PROJECT APPLICATION FORM – FY28

Applicant: Kevin Fournier **Submission Date:** 10/1/2026

Applicant's Address, Phone Number and Email
40 Center St Fairhaven
508 525 7912
KFournier@fairhaven-ma.gov

Purpose: (Please select all that apply)

- ☐ Open Space
- ☐ Community Housing
- ☑ Historic Preservation
- ☐ Recreation

Town Committee (if applicable) or other sponsoring organization: Town Hall

Project Name: Handicap Restoration Project Town Hall

Project Location/Address: 40 Center St

Amount Requested: $ 20,000

Project Summary: In the space below, or attached sheets if necessary, provide a detailed summary of the project citing the elements of the Guidelines for Submission and Review and Recommendation Criteria found in the Application Guidelines.

Remove damaged and unsound bricks as required.
Clean and prepare all affected area for new bricks
Supply Install matching replacement bricks
mortar joints in granite and cut repoint
Patch skim coat ramp
Addendum - add footing to railings to stop rust jacking
more quotes will be provided in the coming weeks

Estimated Date for Commencement of Project: Summer 2028

Estimated Date for Completion of Project: 3 to 4 months

Historic Preservation Selection Criteria - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies:

- [x] Is the building on the National or State Register of Historic Places?
- [ ] Is the property eligible for listing on the National or State Register of Historic Places?
- [ ] Has the property been included in the local Survey of Historic Properties (MACRIS)?
- [ ] Is the property in danger of being demolished?
- [ ] Are there potential archeological artifacts at the site?
- [x] Did the property ever play a documented role in the history or is it noted in published histories of the Town?
- [x] Are there any particularly important historic aspects about the property?
- [ ] Are there other potential uses for the property, which could benefit the Town?
- [ ] Could the building be converted for affordable housing use while still retaining its historic character?
- [ ] Is the owner interested in preserving the historic integrity of the property?
- [ ] Does the proposal conform to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties? Has previous work on the building conformed to the Standards?
- [x] Was the structure built before 1921? Has it otherwise been identified as being historic or have cultural value?

Recreation Criteria - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies:

- ☐ Will more than one age group use the project?
- ☐ Can the project be used by more than one activity (multi-use)?
- ☐ How many participants will normally use the project at once?
- ☐ Is this project the first of its kind in the Town or County?
- ☐ Are grants available to help pay for the construction? If so, has application been made for the grant?
- ☐ Does the project include considerations for additional parking?
- ☐ Can the project be used more than 1 of the 4 seasons per year?
- ☐ Does the project match the character of the surrounding area?
- ☐ Does the project include all normal safety considerations?
- ☐ Does the project meet all building and safety codes?
- ☐ Is the project accessible by pedestrians, bicycles, transit?

Open Space Criteria for Parcel Selection - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies:

- [ ] Is the project within the Nasketucket Watershed Area?
- [ ] Is the project with 100 feet of wetlands? Is the project with 200 feet of a river?
- [ ] Is stream and bank protection an issue? Is vernal pool protection a consideration?
- [ ] Would this proposal enhance protection of any FEMA designated floodway?
- [ ] Does the project include any Area of Critical Environmental Concern?
- [ ] Would this proposal contribute to preservation and/or creation of forested land?
- [ ] Will this proposal protect other parcels? Will this proposal impact other parcels?
- [ ] Does this parcel abut protected land? Does this parcel support a significant wildlife habitat?
- [ ] Is this parcel at risk for development? Did this parcel have a past proposal for development? Is it for sale?
- [ ] Are grants available? If so, has application been made?
- [ ] Does the property or structures have historic significance?
- [ ] Are there and stonewalls, old foundations, roads, trails, cart paths or scenic vistas?
- [ ] Are there any active or passive recreation possibilities associated with this parcel?
- [ ] Is this parcel suitable for a community garden or farm?
- [ ] Is this parcel suitable for nature observation and educational programs?

Affordable Housing Selection Criteria - Check off and Address each criterion as it applies:

- ☐ Will this involve the renovation of an existing building? If so,
  - ☐ Is the building structurally sound?
  - ☐ Is it free of lead paint? Is it free of asbestos, pollutants, and other hazards?
  - ☐ Is there Town sewerage? Or is the septic system in compliance with Title 5?
  - ☐ Does the building comply with building, sanitary and handicap accessibility codes?
  - ☐ Is this a conversion of market rate to affordable housing?
  - ☐ Is this a tax title property?
- ☐ Does this project involve the building of a new structure? If so,
  - ☐ Will the structure be built on tax title property, on Town owned land or donated land?
  - ☐ Will the building be free of environmental hazards?
  - ☐ Are there programs such as Habitat for Humanity involved?
  - ☐ Will the project be built on a previously developed site?
- ☐ Does the project provide housing that is similar in design and scale with the surrounding community?
- ☐ Does this serve the 60% income level population? Does this serve the 80% income level population?
- ☐ Is long-term affordability assured? Will this be geared to one age group?
- ☐ Will there be more than two bedrooms? Will there be multiple units?
- ☐ Will it be located near services (grocery, mass transit, etc.)?
- ☐ Will priority be given to local residents or employees of local businesses?

