

FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 101 10 USGS Quad W Area(s) Form Number 125

Town Groton
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 6 West Main Street
Historic Name Asa Tarbell House
Uses: Present Commercial
Original Residential
Date of Construction c. 1800
Source Previous GHC Research

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Split granite

Wall/Trim Brick

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Major Alterations (with dates)

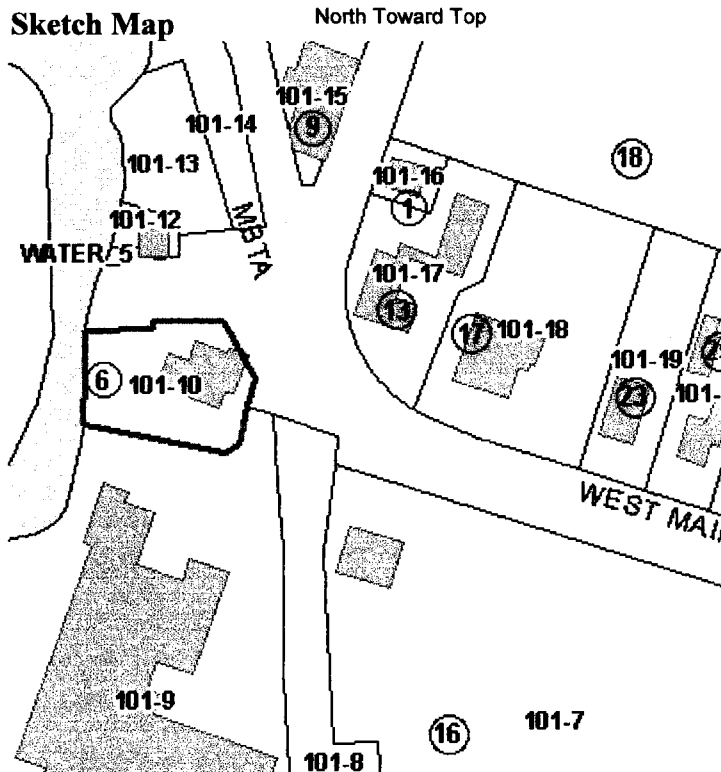
Porch added, c. 1900

Condition Good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage .181

Setting West Groton village center



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 6 West Main Street is a Federal style, 2 1/2-story, side-gabled, 5x2-bay form built of brick; A 1-story gabled ell expands the plan at the rear; A shed porch covers the northern three bays of the facade
- * Decorative elements are the gable returns, symmetrical fenestration in the façade and denticulated cornice; 4 tall brick chimneys mark the corners of the main roof; the rear ell has very deep eaves with prominent brackets on the south side which suggest use as a railroad related building
- * Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash with plain trim and stone lintels and sills
- * The center entry has sidelights, a transom and simple trim
- * The setting is amid the village of West Groton and immediately adjacent to the railroad tracks
- * This is one of two brick Federal style houses in West Groton; The other is at 16 West Main (MHC #124) and is comparable in scale and level of detail

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.

Previous GHC research and the 1832 and 1847 maps of Groton show Asa Tarbell as the owner of the house at 6 West Main Street. He is listed in the 1855 state census as a yeoman born c. 1772. By 1856, the owner was J. Tarbell, a watch maker born c. 1814. By 1875, Adams Archibald was the owner. Mr. Archibald, a native of Truro, Nova Scotia, was the first West Groton Postmaster from 1850-1868 and a tenant here in 1855 when he worked as a lumber agent. By 1889, the owner was C. H. Bixby, a justice of the peace in 1879 and 1893. The house was used as the Groton Leatherboard (MHC #s 182-188) mill superintendent's house.

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, 1918, 1929; Butler's town history; Butler's town history; Dr. Green, Chapter VII, pp. 16, 17, Vol ii, p. 32, Vol iv, p. 271

**** 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.



6 West Main Street