

Groton Historic Resources Survey Project

Phase IV Survey Final Report

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Acknowledgments

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Abstract

In October, 2006, the Town of Groton Historical Commission (GHC) undertook the task of retaining a consultant to assist them in documenting historic resources in the town and updating the existing inventory of historic resources created between 1967 and 2002 as well as the Community-Wide Survey completed by the consultant in December, 2006. Work on the 2007 survey began with a meeting between the consultant and the GHC in January, 2007.

The project was divided into four phases. Phase I of the survey project provided for submission of a proposed base map for recording locations of historic resources, assessment of existing survey materials, a list of proposed survey properties selected according to criteria set forth in the scope of work and initial research efforts toward completing historical documentation. The map for the project was chosen to be a copy of the Planning Department's GIS map of the town. Details of the map include accurate depiction of street locations, street names, town boundaries, bodies of water, parcel lines, assessor numbers, street numbers and building footprints. Phase II required submission of the list of areas and properties to be surveyed and sample inventory forms. Phase III involved completing draft inventory forms, draft discussion of National Register of Historic Places contexts and list of all areas and resources recommended for nomination.

Phase IV consists of final drafts of all inventory forms on archival paper with digital photos, base map of all resources and the Survey Final Report, which follows. The report includes a statement of methodology with a description of survey objectives, assessment of existing survey information, selection criteria, description of products and accomplishments and explanation of how results differed from expectations; street index of

inventoried areas; final discussion of National Register contexts and list of NR recommendations; further study recommendations and bibliography.

Products of the survey, including inventory forms and final report, will be kept in Boston in the files of the Massachusetts Historical Commission as well as in Groton in the files of the GHC. Copies of the survey may be distributed as the GHC sees fit to additional repositories such as the GPL and Town Hall.

Survey Objectives

The objective of the Groton Historic Resources Survey Update was to create MHC inventory forms in aid of updating and expanding the current historic resource inventory for the town. The project followed guidelines set forth in the scope of work created prior to commencement of the project. The boundaries of the project area are the boundaries of the town of Groton. All properties built prior to 1960 were considered for survey with a focus on Federal and Early Industrial Period examples as well as buildings threatened with disuse.

Assessment of Existing Survey Forms

The previously existing inventory forms, completed between 1967 and 2002, included 22 area forms, information on two cemeteries, one quarry, eight bridges, one milestone, three historic markers, one stone residential gateway and one balancing rock. Documentation on 189 additional individual properties also existed. The recent survey consisted of 100 individual resources and area forms for Groton Center, West Groton and Farmers Row

Among survey forms completed prior to the 2007 survey, the MHC B Form for the Governor George S. Boutwell House (MHC #4) was completed in 2002 to the highest professional standards in terms of the detail of the architectural description and quality of historical research. Photographs do an excellent job of depicting the house now in use as a museum. Also, the Farley - Needham house at 208 Main Street has been recently updated and adheres to current standards of documentation. The vast bulk of the remainder is not as well documented and was considered for updating.

Resource Selection Criteria

Two historic areas were documented either for the first time or as part of the update. These included the **Hollingsworth and Vose Paper Mill Area** and its array of residential and industrial buildings. This is a small industrial node located on Townsend Road one mile north of West Groton. The **Surrenden Farms Area** is located on Shirley road; it consists of open farmland on the Nashua River and contains four historic residences, some with barns. Previously un-surveyed residential buildings scattered throughout the town, primarily with construction dates prior to 1870, were another priority for survey. These resources are typically built as farmhouses with numerous village residential examples.

Survey Procedures

Survey procedures involved reconnaissance of historic properties in the town of Groton with the goal of determining geographic distribution, types of resources, their condition and appearance. Emphasis on the above Selection Criteria has resulted in the compilation of two Area Forms and a Data Sheet of 100 individual

resources documented on MHC Building, Structure, Burial Ground and Object Forms. Choices for including resources in the survey were based on architectural integrity of the resource, whether it is a representative example or unique in Groton, its prominence, quality of engineering or construction and whether it was perceived to be threatened. Descriptions of buildings and associated resources were compiled from notes made during the town-wide reconnaissance and photos taken at that time. Research performed in local, state and regional libraries informed the historical narratives. The Groton Public Library and the Massachusetts State Library in Boston were the primary sources for historical information. Internet resources also played an enlarged role given the availability of more digitized resources and specialized digital library collections. Harvard University, Tufts University, the Library of Congress, Cornell University, the Universities of Michigan and Northern Illinois, the Boston Public Library, the New York Times Archives, the Bostonian Society and the Massachusetts Archives all have extremely useful collections.