TWC PHOENIX
WATERPROOFING + MASONRY

79 Shirley Street, Boston, MA 02119
T | 617.442.4408
F | 617.442.9094

August 31, 2026

Fairhaven Town Hall
40 Center Street
Fairhaven, Ma 02719

Attn: Kevin Fournier

RE: Handicap Ramp Repairs

We, TWC Operations LLC are pleased to submit this Rough Order of Magnitude to provide Labor, Material and Equipment for the above referenced project in the amount of Fourteen Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars..... $14,950.00

Scope of Work:

- Picture #1- Remove & Replace 16 brick, repairs concrete at rail
- Picture #2- Remove and Replace 250 brick
- Picture #3- Cut, Prep and Patch concrete spall
- Picture #4- Cut, Prep and Patch concrete spall
- Picture #5- Cut & Point mortar joints in granite
- Picture #6- Patch Skim coat, Cut & point mortar at granite return
- Washing of all repair areas
- See attached pictures

Exclusions:

- Shift work or Premium Time
- Engineering
- Temporary Power and Water
- Permit
- Winter conditions
- Police details

Should you have any questions or require additional information, do not hesitate to contact me at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely
Phoenix Bay State Construction Co., Inc.

Joe Goncalves
Senior Vice President











PR 4/22/98 FAI. 31 NR 1/22/01

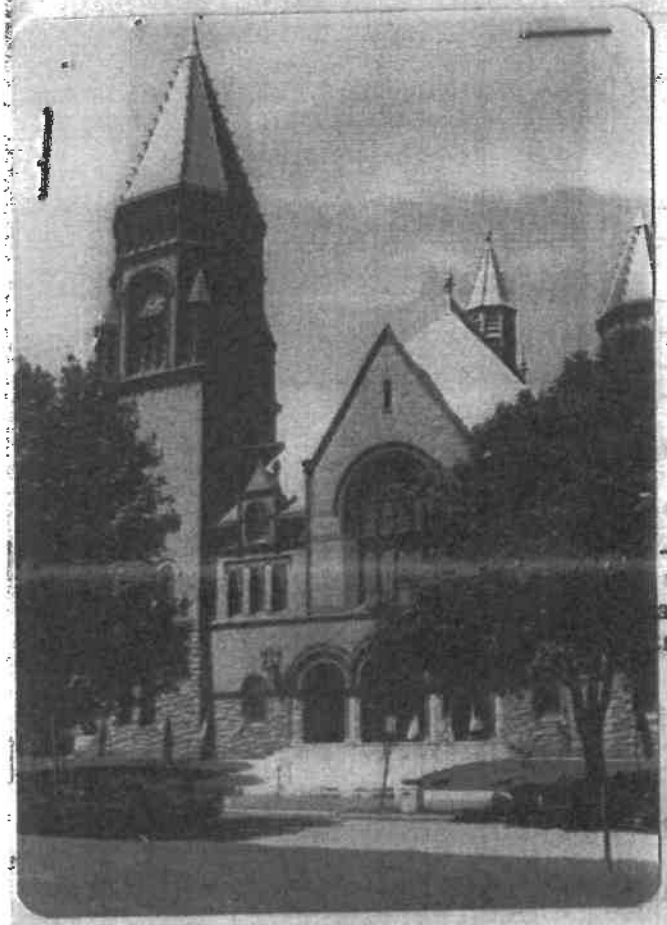
P9 L100

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	31

P1-Fairhaven



1. Town Fairhaven

Address 40 Center St.

Name Fairhaven Town Hall

Present use Municipal offices

Present owner Town of Fairhaven

3. Description: Multi level brick & stone towered building w/hipped roof facade gable, two towers, and a belfry.

Date 1894

Source AA & BN

Style Higher Victorian Gothic

Architect Charles Brigham; Wm Collett, Supervising Arch.

Exterior wall fabric granite & Delmonico brick

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features rockfaced ashlar granite base w/red pressed brick upper walls & terra cotta trim, original detail inside & out.

Altered no Date

Moved no Date

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre

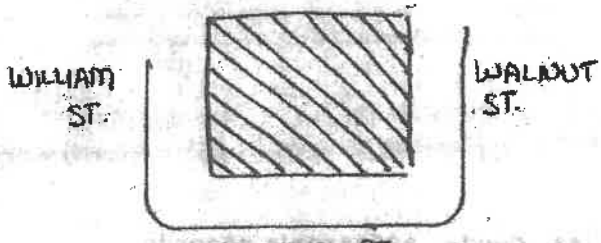
Approximate frontage Bldg lot 192 x 155

Approximate distance of building from street at 30 ft.

