

FORM B - Building

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
 Massachusetts Archives Building
 220 Morrissey Boulevard
 Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Map and Lot # 112 3 USGS Quad Y Area(s) Form Number 359
 Town Groton3
 Place (neighborhood or village) Groton Center

Photograph

(3"x3" or 3-1/2x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Roll Negative(s)

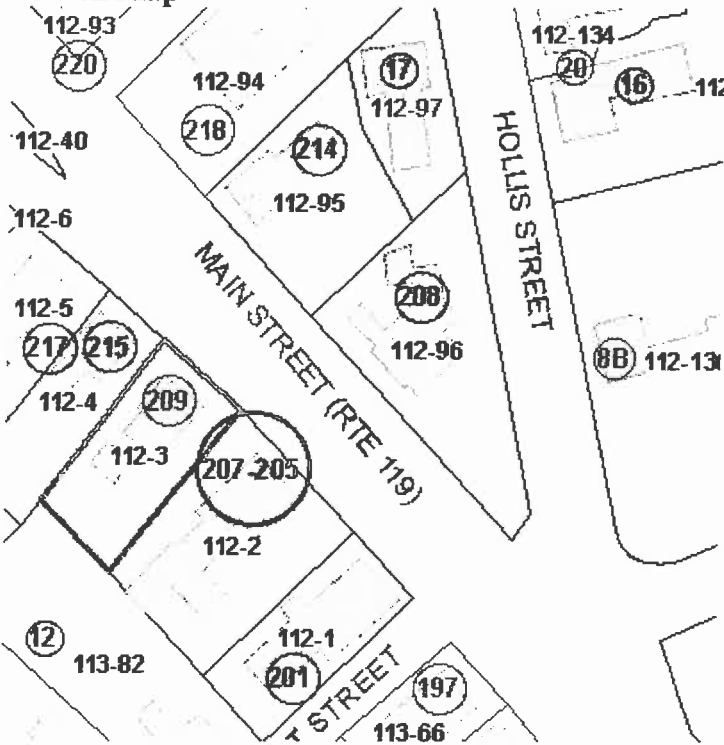
Address 209 Main Street
 Historic Name
 Uses: Present Commercial
 Original Residential
 Date of Construction c. 1842
 Source Estimate, Dr. Green, vol ii, p. 137

Style/Form Federal
 Architect/Builder
 Exterior Material:
 Foundation Unknown
 Wall/Trim Wood clapboard
 Roof Asphalt shingle
 Outbuildings/secondary structure Detached shed
 Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition Excellent
 Moved no yes Date
 Acreage .25
 Setting Town Center

Sketch Map

North Toward Top



Recorded by Sanford Johnson
 Organization Groton Historical Commission
 Date (month/year) 12/08

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

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

- * The Federal style house at 209 Main Street is a side-gabled, 5x-bay, 2 1/2-story form with a 1 -story ell projecting from the rear elevation
- * Decorative features consist of the symmetrical fenestration, classical surround at the center entry, gable returns, molded cornice, corner boards and beaded window trim
- * Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash in the main block
- * The center entry has classical trim consisting of corner boards and entablature with 1/2-length sidelights
- * Two brick chimneys rise from the roof ridge and from the front slope of the roof
- * The house has a scale and materials that are typical for Groton Center and is among the more well-preserved in the town

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

see continuation sheets

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 1856 map of Middlesex County depicts G. H. Brown as the occupant of the house at 209 Main Street. George Henry Brown (1810-1865), according to Dr. Green's history of Groton, printed and edited several newspapers in Groton and later in Ayer (formerly South Groton or Groton Junction, incorporated as the town of Ayer in 1871), including the Groton Post and Business Advertiser in 1843, The Golden Rule in 1846, The Spirit of the Times in 1848, the Groton Mercury in 1851-53 after which he moved to Groton Junction. Mr. Brown was a postmaster of Groton in 1849 and later in Groton Junction in 1861. Dr. Green states the Groton Center post office was located in the ell of his residence "Nearly opposite the Orthodox Meetinghouse", probably signifying this building. He also gave lectures and printed broadsides advertising town events such as the bicentennial (in which he took part as Secretary). He was the father in law of John Henry Turner, publisher of Turner's Public Spirit, a widely read periodical in Northern Middlesex County in the late 1800s and early 1900s. Mr. Brown, a native of East Bridgewater and resident of Groton after 1842 (possibly the construction date for the house), served as state representative for Groton in 1860 shortly before his death of pneumonia in 1865. On the 1875 Beers atlas, Mrs. E. Burdon is depicted as the owner, although little is known about her and the subsequent occupants. The 1930 map of Groton appears to depict A. J. Hally as the occupant. This was Albert J. Hally of the May & Hally trucking Co., a firm that carried on an oil delivery and furnace business into the 21st century.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

continuation sheet

Dr. Green: Volume i, Chapters V, p 12; VII, pp. 10, 15, 17; XVIII, pp. 2-6; XX, p. 14; Vol. ii, 15-17, 119, 136-138; Resident Directories, 1929; 1875 and 1889 Middlesex County atlases; 1856 Walling map of Middlesex County;

** *All properties mentioned in bold type are individually inventoried resources*

- Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement Form.
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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
Groton

Property Address

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Massachusetts Archives Building
Boston, MA 02125

Photos Taken 3-6/08

Area(s)
Form No.



209 Main Street