Historic Documentation

Documentation for the Historical Narratives in the survey forms is derived from many sources. Those found to be most helpful are the 1828-1829 field notes Caleb Butler made for his town map published in 1830 without owner names and then again c. 1832 in a version that included property owners' names and other additional information. The notes include house colors, numbers of chimneys, windows in the façade, stories and distances from various landmarks. This is a document unique to Groton and provides information almost always otherwise lost to history. Maps are another vital source and provide the starting point for almost all historical documentation. Those with owner names were published in 1832, 1856, 1875, 1889 and 1930, a far greater range of dates than for most other towns. Resident directories provide street locations for residents and in many cases, occupations and family member names. These exist for the years 1888, 1918 and 1929.

The numerous other historical sources tend to be textual and add to the basic facts gleaned from the maps and Butler Field Notes. See the bibliography for references.

Survey Products

The principal product of the survey consists of MHC Area Forms for Surrenden Farms and the Hollingsworth and Vose Area and 100 forms for individual resources which are primarily residences, although a cemetery is included. Many of these describe multiple resources such as houses with associated barns. The accompanying discussion of National Register of Historic Places contexts locates resources in the spectrum of historical significance. Contexts are based on and refer to the MHC *Reconnaissance Survey Report for the Town of Groton*, 1980. The Street Index lists all properties included in the survey arranged alphabetically by street and by number. National Register of Historic Places Eligibility Criteria were applied to all resources. Eight individual resources and the two areas are recommended for individual listing in the National Register although the vast majority are also eligible as contributing elements to National Register districts such as Groton Center and West Groton. The number of eligible properties is significantly higher than most other communities of the size of Groton due to their high degree of preservation.

Changes in Survey Expectations

Expectations about the kind of resources in Groton prior to the survey were that they would be primarily residential examples currently or formerly in agricultural use and a few industrial and commercial buildings.

Resources were expected be located throughout the town. Their condition was expected to vary from good to excellent. Most survey properties received updated forms. During the project, resources were surveyed according to criteria set forth at the outset of the project. As expected, resources were primarily residential with many agricultural properties and a small number of industrial and commercial examples. These were located throughout the town. Their condition was expected to vary from good to excellent which proved true.

Groton Historic Resources Street Indexes

Surrenden Farms Area

MHC	Map/Lot	Address	Style/Form	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	Historic Name	Date	Uses: Present
42	220 33	133 Shirley Road	Federal	19 th c. Barns, sheds		c. 1840	Residential/ agricultural
41	219 8	164 Shirley Road	Dutch Colonial Revival	Detached garage, c. 1932		c. 1932	Residential
	219 8	194 Shirley Road	Cape Cod	Detached barn, c. 1980		c. 1840	Residential/ agricultural
	219		N/A		Horse Cemetery	c. 1900	Funerary
	219 8	102 Joy Lane	Ranch	Greenhouse, sheds, garage, tennis court	Danielson House	c. 1964	Residential

Hollingsworth and Vose Area

Street	Address	Historic Name	Date of Construction	Style/Form	Architect/Builder	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
166	Kemp Street	Moses Kemp House	1782	Federal		Attached modern garage
161	Kemp Street		c. 1880	Victorian Eclectic		
167	Kemp Street		c. 1880	Victorian Eclectic		Modern barn
170	Kemp Street		c. 1840	Greek Revival		
176	Kemp Street		c. 1860	Greek Revival		
177	Kemp Street		c. 1880	Victorian Eclectic		
183	Kemp Street		c. 1950	No style		
0	Park Drive	H&V Park		N/A		Franzek Memorial tablet
198	Townsend Road		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic		
208	Townsend Road		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic		Detached 19th c. barn
219	Townsend	Hollingsworth and Vose	c. 1853	No style		Numerous additions; brick