6. Recorded by Ellen F. Rosebrock

Organization The Preservation Partnership

Date August 1978



(over)

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System
Scanned Record Cover Page



Inventory No:	FAI.31
Historic Name:	Fairhaven Town Hall
Common Name:	
Address:	40 Center St
City/Town:	Fairhaven
Village/Neighborhood:	Fairhaven;
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	1894
Architectural Style(s):	Romanesque Revival;
Architect(s):	Brigham, Charles A.; Tallman, LaBrode and Rounseville;
Use(s):	Town Hall;
Significance:	Architecture; Politics Government;
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register Individual Property (01/22/1981); Preservation Restriction (04/22/1998);
Building Materials:	Roof: Slate; Wall: Brick; Copper; Granite; Unglazed Terra Cotta; Foundation: Granite;
Demolished	No

The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 at 1:21 PM

RH

FAI.31

7. Original owner (if known) Town of Fairhaven

Original use Town Hall

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates none

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	____	Conservation	____	Recreation	____
Agricultural	____	Education	____	Religion	____
Architectural	X	Exploration/ settlement	____	Science/ invention	____
The Arts	____	Industry	____	Social/ humanitarian	____
Commerce	____	Military	____	Transportation	____
Communication	____	Political	____		
Community development	X				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Like most of Fairhaven's "Rogers Gift" buildings, this Town Hall was designed by well known Boston architect Charles Brigham. The building was commissioned by Henry Huttleston Rogers, and presented to the town by his wife, Abbie Gifford Rogers/ The cornerstone was laid May 30, 1892, and the dedication ceremony (with address delivered by Mark Twain) was held on February 22 & 23, 1894.

The granite in the hall's lower story came from St. George, New Brunswick, while that used in caps, sills and quoins in the upper stories came from Red Beach, Maine. The shade of red of the smooth machine-pressed bricks identified them to contemporary architects as "Delmonico bricks", (the color said to have been developed for the Delmonico building in New York). The interior has quartered oak dado and mantelpiec and other detail, and the building still contains much of the furniture that was made especially for it.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.) Tripp, 1929; Mabel H Knipe, "The Story of a Town House", 1977, American Architect & Bldg. News 44 (959) May 12, 1894

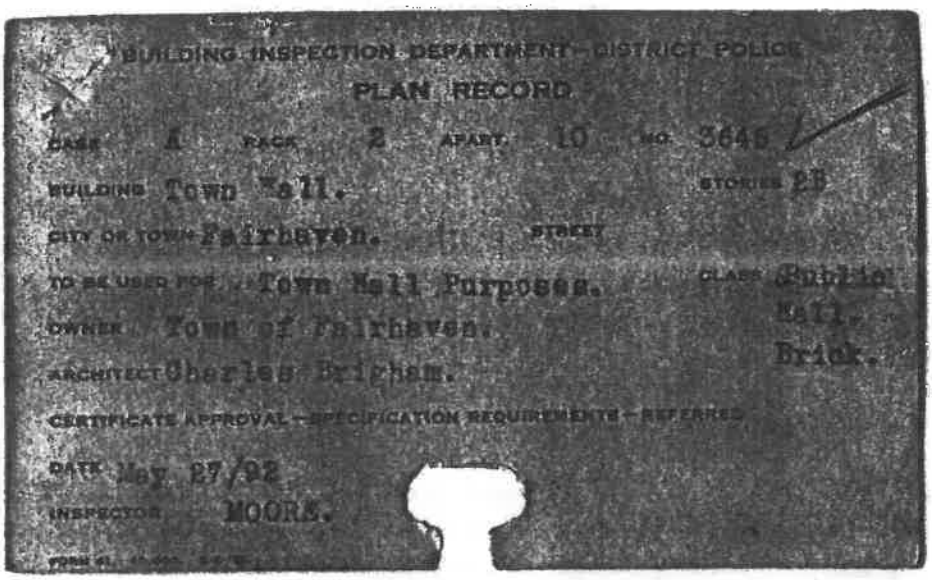
FAI. 31

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town: Fairhaven Property Address: Center St.

Area(s): FAI Form No.: 31

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





NPS-8-300 (11-79)

United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

[redacted]

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Fairhaven Town Hall

and/or common same

2. Location Center St.

street & number Center Street, north side between William & Walnut Streets ___ not for publication

city, town Fairhaven ___ vicinity of congressional district 12th

state Massachusetts code 025 county Bristol code 005

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use	
___ district	X public	X occupied	___ agriculture	___ museum
X building(s)	___ private	___ unoccupied	___ commercial	___ park
___ structure	___ both	___ work in progress	___ educational	___ private residence
___ site	**Public Acquisition**	**Accessible**	___ entertainment	___ religious
___ object	___ in process	X yes: restricted	X government	___ scientific
	___ being considered	___ yes: unrestricted	___ industrial	___ transportation
		___ no	___ military	___ other:

4. Owner of Property

name Town of Fairhaven

street & number Center Street

city, town Fairhaven, ___ vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Bristol County Registry of Deeds

street & number

city, town New Bedford state Mass.

