FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot #	USGS Quad	Area(s)	Form Number
102 12		W	256, 257

Town   Groton3

Place (neighborhood or village)

West Groton

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)

Sketch Map

North Toward Top

㉙   102-10

ST JAMES

102-11

102-3   ⑥⓪   102-12

102-1

MBTA   TOWNSEND ROAD

㊱   102-13

Recorded by Sanford Johnson

Organization Groton Historical Commission

Date (month/year) 12/08

Address   60 Townsend Road

Historic Name

Uses: Present   Residential

          Original

Date of Construction   c. 1870

Source   Estimate

Style/Form   Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation   Brick

Wall/Trim   Wood clapboards

Roof   Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

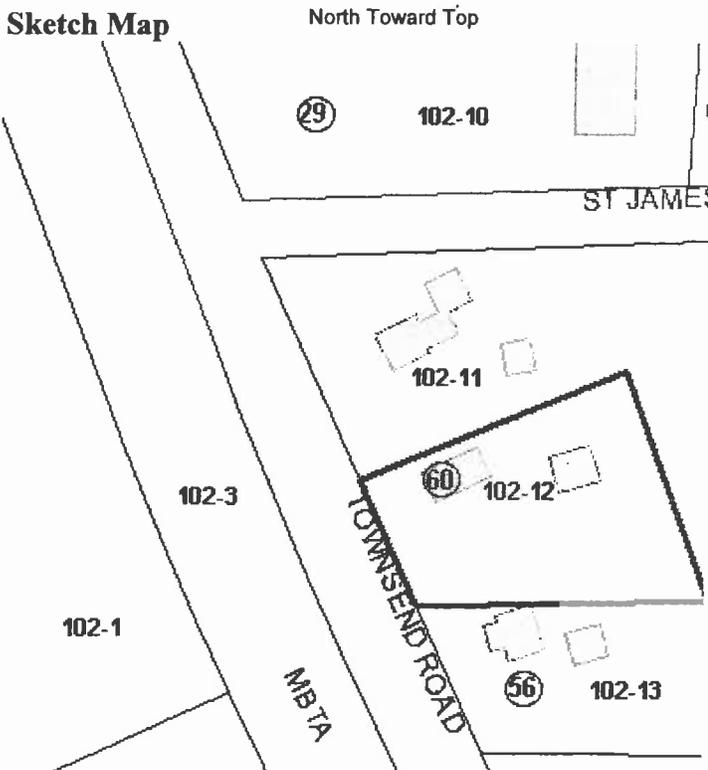Detached garage, c. 1940; outbuilding

Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition   Good

Moved   no ☐   yes ☑ **Date** c. 1890

Acreage   .73

Setting   Rural village

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 60 Townsend Road is a 1 1/2-story, 2x3-bay, front-gabled form with Victorian Eclectic style details; 2 rear shed-roofed additions of 1 story have been made to the main block; an open hipped hood with turned and jigsawn brackets covers the side-hall entry and a 1-story three-sided bay window expands the plan at the north side of the facade
* Architectural details include the corner boards, gable returns and molded cornice
* Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash with slim hoods above; the side-hall entry has plain trim
* The detached garage is a two-bay, front -gabled form with wood clapboard siding
* A second outbuilding appears to be a garden shed and has wood shingle siding
* The house is well-maintained and is of materials and a scale typical for West Groton

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 house at 60 Townsend Road appears to have been built c. 1885 but does not appear on the 1889 Middlesex County atlas by Walker, suggesting it was moved, along with several other houses, from the former mill village of Thompsonville which had been located upriver of the Hollingsworth and Vose paper mill on the Squannacook River north of West Groton. (40 Townsend Road is presumed to be one of these moved houses) Asa Howard Thompson and his uncle Granville Shepley built a reel and box mill near the Townsend and Shirley town lines c. 1885 and around it were five houses comprising what was known as Thompsonville. Mr. Thompson later bought out Mr. Shepley and moved operations closer to West Groton on what is now called Cannery Row where the former mill complex is now in use as a picture frame shop. As part of the relocation, several of the houses were moved and it is presumed this is one of them. The 1930 map of Groton indicates this may have been the home of Miss Mary O'Mealy, the widow of Martin O'Mealy according to the 1929 resident directory.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ continuation sheet

"Groton at 350", pp. 63-64; 1930 Somes map of Groton; 1929 resident directory

 ** *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**   **Property Address**

                                              Groton

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard   Photos Taken 3-6/08
Massachusetts Archives Building
Boston, MA 02125   **Area(s)**
                                              Form No.

60 Townsend Rd