Street#	Address	Historic Name	Date of Construction	Style/Form	Architect/Builder	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
	Road	Paper Mill				smokestack
224	Townsend Road		c. 1900	Victorian Eclectic		Detached garage, c. 1950
242	Townsend Road		?			
22	Vose Avenue		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic		
24	Vose Avenue		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic		
28	Vose Avenue		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic		
29	Vose Avenue		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic		

Individual Resources

Groton Historic Resources								
Street#	Address	MHTC#	Map Lot	Historic Name	Date	Style/Form	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	Uses: Present
56	Boston Road	431	222-23		c. 1850	Greek Revival	Attached barn	Residential
81	Boston Road	432	222-3	Phineas G. Prescott House	c. 1855	Greek Revival		Residential
270	Boston Road	130	235-29		c. 1850	Greek Revival	Detached garage	Residential
399	Boston Road	433	117-25		c. 1850	Victorian Eclectic		Residential
446	Boston Road	72	118-27	Levi Tufts House	c. 1740	Colonial, Federal	Detached barn, built c. 1919	Residential/agricultural
797	Boston Road	59	133-49	Loring- Duffy House	c. 1800	Federal	Attached 19th c. barn	Residential
13	Broadmeadow Road	303	113 21		c. 1800	Cape Cod		Residential
16	Broadmeadow Road	304	113 38		c. 1800	Federal		Residential
17	Broadmeadow Road	434	113-22		c. 1800	Federal		Residential
	Chicopee Row	435	225 63	Groton Cemetery	1847	N/A	Hearse House	
7	Court Street	311	113-67		c. 1860	Greek Revival		Residential
11	Court Street	63	113-68	William Lawrence-	c. 1740	Colonial		Residence

Groton Historic Resources

Street#	Address	MHC#	Map/Lot	Historic Name	Date	Style/Form	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	Uses: Present
				Samuel Tarbell House				
12	Court Street	312	113-82		c. 1850	Greek Revival Cape Cod		Residential
16	Court Street	314	113-81		c. 1850	Greek Revival; Victorian Eclectic	Attached carriage barn	Residential
19	Court Street	315	113-70		c. 1850	Gothic Revival		Residential
20	Court Street	316	113-80		c. 1840	Greek Revival		Residential
21	Court Street	317	113-71		c. 1875	Italianate	Attached barn, c. 1900	Multi unit residential
25	Court Street	318	113-72		c. 1840	Greek Revival		Residential
26	Court Street	319	113-79		c. 1850	Greek Revival		Residential
31	Court Street	321	113-73		c. 1770, rebuilt 1870	Victorian Eclectic	Detached 19th c. barn	Residential
8	Elm Street	326	112-30		c. 1870	Victorian Eclectic	Attached barn, c. 1900	Multi-unit residential
18	Elm Street	108	112-29		c. 1800	Federal	Modern shed	Residential
22	Elm Street	331	112-32		c. 1820	Federal	Attached barn, c. 1900	Multi-unit residential
25	Elm Street	107	112-35		c. 1820	Cape Cod		Residential
28	Elm Street	332	112-27		c. 1820	Federal-Victorian Eclectic	Attached modern garage	Residential
24	Farmers Row	405, 406	108-26		c. 1870	Second Empire; Stick	Detached barn, c. 1870	Residential-agricultural
545	Farmers Row	436	220-27		c. 1860	Victorian Eclectic	Attached barn	Residential
1	Forge Village Road	57	133-11	Ridge Hill Tavern	c. 1805	Federal		Commercial
15	Forge Village Road	58	133-12	Blodgett House	c. 1847	Greek Revival	Attached barn	Residential
189	Forge Village Road	61	135-11	Ward House	c. 1800	Federal	Detached 2-bay garage	Residential
20	Higley Street	437	107-14		c. 1850	Victorian Eclectic	Detached garage	Residential
24	Higley Street	438	107-13		c. 1830	Federal-Cape Cod	Attached barn	Residential
250	Hill Road	112	104-28	Hartwell House	c. 1750	Colonial	Shed	Residential