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title ~~Inventory of the Historic Assets of the~~ Commonwealth has this property been determined eligible? ___ yes X no

date 1978-9 ___ federal X state ___ county ___ local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state MA

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one
X excellent	___ deteriorated	X unaltered	X original site
___ good	___ ruins	___ altered	___ moved date _____
___ fair	___ unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Fairhaven Town Hall faces south on Center Street in downtown Fairhaven. It was designed by Charles Brigham and constructed between 1892 and 1894, and is in form and detail, and in structural and decorative materials, a product of the historically inspired architectural eclecticism of the late 19th century. As such the building displays many elements of both the Romanesque and the Gothic stylistic traditions without being a pure example of either style. The consistant use of round arched openings in conjunction with groups of narrow rectangular windows is late Victorian Romanesque in provenance. So also is the way in which the tower cape meet the walls below with cornices unbroken by secondary pinnacles, tabernacles, or pseudo-gables. The absence of any jerkin-headed gables, polychrome banding or pointed or sequential arches strengthens an overall impression of Romanesque Revival. Nonetheless, many of the building's details are predominantly Gothic in inspiration. These include the crocketed turret caps that terminate in finials and the crested roof ridge which, though they have late Romanesque precedents, are actually Gothic characteristics and give the building a delicacy that is quite un-Romanesque. Also Gothic in origin are the great windows in the south, east and west gable fields which are mullioned into tall arches with trefoil shapes filling the window heads. Certain of the picturesque compositional elements that characterize the Town Hall also look both to the Romanesque and to the Gothic Revivals for their origin. An example is the irregular roofline created by the polygonal corner towners, one much taller and larger than the other; and by gable-ended wall dormers that break forward from the roofline and even from the facade plane.

The Town Hall is nearly square in overall plan, 99' wide and 108' deep, with a basically pyramidal roof. It is a masonary bearing wall structure with a granite foundation, wood floors supported on iron beams, brick arches over the boiler room, and a slate roof.

The foundation stone was quarried in New Bedford while the first story is granite from St. George, New Brunswick laid up in random-coursed ashler. Beltcourses, window sills and lintels, and the triple arched entry loggia are of granite from Red Beach, Maine. Above the granite base, the walls are a rich red pressed brick. The Fairhaven Star which reported on the construction of the Town Hall in profuse detail, called this "Delmonico brick". According to local historian, Mabel H. Knipe, the brick's color had been developed for Delmonico's restaurant in New York and was used for only the second time in the Fairhaven Town Hall. Trim on the upper stories is of terra cotta from the Boston Terra Cotta Company, and it was painted to match the brick during the construction of the building. The red slate roofs have crockets and crestings of copper.

Windows in the Town Hall are of French plate glass on the lower story, with double-thick German glass on the upper stories. The sashes were stained on the job by painters from J.I. Wingate of Boston and the glass was set into them at the time of installation. The ornamental windows were designed by the architect, Charles Brigham, in collaboration with the principal decorator, Frank Hill Smith. According to the Star "the main parts are all of antique glass, heavily plated...with an opalescent ripple...There are four sections of glass in each...window, and in the centre of the lower half of each section is a medallion with views of local interest..." The medallion views included illustrations of Fort Phoenix, a man harpooning a whale, Fairhaven from the Acushnet River, a coasting party, the landing of the pilgrims, and other scenes.

The main or south facade of the Fairhaven Town Hall consists of a symmetrical central portion, two stories in height, which is flanked by two towers, the western one much larger and taller

than the other. Dominating the first story between the towers is a Romanesque-style triple arched entrance loggia in granite which is flanked on either side by a small round arched window. The brick second floor of the south facade is set back very slightly above a granite string course which separates it from the first story. Centered above the entrance is a grand scale wall dormer containing a tall, mullioned window recessed beneath a compound Romanesque arch. A tiny, round-arched window with a granite sill pierces the gable field above this arch. Behind and above the dormer, and compositionally reinforcing its shape, the roof of the Town Hall rises to a sharp peak. The remainder of the second story, on either side of the central wall dormer, is divided into two registers by a string course. In the lower register on each side is a triple mullioned window capped by a rectangular lintel. The string course dividing the first and second stories functions as a sill. Centered in the upper register, above the mullioned window, is a small wall dormer containing a recessed, round-arched window. The compositional elements flanking the large central wall dormer in the second story this echo, on a much smaller scale, and reinforce the dormers compositional relationship to the entrace loggia below it.

The granite of the first story entrance loggia is continued on the first story of the two flanking corner towers of the main facade, both of which are lighted at this level by windows with rectangular lintels. Above the first story both towers are brick. The larger of the two dormers (west), square for much of its height, is lighted at the second story level by three Romanesque-arched windows of which the center one is considerably taller than the other two. The tower then tapers upward to an elaboratly corbelled string course. Above this the tower assumes an octagonal configuration with small gothic towers at each of the four corners. Set into a Romanesque-arched recess in each of the four walls between these towers is a clock with a white face and black characters which is original to the building. Below each clock face is a blind arcade of gothic inspiration. Similar arcading comprises the body of each small corner tower and the motif is repeated again in the band set off by a string course below the cornice of the clock tower. Finally the tower is capped by a crocketted conical roof rising steeply to a finial.

The clock tower's smaller counterpart at the opposite (east) corner of the south facade houses a bell purchased from the Blake Bell Company of Boston. This, like the four faced clock, is original to the Town Hall. The smaller tower is also rectilenear in its lower portion but octoganal above where lowered panels are set into each wall plane within elongated Romanesque arches supported on compound piers. Its conical, crocketted roof mirrors that of the larger tower and is echoed in a low tower, also octagonal and louvred, which sits astride the crested ridge of the Town Hall's highest roof.

