

FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 112 95 USGS Quad Area(s) Y Form Number 360

Town Groton Center
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 214 Main Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Commercial

Original Residential

Date of Construction c. 1840

Source 1832, 1847 maps

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Split granite

Wall/Trim Wood clapboards

Roof Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Major Alterations (with dates)

Windows replaced, 2005

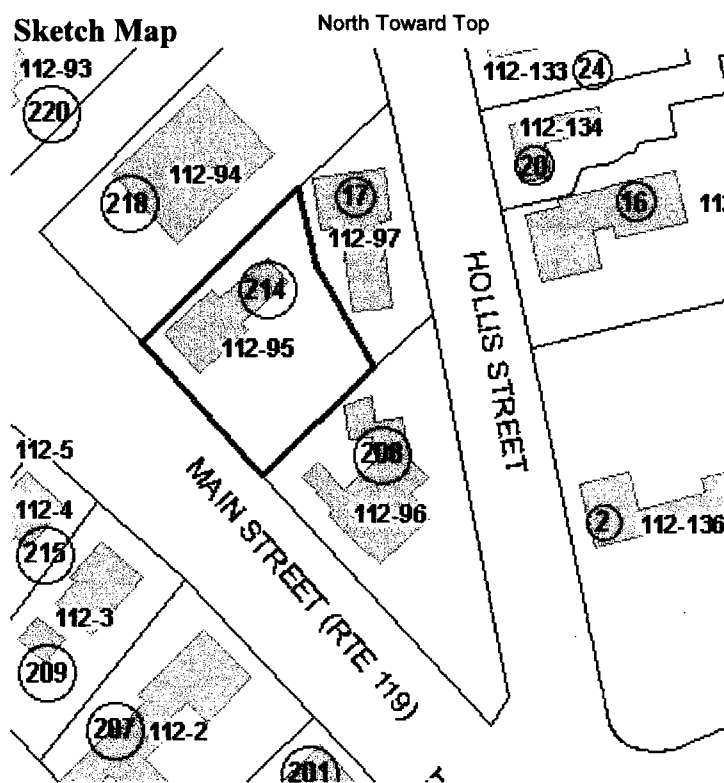
Condition Good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage .63

Setting Town Center

Sketch Map



Recorded by Sanford Johnson

Organization Groton Historical Commission

Date (month/year) 12/07

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.

- * 214 Main Street is a 4x4-bay, side-gabled, 2 1/2-story, Federal style house oriented perpendicular to the street; a 2-story parallel gabled addition of 5 bays has been made to the west side of the house; shed dormers occupy the south slope of the roof on the main block
- * Architectural ornament consists of the symmetrical fenestration in the street elevation and near symmetry in the south side facade, closed gable, and corner boards
- * Windows in the main block are mainly modern 6/6 double-hung sash with beaded trim and corner blocks; windows in the dormers are smaller 6/6 units and the west gable peak has a segmental arched lunette over paired 6/6 sash
- * The center entry has classical trim in the form of an entablature, pilasters and 1/2-length sidelights; three additional doors give access to the south elevation of the addition
- * The well-maintained house underwent a professional restoration in 2005 and occupies a small parcel adjacent to the Congregational Church (MHC #195)

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 parcel of 214 Main Street appears vacant on the 1832 Butler map but is labeled Geo. Farley, Esq. on the 1847 map. Mr. Farley was born in Dunstable in 1793, graduated from Harvard College in 1816, read law with Luther Lawrence in Groton in the 1820s and later worked in New Ipswich, NH until 1831 when he moved back to Groton, although he maintained offices in Boston and Charlestown. He enjoyed a successful law career in which he tried cases against Daniel Webster and later defended the Ursuline Convent Rioters in 1834. He served as a justice of the peace in 1852, trustee of Lawrence Academy in 1836 and as a member of the Groton Public Library Committee in 1855, the year of his death. A subsequent owner was R. P. Joy from c. 1865 until around the time of his death in 1889 when the county atlas labels the house as part of his estate. State census records indicate Mr. Joy was a farmer. The 1930 owner was Mrs. Grace Bruce.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

continuation sheet

1856 Walling map of Middlesex County; 1875 Beers atlas; 1889 Walker atlas; 1832 and 1847 Butler maps; Butler's 1829 field notes; Federal census agricultural schedules, 1850-1880; Previous GHC Research; 1896, 1921 Sanborn Fire Insurance map; Resident Directories, 1918, 1929; Dr. Green, Chapter IX, p. 18; XVII, p. 6. Vol ii, p. 26, 30, 325-328, 457; Vol iii, p. 227, 228; Butler's town history, p. 231; 1930 Somes map; Resident directories, 1918, 1929; 1855, 1865 state census;

**** 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.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
Groton

Property Address

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

Area(s)
Form No.



214 Main Street



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