

Fourth Parsonage
115 North Main
1917

This is the fourth parsonage for the Congregational Church.



The second and third parsonages still stand on South Main Street. This house is a good example of the Colonial Revival style. Note the larger scale windows, which allow more light into the interior. The plan is three bays wide, rather than the typical five bays of the Colonial/Georgian period. It is now privately owned .

Old Town Hall
1867

The Old Town Hall was built to accommodate a number of town functions, and included classrooms, offices and a library. It replaced a town hall, located just north of the Graves library, which burned.



Many of the building's original Italianate features are still visible, such as the prominent modillion blocks at the cornice and raking eaves and its triple window composition in the gable end. It was sold and became the Blue Heron restaurant in 2004, who restored a front porch similar to the original.

"Sunderland Bank"
108 North Main
c. 1825

The Bank was formed in 1825, when area farmers had enough economic success to need a place to put their money.



Bank founders were local residents Erastus Graves, who ran a general store, Nathaniel Smith, who owned a store dealing in lumber farm goods, and produce, and Roswell Field, who put together \$100,000. In 1831 the bank moved to Amherst and the Sunderland Bank building was turned into a general store, run by James H. Taylor in 1832.

The building is late Federal, early Greek Revival in style. Note that unlike the earlier houses, the gable end faces the street, and four flat column-like wood "pilasters" run up the facade. The gable is an architectural detail that was popular in western Massachusetts, which has been seen in Brimfield and Northfield. The doorway is flanked by sidelights, to let more light into the entry hall.

"Town House"
104 North Main
c. 1820-1828

Built by the church for church and town use, the building was sold to investors in 1834 when matters of church and state were separated. In spite of the investor's hope that it would be used as a town hall, the building's former association with the church prevented voters from accepting it as a town hall. The building sat vacant until 1849, when it was converted to a dwelling. It was later used as a store.



The building is Greek Revival in style, with obvious references to Greek temples. Note its stocky profile compared to the more-delicate lines of the Federal style in the Old Bank.

Graves Memorial Library
1900

A library for public use was in existence in town as early as 1794. In 1838 Horatio Graves set aside a room for the library in his general store, located on the site of the present library. When the store burned in 1854, so went the library. The library was next housed in the Old Town Hall, built in 1867. In 1898, John L. Graves, a former Sunderland resident, paid for a new library.



The Allen Brothers, in Amherst, designed the library. It has asymmetrical massing in the Tudor Revival style and is built of yellow bricks. It has limestone window

surrounds and porch details, a glazed tile roof, and leaded glass windows. In 2004, it became the home of the Swampfield Historical Society and Sunderland Historical Commission after the new library was completed.

First Congregational Church

91 South Main
1836

This is the third building of the Congregational Church Society in Sunderland. The town's first meeting house was built in 1717 and was in the middle of what is now Main Street The second meeting house was dedicated in 1794. In 1835, the Parish looked into repairing it, but a new one was instead erected on the site. This building was extensively changed in the 1870's.



90 South Main
c. 1835

A two story Greek Revival style house with the gable end facing the street. This house is most notable for its fine doorway. It is likely that the model for this doorway was taken from a Greek Revival carpenter's handbook.



83 South Main
1914

This is a large, high style Colonial Revival house. It has a Palladian window in the gable end of the north facade, echoing one built over 100 years earlier at 46 South Main Street. The house has a large front porch with Doric columns and a pedimented roof signaling the entry. The house was built for Frederick Kidder, who was a prosperous onion farmer.



**76 South Main
c. 1910**

This house is, like the library, Tudor Revival in style. It has stucco walls with wood inlaid to mimic half-timbered houses. Karl Putnam, a prominent Smith College-based architect who also designed the Old School (present Town Offices) building, designed the house.



**46 South Main
c. 1800**

This is a Federal style house that retains the center chimney design used during the Georgian period. Note the doorway, with its narrow pilasters and fan light, and the "Palladian style" window above it, a distinctive detail often used elsewhere in the period. Rather than displaying a Georgian-style overhang, the gable is accented. This house was built on a lot that was divided off of one of the original lots.



**37 South Main
c. 1850- 1860**

This house is Italianate in style. The style was meant to look like an Italian villa. Note its nearly square form, and very low-pitched roof with wide overhanging eaves. The paired scroll-cut brackets under the eaves, and the slender, paired posts on the porch are characteristic of the style.



This rather grand house reflects some of the local prosperity that resulted from growing tobacco. Tobacco barns still dot the landscape.

**Millstone Farm
Market
24 South Main**

For lack of a better term, we call this style "roadside novelty." Unique and eye-catching commercial buildings such as this one were built all over the country in this period, when automobile travel added a new outlet for farmers and other entrepreneurs (think of the "Milk Bottle" in Whately). The Graves family built this to sell produce from their farm. Richard Graves, Sr. used old millstones in constructing the front wall.



**12 South Main
1919**

This is a Craftsman style bungalow, and how different this style is in the context of what we have seen to date! Bungalows are primarily one-story buildings, with the roof line sweeping down to cover a large porch. The porch is often raised above the street level, requiring that the house be reached by means of a small staircase. Windows are clustered. This house is a particularly fine example of the style, and note that there is a garage built in the same style in the back.



**4 South Main
c. 1851**

This is a Gothic Revival style house. Note that the roof line has become steeper than on earlier houses, and that the windows are elongated in shape. This house has decorative bargeboards, and a fully developed transverse gable. Benjamin Darling, a popular carpenter in town, built the house.



Historical Commission Sunderland Massachusetts Main Street

A sampling of historically interesting houses and buildings listed from north to south along Main Street. For additional historical information and photographs, visit the Sunderland Historical Commission's website at:
<http://townofsunderland.us/Historical.htm>

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**168 North Main
c. 1715-1730**

This is the only remaining house built by an original Proprietor, Isaac Graves.

Georgian in style, the house has a large central chimney and saltbox-style roof line—that is, the roof extends to the first story level in the back. There are gable overhangs on the north and south sides, a sign of an early house. Erastus Pomeroy, who lived in this house in the early 19th century, drove a stagecoach between South Hadley and Northfield in the 1830's.