The Town Hall is entered through the triple-arched loggia in its south facade. Immediately upon entering the building, it is evident that its great distinguishing feature is the carved oak woodwork used lavishly throughout. Four oak doors with upper panels of glass give entry into the main hall. A grand double stair of oak

rises from this hall to the second floor in three straight runs. Each stair has a pair of octagonal newel posts, one carrying a triple-arm bronzed lamp post with opalescent glass lamps, and the other a ball finial. The newels are trimmed on each face with a Gothic arch carried on slender colonettes with decorated spandrels. At the landing of each stair an octagonal column with foliate capital rises to the ceiling from its newel-post base. The ceiling in the stair hall has a system of oak "beams" and "joists", their lower sides panelled and carved. There is a wainscot of quartered oak with vertical boards meeting in elaborately molded joints. A handsome bronzed electric chandelier hangs in the entry hall and is original to the building.

In the left and right walls of the hall, double doors of oak with small raised-field panels and upper panes of glass open to the municipal offices. The offices have narrow board floors, some have tall oak mantels, pilastered and carved with Gothic details, vertical board wainscot, and panelled oak interoffice doors.

The rear of the first floor has a large banqueting hall, through which the rear entrance and a stair to the great hall stage are reached.

The main feature of the second floor is the great hall, which was designed and fitted for use as a theater. The room is 52feet by 61 feet in size and 29 feet high. "The feature of the interior decoration will be the carved wood work," reported the Star as the skilled carpenters began their work. "The walls in the large auditorium will be especially ornamental, and will consist of a panelled oak dado five feet wide above which the walls will be frescoed to the tops of the windows, and all above will be elaborate borders of panelled and carved oak, and in the centre of the ceiling is to be a large ornamental ventilator." Carved oak beams divide the ceiling into panels.

The New York decorating firm of A.B. Cutter & Co. was retained to accomplish the interior finish work. Frank Hill Smith, also from New York, seems to have been in charge of the design, and he was on the site for supervision and to do some of the fine work himself.

The auditorium (called the "hall" or the "main hall") was singled out by the Star as the decorating proceeded. "The ceiling is being decorated in bands of color of bluish tint. The walls are decorated in arabesque style, with diaper pattern. The frieze design will include cartouches,shields, and coat of arms in rich olive and brown colors. There will be a heavily decorated border, and the walls will be in variegated tan shades...The front of the gallery (across the south end of the room) is in cinquefoil designs and very elaborate."

Original chandeliers of brass with bell shaped glass globes have given way to newer lighting fixtures in this great hall, which is otherwise altered very littel. Spatial arrangements are also little altered.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below				
___ prehistoric	___ archeology-prehistoric	___ community planning	___ landscape architecture	___ religion	
___ 1400–1499	___ archeology-historic	___ conservation	___ law	___ science	
___ 1500–1599	___ agriculture	___ economics	___ literature	___ sculpture	
___ 1600–1699	X architecture	___ education	___ military	___ social/ humanitarian	
___ 1700–1799	___ art	___ engineering	___ music	___ theater	
X 1800–1899	___ commerce	___ exploration/settlement	___ philosophy	___ transportation	
___ 1900–	___ communications	___ industry	X politics/government	___ other (specify)	
		___ invention			

Specific dates 1894 Builder/Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Fairhaven Town Hall possesses integrity of location, design, setting and materials and important associations as the center of Fairhaven social and municipal life for more than three quarters of a century. It is a major work of an important late 19th century architect, Charles Brigham; and it is one of a group of important buildings designed between 1890 and 1905 by Brigham and given to the citizens of Fairhaven by the oil magnate, Henry Huttleston Rogers. (The Town Hall was officially given to the town by Roger's wife, Abbie Palmer Gifford.) Because of this cluster of Rogers' gift buildings, Fairhaven is an important locus for any study of Charles Brigham's work.

Except for a short lived structure in a northern district known as Oxford Village, the building was Fairhaven's first town hall. Incorporated in 1812, the town held its early general meetings in a Methodist church at the head of the river in today's Acushnet. Sharp rivalry between the separate communities that comprised the town of Fairhaven led to disputes over the location of the seat of local government. In 1843 a town house was built in the Oxford section, but a fire in 1858 destroyed the building. After this, the meetings were held in Fairhaven village, in Sawin Hall, and Phoenix Hall, until the present structure was completed in 1894.

Several years before the announcement of the Rogers gift, Fairhaven citizens did vote $15000 for the construction of a town hall, an act which indicated that the need for such a building was recognized, but hardly afforded enough capital to undertake the construction of a building.

The cornerstone of the Town Hall was laid with ceremony on May 30, 1892. The completed hall was dedicated on February 22, 1894. Mark Twain, who was Rogers' friend, gave the dedication address, which was followed by an enthusiastic inspection of the building by Fairhaven residents and visitors, and later by a ball.