Groton Historic Resources

Street#	Address	MHC#	Map/Lot	Historic Name	Date	Style/Form	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	Uses: Present
16	Hollis Street	333	112 135		c. 1800	Federal		Commercial
20	Hollis Street	26	112 134		c. 1750	Colonial	Modern detached garage	Commercial
24	Hollis Street	335	112 133		c. 1835	Federal		Residential
35	Hollis Street	28	112 99	Forbes House	c. 1840	Greek Revival/Victorian		Residential
37	Hollis Street	140	112 100	Dodge-Locke House	c. 1845	Federal		Residential
40	Hollis Street	336	112 116		c. 1840	Federal	Attached garage; detached shed	Residential
43	Hollis Street	337	112 102	Lyman Blood House	c. 1855	Victorian Eclectic	Detached shed	Residential
47	Hollis Street	338	112 103	Abell Fuller House	c. 1840	Greek Revival	Attached garage, c. 1970	Residential
64	Hollis Street	340	112 112	Corey House	c. 1820	No style		Residential
68	Hollis Street	151	112 111		c. 1880	Victorian Eclectic		Residential
96	Hollis Street	439	112-108.1		c. 1870	Second Empire	Attached barn	Residential
97	Hollis Street	440	112-107	Mansur House	c. 1880	Second Empire	Attached barn (orig. detached)	Residential
111	Hollis Street	441	111-2		c. 1870	Second Empire	Attached barn	Residential
155	Indian Hill Road	54	222-37, 40	Longley Homestead	c. 1790	Federal	Detached barn	Residential-agricultural
151	Long Hill Road	442	218-4		c. 1830	Cape Cod	Detached garage	Residential
128	Longley Road	443, 444	225-33	Harlan Fitch House	1857	Italianate	Detached 19th c. Barn	Residential
55	Lowell Road	157	116-3, 4, 5	Deacon Hall-Gibbet Hill Farm	c. 1750	Colonial, Federal	Detached barns and shed; stone crenellated tower	Commercial-agricultural
53	Main Street	344	116-10	Shumway House	c. 1850	Gothic Revival		Residential
80	Main Street	177	116 12	Spaulding-Prescott House	c. 1846	Greek Revival		Dormitory
130	Main Street	11,402-404	113 10	Groton Inn	c. 1787	Federal	Detached barns and sheds	Commercial
154	Main Street	8(also 350)	113-5	Dr. Joshua Green House	1851	Italianate	Detached shed	Residential
155	Main Street	351	113-46		c. 1850	Federal	Front porch added.	Residential

Groton Historic Resources

Street#	Address	MHC#	Map/Lot	Historic Name	Date	Style/Form	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	Uses: Present
							C. 1900	
157	Main Street	352	113-45		c. 1850	Federal		Commercial
186	Main Street	355	113-1	Hollingsworth House	c. 1860	Italianate	Detached carriage shed	Residential
197	Main Street	1	113 66	Gilson-Bywater House	c. 1840	Victorian Eclectic		Residential
207	Main Street	358	112 2	Dr. Smith House	c. 1838	Greek Revival	Attached barn	Commercial office
214	Main Street	360	112 95		c. 1840	Federal		Commercial
219	Main Street	364	112 6		c. 1835	Federal		Residential
220	Main Street	365	112 93	Congregational Parsonage	1878	Second Empire	Detached garage, c. 1920	Parish House
258	Main Street	374	112 87		c. 1810	Federal	Detached garage, c. 1900	Residential
274	Main Street	378	112 84		c. 1840	Federal		Commercial
323	Main Street	99	109-57	Corey House	c. 1750	Colonial, Cape Cod form	Attached barn	Residential
356	Main Street	445, 446	110-41		c. 1840	Federal	Detached barn	Residential
368	Main Street	447, 448	110-40	Herb Lyceum	c. 1840	Federal	Detached barn, modern sheds	Restaurant
134	Maple Avenue	113	212-16	P. Dunsmore House	c. 1840	Federal	3 detached barns; second residence	Residential-agricultural
37	Nod Road	449	216-65		c. 1840	Federal	Detached modern board and batten barn	Residential
78	Old Ayer Road	92	222-70		c. 1825	Federal, Victorian Eclectic	Detached wood clapboard garage, c. 1950	Residence
284	Old Ayer Road	450, 451	221-68		c. 1850	Victorian Eclectic	1 attached and 1 detached barn	Residential-agricultural
416	Old Ayer Road	47	221-46	Wright-Eliades Farm	c. 1850	Victorian Eclectic	Attached barn	Residential-agricultural
419	Old Ayer Road	452	221-19		c. 1880	Victorian Eclectic		Residential
430	Old Ayer Road	453	221-44		c. 1840	Federal	Detached garage, c. 1940	Residential
235	Old Dunstable Road	454, 455	243-30		c. 1850	Victorian Eclectic	Detached barn	Residential-agricultural
579	Old Dunstable Road	456	247-15		c. 1835	Federal		Residential

