

FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 247-15 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 456

Town Groton
Place (neighborhood or village)

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 579 Old Dunstable Road

Historic Name

Uses: Present Residential
Original Residential-agricultural

Date of Construction c. 1835

Source Butler's 1828-1829 field notes

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Unknown

Wall/Trim Vinyl clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Major Alterations (with dates)

Vinyl siding added, front door trim removed, c. 1970

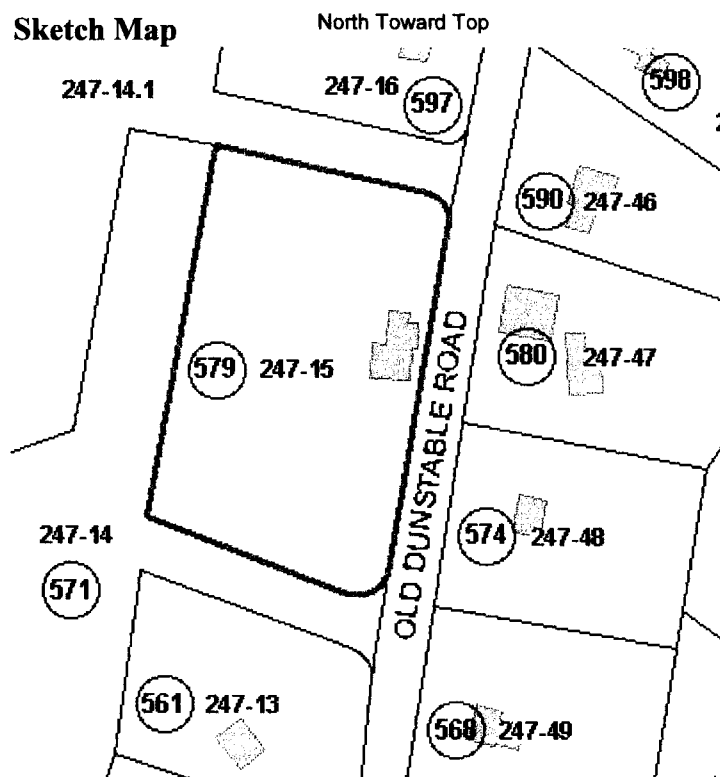
Condition Fair

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 1.91

Setting Rural

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.

- * The house at 579 Old Dunstable Road is a 5x2-bay, side-gabled, 2 1/2-story building with elements of the Federal style and a 1-story ell attached to the rear or north side; the ell is expanded by a shed roofed addition on the east elevation
- * Ornamental features other than the symmetrical fenestration in the façade have been largely removed, probably during the vinyl siding process
- * The south-facing center entry has vinyl trim and sidelights; a secondary entry in the east side has a four pane transom
- * Windows are primarily 8/12 double-hung sash with no trim
- * Two corbelled brick chimneys mark the roof ridge
- * The house is located in a rural section of east Groton and retains some aspects of its historic form but does not retain most exterior design features

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 1832 map and 1828-1829 field notes by Caleb Butler describe this property as the "old" 1-story home of John B. Prescott which suggests the current house was built shortly afterward. Mr. Prescott remained here until at least 1847 and may have constructed the house by that time. He was recorded as having 180 acres, 3 horse and 2 cows on property worth \$3000, somewhat above average for Groton. From c. 1856- c. 1889, the owner was George Woodward according to the Walling and Walker maps of those years. The 1888 resident directory lists Mr. Woodward as a farmer on Dunnstable (sic) Road. State census schedules from 1855 -1865 list Mr. Woodward (also spelled Woodard) as a yeoman born c. 1809. Mr. Woodward owned 170 acres, 3 horses and 3 cows on property worth \$4000, an increase in value. The 1930 owner was H. McGuire. By 1939, the farmland was in use as pasture and timberland.

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; 1939 WPA map; Federal census agricultural schedules, 1850-1880; Previous GHC Research; 1896, 1921 Sanborn Fire Insurance map; Resident Directories, 1888, 1918, 1929; Butler's town history; May, "Groton Plantation", Butler's town history; 1930 Somes Map; 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.
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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
Groton

Property Address

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Area(s)

Form No.



579 Old Dunstable Road