The Town Hall has continually served its original municipal function. The great hall has long been used as a theater, beginning in March of 1894 with a series of dedication performances. Town records show consistent rentals of the hall to professional and amateur groups for dramatic performances. The Fairhaven Players, a little theater group with around 600 members at its peak, shared the Town Hall facilities with their rival group, the New Bedford Spouters. In 1921, the"Town Hall Movies" brought a new kind of theater into the auditorium. Between its thespian uses, the great h ll has held the annual town meetings, many high school graduations, lectures, balls, banquets, and music festivals. A Victory Ball held there in 1919 raised a welcome home fund for soldiers returning from World War I. More recently, a "Queen's Ball" was held in the hall in 1962, and in 1976, it was used for Fairhaven's Bicentennial Ball.

In addition to its symbolic importance to Fairhaven, the Town Hall is of visual importance as well. Its tower is visible from across the river, marking the location of the center of town. Fairhaven's downtown streets are characterized by small wood frame houses built early in the 19th century. Against this delicate fabric, the tall towered

In addition to the theater, the Town Hall held Selectmen's rooms, offices for the School Committee, the Town Clerk, the Improvement Society and Tax Assessors, a Post Office, and in the basement a Police Department and "lock up" and quarters for the janitor and his family. A few changes in spatial use have occurred. The Post Office, originally located in the west corner of the ground floor (in the tower), is now the Tax Collector's office. H.H. Rogers' personal office at the center of the west side, is now the Assessors'. The adjacent west room originally shared by the Assessors and the Improvement Society, is used for the registration of voters. And the police station and lock up now houses the Department of Public Works.

"Not a particle of old office fittings will be allowed in the new building," and the furniture--desks, chairs, tables, counters--was specially made, and most of it was of oak. The building has always had electric lighting and central heat. "Clark wire"-covered with rubber - was originally used throughout the building. R.D. Ireland & Co. of Boston, agents for the General Fixture Company of New York, did the exterior lighting. Water was pumped from a well by a steam pump from the Snow Pump Company of Buffalo, N.Y., and the plumbing, which was of considerable interest to the newspaper, was installed by William Lumb & Co. of Boston. The twelve original water closets utilized polished Italian marble for the washbowls, which stood on nickle-plated legs, brass pipes for hot water, and copper-lined water tanks. There were in addition three soapstone sinks and a copper bathtub for the janitor's apartment.

The Town Hall is set on a large lot comprising half a block. A quarter round retaining curb of granite from Blue Hill, Maine (set on a foundation of stone taken from the cellar of a house demolished to accommodate the Town Hall) borders a narrow lawn raised about six inches above sidewalk grade.

FOR HCRS USE ONLY
RECEIVED DEC 11 1980
DATE ENTERED JAN 22 1981

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

brick and stone buildings that comprise the Rogers' Gift group retain the kind of monumentality they were designed to have. Many fine late 19th century masonry buildings have lost their original impressiveness because of the larger scale of later construction around them. The survival of the original setting of the Town Hall, then, enhances its visual significance.

Henry Huttleston Rogers (1840-1909), a businessman who made a fortune in the oil fields of Pennsylvania, is remembered in Fairhaven primarily for his gifts of major buildings to the town from 1884 through 1906. First of these was the Rogers Grammer School, begun in 1884 and designed by Warren R. Briggs (1850-1933) of Bridgeport, Connecticut. All of the other buildings were designed by Charles Brigham. The group includes the Millicent Library (1891-1893), the Town Hall, the Masonic Lodge (1901), the Memorial Church with parsonage and parish house (1901-1904), the Tabitha Inn (a business which was not a gift, 1904-1905), and the Fairhaven High School (1905-1906). Also by Brigham were the house and ancillary structures of the Rogers estate (1895), of which the main house was demolished in 1916, but a few relocated outbuildings survive to recall it.

Charles Brigham (1841-1925) was born in Watertown, Massachusetts, and entered the architectural office of Calvin Ryder as a draftsman in 1858, immediately upon his graduation from high school. In 1860 he moved to the firm of Gridley J.F. Bryant and Arthur Gilman, who were then in the process of designing the Boston City Hall, one of the influential buildings in the academic Franch Second Empire style. Brigham's professional career, then, spanned the decades of architectural eclecticism at the end of the 19th century, and his retirement during the first decade of the 20th century came when the intensely popular classical revival was reaching its peak.

In 1866 Charles Brigham formed a partnership with John Hubbard Sturgis, an English educated architect slightly older than Brigham himself. For twenty years the aesthetic direction of the partnership was strongly influenced by Sturgis' English experience, and the firm is usually credited with the introduction and popularization of the Ruskinian Gothic style in Boston public buildings. The Church of the Advent (1880) on the flat of Beacon Hill is one of the outstanding interpretations of the Ruskinian style. The firm's Museum of Fine Arts at Copley Square (1870-1876) made a pioneering use of ornamental terra cotta, a material coming into use in England, but virtually unknown in America. Within the partnership, Sturgis appears to have been the philosophical one concerned like the pre-Raphaelites with aesthetics and art. Brigham, the practical partner, was interested in the development of architecture as a profession. He was a charter member of the Boston Society of Architects, and joined the A.I.A. in 1870. He had a reputation for tact, and was known for his unusual ability to deal with clients, contractors, and work crews alike. John Sturgis returned to England in 1886 and it is significant that near the end of the partnership Sturgis & Brigham were commissioned to design the New York City mansion of Henry H. Rogers, then a vice president of Standard Oil.