Groton Historic Resources

Street	Address	MHC#	Map/Lot	Historic Name	Date	Style/Form	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	Uses: Present
107	Pepperell Road	457	102-50		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic	2 detached sheds	Residential
20	Pleasant Street	380	112 39	Milo Shattuck House	c. 1851	Italianate	Attached barn, c. 1865	Residential
28	Pleasant Street	458	112 38	Grant Shattuck House	1899	Victorian Eclectic		Residential
32	Pleasant Street	384	112 37		c. 1850	Greek Revival-Victorian Eclectic		Residential
35	Pleasant Street	459	112 11		c. 1840	No style		Residential
39	Pleasant Street	386	112 12		c. 1830	Federal		Residential
42	Pleasant Street	106	112 36	Hutchins House	c. 1840	Federal	Attached 19th c. barn	Multiple residence
53	Pleasant Street	390	112 15		c. 1840	Federal		Residential
54	Pleasant Street	391	112 20		c. 1840	Greek Revival		Residential
73	Pleasant Street	394, 395	109 1		1903	Victorian Eclectic	Attached 19th c. barn; detached barn (not visible)	Residential
76	Pleasant Street	396	109 48		c. 1850	Greek Revival		Residential
79	Pleasant Street	397, 398	109 2		c. 1860	Greek Revival	Detached garage, c. 1920	Residential
88	Pleasant Street	399, 400	109 46		c. 1780, 1840	Greek Revival	Attached barn, c. 1900	Residential
39	Powderhouse Road	149	116-10	Dr. Green Dormitory-Wells-Ebert House	c. 1836	Greek Revival		Dormitory
61	Powderhouse Road	460	116-10	H. A. Bancroft House	c. 1850	Italianate	Attached barn	L. A. Alumni Development
8	School Street	412	112 86		c. 1750	Colonial		Residential
33	School Street	415	112 79		c. 1850	Cape Cod	Attached garage, c. 1920	Residential
37	School Street	416, 417	112 80		c. 1850	Victorian Eclectic	Detached barn, c. 1900	Residential
45	School Street	418	112 81		c. 1870	Victorian Eclectic		Funeral home
11	Station Avenue	421	113 49		c. 1850	Greek Revival	Detached garage, c. 1940	Residential

Groton Historic Resources

Street#	Address	MHC#	Map/Lot	Historic Name	Date	Style/Form	Outbuildings/Secondary Structures	Uses: Present
28	Station Avenue	428, 429	113 57		c. 1910	Greek Revival	Attached barn, c. 1880	Multi-unit residential
6	West Main Street	125	101 10	Asa Tarbell House	c. 1800	Federal		Commercial
9	West Street	461	112-52		c. 1840	No style/Victorian	Detached shed	Residential
10	Whiting Avenue	462, 463	112 26		1901	Victorian Eclectic	Detached 19th c. barn	Residential
21	Whiting Avenue	464	112 23		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic	Attached 19th c. barn	Residential
29	Whiting Avenue	465	112 24		c. 1890	Victorian Eclectic	Detached shed	Residential
36	Willowdale Road	466, 467	112-30		c. 1880	Victorian Eclectic	Detached 19th c. barn	Multi-unit residential

