	Market Building	1928	N	L
37 Spring St.	Brick Colonial Revival	1920	N		39-49 Bow St.	Crescent Row	1900	N	L
38 Spring St.	Second Empire/Italianate	1875	N		42 Bow St.	Mansard	1874	N	L
42 Spring St.	Greek Revival	1860	N		46 Bow St.	Queen Anne	1874	N	L
44 Spring St.	Italianate	1875	N		50 Bow St.	Police Station	1874	N	L
45 Spring St.	Ranch	1950	N		56 Bow St.	Vernacular Italianate	1874	N	L
46-46A Spring St.	Italianate	1890	N		58-68 Bow St./ 365-377 Somerville Av.	The Drouet Block	1900	N	L
47 Spring St.	John Woods House	1860	N	L	1 Summer St.	First United Methodist Church	1874	N	L
49 Spring St.	Christopher Rymes House	1883	N	L					
50 Spring St.	Italianate/Colonial Revival	1890	N						
54 Spring St.	Italianate	1880	N						
152 Summer St.	Edward Crane House	1895	N	L					

**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 Tavern Wing	1808	N	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		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-houses	1880	N	
333 Broadway	The Princeton	1914		L
359-365 Broadway	Langmaid Terrace	1889	N	L
392-400 Broadway	Second Empire Double Houses	1874		L
404 Broadway	Broadway Winter Hill Congregational Church	1895	N	L
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	N	L
27 Maple Ave.	Elias Marston House	1874		L
371 Medford St.	James Robinson House	1887		L
156 School St.	The Montrose	1894		L
205 School St.	Second Empire	1870	N	L
237 School St.	Elisha Hopkins House	1860	N	
58 Sycamore St.	Russell House	1830	N	L
78 Sycamore St.	Oliver Tufts House	1714	N	L
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, landscape 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 car-barn, 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.

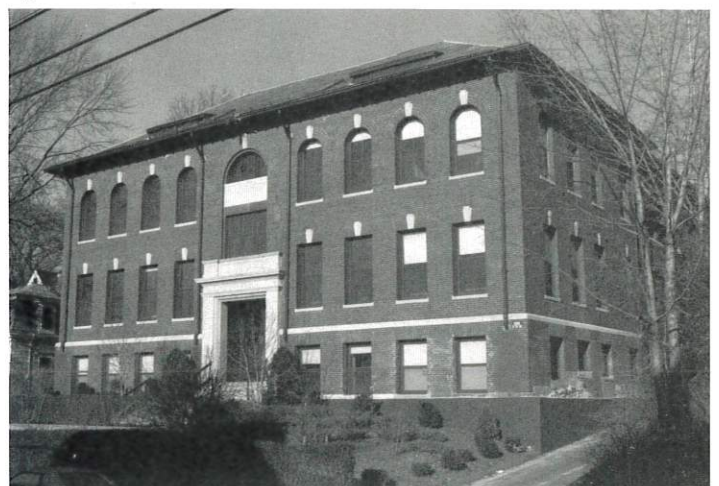


Davis Square, 1989. Looking west toward the Somerville Theatre.

**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.

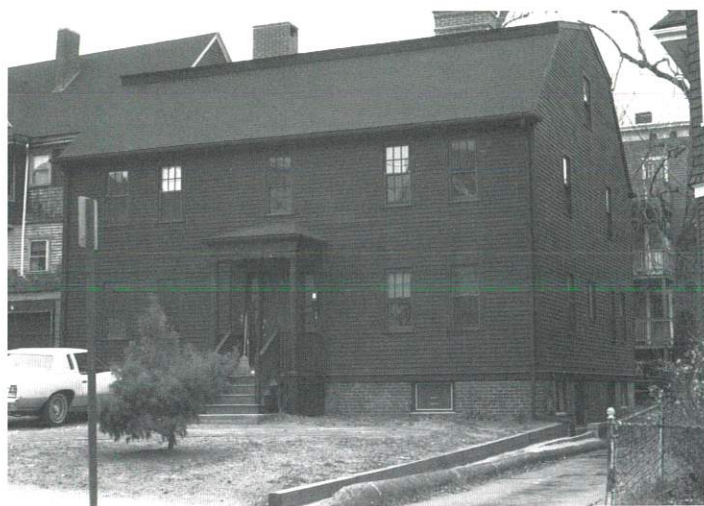


**Martha Perry Lowe School, 181 Morrison Avenue, ca. 1903.** This Renaissance Revival style school near Davis Square was reused as apartments.





## 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 siege 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, ca. 1830–1840, photograph 1980.** One of very few pre-Civil War homes along an early road, this house was covered with shingles and in serious need of repair before the owner fully restored it.



**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.



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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.
9. 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 Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, v. 6, p. 463.

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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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