9. Major Bibliographical References

American Architect & Building News. Vol 44. p.67 pl.959. May 12, 1894.
AIA Journal. Vol. 13. p.478. 1925. (contains Brigham obituary)
Bacon, Edwin M. and Herndon, Richard. Boston of Today Boston, 1892.
Boston City Directories - 1891, 1892, 1895, 1897, 1899.
Boston Public Library. Fine Arts Reference Department. Card files Charles Brigham.

10. Geographical Data

ACREAGE NOT VERIFIED
UTM NOT VERIFIED

(see continuation sheet)

Acreage of nominated property 109.30 rods

Quadrangle name New Bedford North Quadrangle scale 1:25000

UMT References

	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	19	341	4162 10
B			
C			
D			
E			
F			
G			
H			

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at the southwest corner of the lot at the point of intersection of the north line of Centre Street and the east line of William Street, thence North on the east line of William 160' to land now or formerly of the heirs of Benjamin Ellis, thence east by Ellis 100' to land

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries (see continuation sheet)

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Ellen Fletcher Rosebrock, Preservation Planner for Candace Jenkins, Registration Director

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date Sept. 1980

street & number 294 Washington Street telephone 727-8470

city or town Boston, state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

___ national X state ___ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Patricia L. Weslowski 11/20/80

title Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission date

[redacted]

GPO 938 835

9. Major Bibliography

Dias, Earl J. Henry Huttleston Rogers; Portrait of a Capitalist. Fairhaven: Millicent Library, 1974.

Fairhaven Star. Fairhaven, Ma. 2/11/1893, 2/25/93, 3/18/93, 3/25/93, 4/1/93, 4/8/93, 4/15/93, 4/29/93, 5/13/93, 5/20/93, 6/3/93, 7/1/93, 7/8/93, 7/15/93, 7/27/93, 7/29/93, 8/5/93, 9/2/93, 9/9/93, 10/7/93, 11/4/93, 11/11/93, 11/18/93, 11/25/93, 12/9/93, 12/16/93, 12/23/93, 12/30/93, 1/6/94, 1/13/94, 1/20/94, 1/27/94, 2/10/94, 2/17/94, 2/24/94, 3/10/94.

Floyd, Margaret H. Boston and Providence Railroad Station, Stoughton, MA. Boston, [illegible], Boston Architectural Heritage, Inc. 1967.

" A Terra Cotta Cornerstone for Copley Square: Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, 1870-76, by Sturgis & Brigham. "JSAH. Vol. XXXII (2): 83-103, May 1973.

Harris, Charles A. Old Time Fairhaven, New Bedford, 1947.

Knipe, Mabel Hoyle, The Story of a Town House. Fairhaven Millicent Libriary, 1977

Millicent Library. Card file index to Fairhaven Star. Compiled by Mabel H. Knipe

10. Geographical Data

now or formerly of Frederick S. Pearce, thence east by Pearce 100' to the west line of Walnut Street., thence south on Walnut Street, 158'8" to the north line of Centre Street, thence west 200' to the point of beginning.

In 1888 Brigham took John Spofford into partnership, and a period of tremendous productivity began. In 1890 Brigham & Spofford began the classical revival yellow brick extension to the Massachusetts State House. The Romanesque Revival Millicant Library in Fairhaven followed in 1891, and in 1892 ground was broken for the Town Hall. In these commissions alone Brigham was working in three different stylistic manners, and in 1888 he had shown full comprehension of the solid Richardsonian Romanesque in his Stoughton, Massachusetts station for the Boston and Providence Railroad.

Contemporary accounts of the Fairhaven Town Hall construction do not mention John Spofford in connection with the building. Nor do they mention Brigham's other associates, Henry Bisbee and Charles C. Coveney. Instead, site supervision was accomplished by William C. Collett, a draughtsman from Brigham's office who lived in Fairhaven continuously for a period of three years as clerk of the works for the Town Hall, the Millicant Library, the Rogers mausoleum, and the greenhouses on the Rogers estate. Charles Brigham, during the Town Hall construction, maintained his Boston office in the Amory-Ticknor house, newly renovated for commercial use, at 22 Beacon Street, directly opposite the Massachusetts State House, which he was remodeling.

Early newspaper accounts mention a contractor named Lyman Wilcott, from Boston, who handled a labor problem late in March of 1893. He was never mentioned again. The same notice mentions a foreman named Bacon, who was replaced by a man named Shapleigh in the course of the same problem, but Shapleigh drops from the notice of the press after this initial appearance.

Most of the subcontracting firms who handled plumbing, wiring, painting, and other services, were Boston based, although the interior decoration was handled by A.B. Cutter & Company and Frank Hill Smith of New York. A small contract (for window shades) went to a New Bedford firm, and although individual workmen were seldom mentioned by name, one man who was cited for falling from some scaffolding was reported to be from New Bedford.