Discussion of National Register contexts for eligible properties in Groton

Groton is the site of many National Register-eligible residential, commercial and agricultural properties as well as the Groton Cemetery and the historic Surrenden Farms and Hollingsworth and Vose Areas. Trends and events falling under the themes or contexts of Agriculture, Architecture, Commerce, Community Planning and Development, Education, Landscape Architecture, Politics and Government, Religion and Transportation have had their affect on the town at large and on the individual resources. Methods of construction and village planning used in the 18th and 19th centuries combined with the high artistic values held by the builders and designers of houses, streetscapes, schools, the Town Hall and churches in Groton are notable achievements make many resources potentially NR eligible. Descriptions of the appearance and historical background of the resources are used to determine eligibility for the NR and comprise the bulk of the remainder of this document.

Historic Areas

Hollingsworth and Vose Area

The industrial and residential enclave surrounding the Hollingsworth and Vose papermaking factory is eligible for the NR under Criterion A for its association with industrial activities in the western part of the town. Paper making began in the area c. 1850 and continues today. Building styles include the Federal, Greek Revival, Victorian Eclectic and Colonial Revival and are in fair to excellent condition. Vose Avenue appears to be the site of employee or mill worker housing based on the similarity of some house designs. Kemp Street and Townsend Road contain both mill related residences and Pre-industrial houses. The area is moderately dense. The Squannacook River flows past the western edge of the area along the right of way of the former Peterborough and Shirley Railroad. The village is eligible for the NR under Criterion C for its embodiment of Victorian style design characteristics.

Surrenden Farms Area

The Surrenden Farms Area is eligible for the NR under Criterion A for its ongoing association with the town's trends in agricultural production. Surrenden Farms was first occupied in the late 17th century and formed a cluster of farms at the west edge of the town. In spite of attacks by Native Americans on Groton farmers in 1704, including on John Davis of Shirley Road who was killed while taking in laundry, Surrenden Farms, (the name was applied during the 20th century) remained an important part of the town agricultural economy. The 1832 Butler map of Groton indicates there were in the area at least seven houses, mostly farms. The population would increase slightly during the latter 19th century with the influx of a religious Adventist sect of Millerites from c. 1846-1856. The population would later revert to a small agricultural enclave of around three farms that bordered on the campus of Groton School, founded in 1884. The area retains much of its late 19th century appearance. The Surrenden Farms Area maintains one of the town's strongest associations with Groton's agricultural past. The area retains much of its 19th century agricultural appearance and architectural design ideas which make it eligible for the NR under Criterion C.

Farmsteads in Groton

Groton farms that are eligible for the NR typically qualify under Criterion A for their association with historic events and activities including subsistence agriculture and the raising of crops and livestock. Criterion C also applies in many cases since the eligible farms have buildings that exhibit distinctive design characteristics such as architectural ornament typical of the Federal style and others. It is possible that some farms will be determined eligible due in part to the distinctive and well-preserved landscapes surrounding the buildings. New England farmers had methods of land-clearing, orienting fields and creating circulation features and parcel boundaries that are distinguished from farms in other parts of the world and thereby reinforce the farms' eligibility. All eligible agricultural properties in Groton are significant at the local level. Example farmstead descriptions follow:

The house and barn at **24 Farmers Row** comprise a unique property in Groton for their cohesive Second Empire and Stick style designs and dramatic setting. The house is a 2-story, 2x3-bay form built on an L-shaped plan with a tall Mansard roof and clipped gables. Decorative elements include the corner boards and stringcourses, eave brackets and scroll cut vergeboard, window hoods and clipped gable dormers; The junction of the L-shaped plan is the location of a shed-roofed entry porch. Windows are 4/4 double-hung sash; the entry is covered by the shed porch. The wood clapboard barn, much larger than the house, has an L-shaped plan and Stick style architectural details including stringcourses as are found on the house, exposed rafter tails at the eaves, gabled dormers with gable ornaments and scroll cut vergeboards; atop the main section of the roof is an ornate louvered ventilator, also with brackets at the eaves and a pyramidal hip roof. The first map to show the house at 24 Farmers Row is the 1875 county atlas which depicts J. Lawrence as the owner. This is James Lawrence who owned this property while living next door at 44 Farmers Row. According to Dr. Green's history, Mr. Lawrence was the oldest son of Groton native Abbott Lawrence, a prominent industrialist, namesake of the City of Lawrence, MA and of Lawrence Academy, and his wife Katherine. James was born in Boston in 1821, attended Harvard College and Harvard Law School but was not admitted to the bar. He worked for his father's Boston company, A. and A. Lawrence and Company and moved to Groton in 1871, after which time he built this house and barn for his dairy farm and occupied the house next door at 44 Farmers Row (MHC #89). May notes in "Groton Houses" that Mr. Lawrence built his barn in 1875. Mr. Lawrence lived here only a short time before his death in England in 1875. The property is a working farm with horse corrals, large fields, agricultural implements and livestock in view. The house and barn are well-maintained and are set amid a row of large estate quality properties on Farmers Row.

The Federal style house at **155 Indian Hill Road** is a side-gabled, 5x3-bay, 2 1/2-story form with 1-story ells projecting from the east and west elevations. Decorative features consist of the symmetrical fenestration in the facade, classical surround at the center entry, closed gables, molded cornice, corner boards and beaded window trim. Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash in the main block with 6/9 double-hung sash and picture windows in the ells, and a 6-pane casements in the gable peak; paired brick chimneys occupy the outer edges of the roof ridge of the main block while a modern stainless steel chimney rises from the ridge of the west ell. A post and rail fence separates the house from the road. The detached 19th century barn is located across the road and is a front-gabled form with the main vehicle entry facing the road. The window in the gable peak is a 6/6-pane sash with sidelights while additional fixed 6- and 14-pane sash occupy the side elevations. A transom is located over the main entry and a secondary entry is through a pedestrian door in the west elevation. Swinging doors in the façade flank the main rolling door. Cladding is vertical flushboard on the side walls and on the façade. Dimensions are estimated to be around 30'x40'. The owners of the property at 155 Indian Hill Road were in 1832 Joshua Davis and his wife Sybil Patterson Davis who were married in 1793. The 1790 estimated construction date may be based on the date of the Davis' wedding. Caleb Butler noted in his 1828-29 field notes that the house had 2 stories, 2 chimneys, 5 windows across the front and brick end walls, all features that currently exist. The house was painted red at that time. By 1847, the occupant was J. M. Porter. This was John Mason Porter, a justice of the peace in 1854 and coroner in 1856. Federal agricultural census schedules of 1850 describe a farm with 86 acres, a horse, 6 cows and a value of \$3200. These are typical statistics for the town.

Additional properties in the survey that retain the characteristics of farmsteads in Groton include:

270 Boston Road (MHC #)
399 Boston Road (MHC #)
446 Boston Road
797 Boston Road (MHC #)
545 Farmers Row (MHC #)
189 Forge Village Road
128 Longley Road (MHC #)
55 Lowell Road (MHC #)
134 Maple Avenue
284 Old Ayer Road (MHC #)
416 Oold Ayer Road (MHC #)
419 Old Ayer Road (MHC #)
430 Old Ayer Road (MHC #)
235 Old Dunstable Road (MHC #)
579 Old Dunstable Road (MHC #)

Inns

The Groton Inn is a prominent landmark in the town center village. It is one of several examples in the town and one of two included in this survey. Following are two descriptions of historic Groton inns:

The Groton Inn is a 10x2-bay, side-gabled, 2 1/2-story form with a 2-story perpendicular rear addition of 5 bays at the southeast corner. An enclosed porch has been added to the southwest junction of the Inn and the rear ell.

The façade is arranged in two groups of five symmetrical bays that represent two houses moved together c. 1800. An open porch supported by Doric columns on granite plinths covers the entire first story of the façade.