No working drawings for the Town Hall are known to exist, although newspaper accounts mention "the plans" and at another time "the plans for the lighting". Brigham appeared in Fairhaven from time to time but not often, once to confer with H.H. Rogers and the decorators about the selection of window glass. He was on hand for the groundbreaking and dedication ceremonies.

Property Fairhaven Town Hall

State MA, Bristol Working Number 12.11.80.2963

DUE 2/11/81

CONTROL

TECHNICAL

Photos 1

Maps 1

HISTORIAN

This building is significant for the quality of its architecture, for its association with the important Mass. architect Charles Bulfinch, and for its role as the civic and cultural center of the town of Fairhaven. Built in 1899, this monumental masonry building is an eclectic mix of the Gothic and Romanesque Revival styles of architecture.

accept Patrick Andrus 1/22/81

ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

ARCHEOLOGIST

OTHER

HAER

Inventory _____

Review _____

REVIEW UNIT CHIEF

BRANCH CHIEF

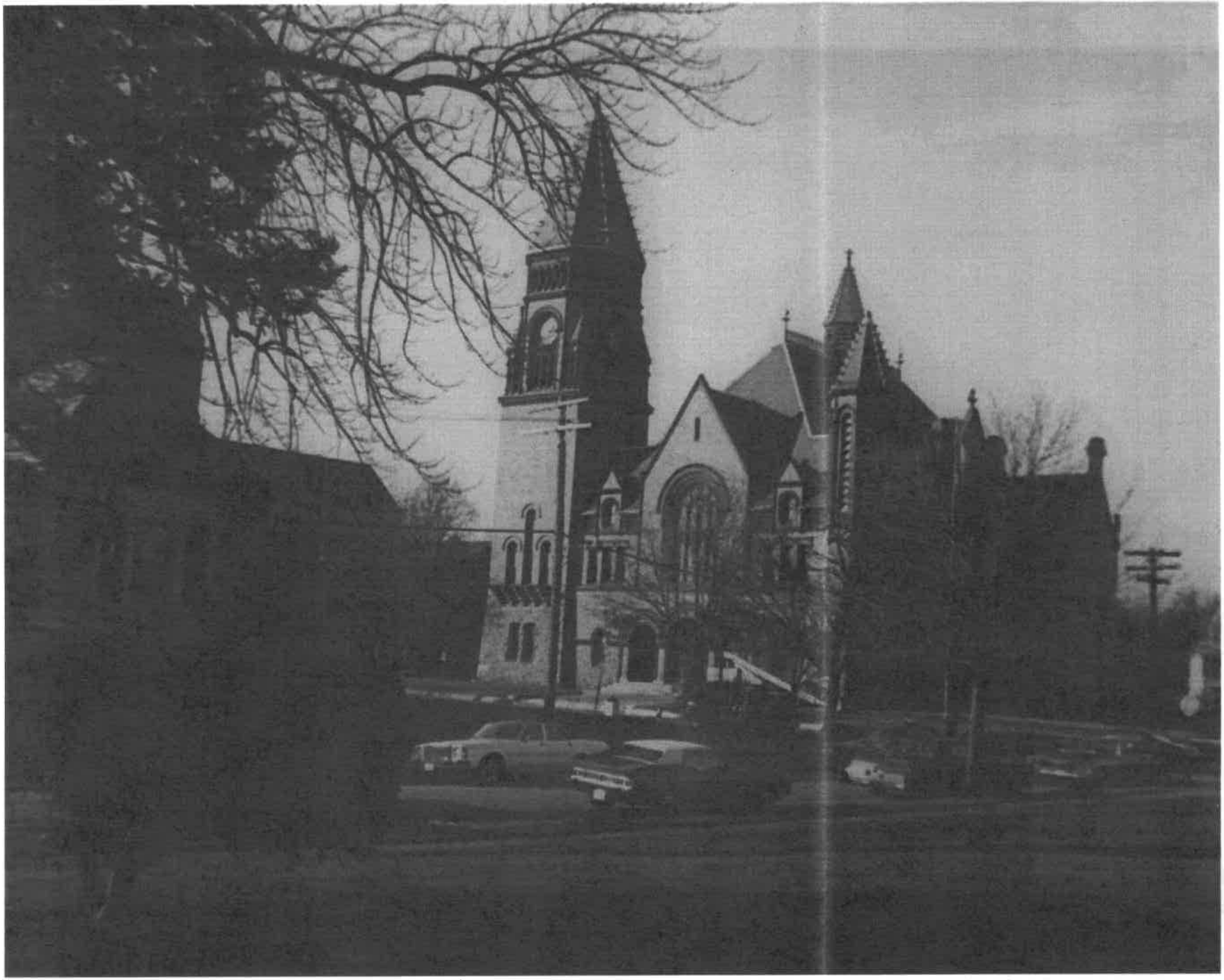
KEEPER

for Accept L. Beebe 1/22/81

National Register Write-up _____ Send-back _____ Entered JAN 22 1981

Federal Register Entry 2.2.82 Re-submit _____

United States Department of the Interior - Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service



MassGIS Data Hub



MassGIS Data Hub