Decorative elements of the Federal style design include the molded cornice, corner boards, beaded window trim and gable returns. The 2 front entries are located in the centers of each five bay section and have pilasters beside the door and 5-pane transoms above. Brick chimneys rise from the roof ridge at the ends of the main block and from the center; 6 gabled dormers occupy the front slope of the roof. The early history of the Groton Inn involves the tory Reverend Samuel Dana who had the house built in 1787. The 1781 owner was the tavernkeeper Jonathan Keep who is likely the person who doubled the house in size during the Revolution. By 1832, the owner was Joseph N. Hoar and the building labeled a tavern of 2 stories, 3 chimneys and 10 windows across the façade. The color of the tavern was white at that time.

The Ridge Hill Tavern, so called for the geological features in the surrounding area, located at 1 Forge Village Road, is a side-gabled wood-frame building with brick end walls rising 2 1/2 stories and a 9x2-bay plan with a modern rear ell of two stories. Decorative features include jigsaw brackets on the two Victorian period entry porches in the façade and the rhythmic fenestration pattern in the façade which suggests the northwest end of the building began as a 5-bay form and was later enlarged with 4 additional bays. While the windows are modern replacement sash and entrances are non-original doors, the building retains some character from its time in use as a tavern. The tavern, was built in 1805 by Levi Parker, at which time the second floor was said to contain a ballroom. Mr. Parker sold the property to John Stevens and he to Judge Samuel Dana (resident of 108 Pleasant Street MHC #87) who sold to John Hancock Loring. Mr. Loring, whose ownership is reflected on Butler's 1832 map of Groton, conducted the house for many years and was succeeded by his son Jefferson. According to Dr. Green, the building was later sold c. 1870 to John Fuzzard of Brighton, England who owned it until 1887. Subsequent managers under Mr. Fuzzard's ownership were Newell M. Jewett, Stephen Perkins of Maine who took over in 1880, before which it was vacant a short time. Mr. Perkins gave it up in 1884, when it ceased to be a public house and was occupied by Mr. Fuzzard as his dwelling.

Cemeteries

The Groton Cemetery is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and C at the local level for its associations with 19th century burial practices and for the distinctive designs of the landscapes and grave stone carvings. The cemetery meets Criterion Consideration D because it derives its significance from expressions of the stone carvers' art, from the age of the grave stones and from the distinctive design features of the landscapes. The cemetery came into use in 1847 in an effort to update the appearance of the last resting place for Groton residents who, before that time, were interred only in the Old Burying Ground (MHC #800), a Colonial Period burying ground with none of the landscape features of a 19th century Garden style cemetery. The Groton Cemetery Association has among its original subscribers both civic leaders and small landholders and farmers. The democratic nature of the organization combined with the well-preserved and refined Rural style of the landscape make the cemetery NR eligible.

National Register Eligible Areas in Groton

Hollingsworth and Vose Area

Surrenden Farms Area

Further Study Recommendations

National Register Nominations should be completed for eligible town-owned properties such as the Groton Cemetery, Old Burying Ground, Squannacook Hall, Legion Hall Town Hall, all churches, as well as the Surrenden Farms Area, Hollingsworth and Vose Area, Town Center Area, Farmers Row Area and the West Groton Area

Houses with construction dates before 1800 warrant interior examinations to verify and confirm the existence of any Colonial characteristics.

Houses from before 1830 would also benefit from an interior examination.

Given that the current survey and the previous year's survey focused on buildings from the First Period through c. 1870, documentation of buildings with construction dates from 1870-1960 would fill out the community-wide profile.

Archaeological sites of a historic and pre-historic nature should be surveyed.

Documentation of historic and agricultural landscapes throughout the town should be undertaken.

Deed research, beyond the scope of this project, may be carried out for historic properties not yet subject to such methods

A third community-wide historic resource survey would benefit the town by documenting historic properties not falling into the categories focused on here, i.e.: Victorian and Early Modern architecture. Groton School, Country Day/Sacred Heart and Lawrence Academy campuses should also be part of any additional survey efforts.

The many residents of Groton involved in Abolitionist activities should be researched further.

Subsequent historic resource survey activity should consider for survey all properties listed in Appendix B of the Boston University-Groton Planning Board study done in 1989.

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