

FORM B - Building

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

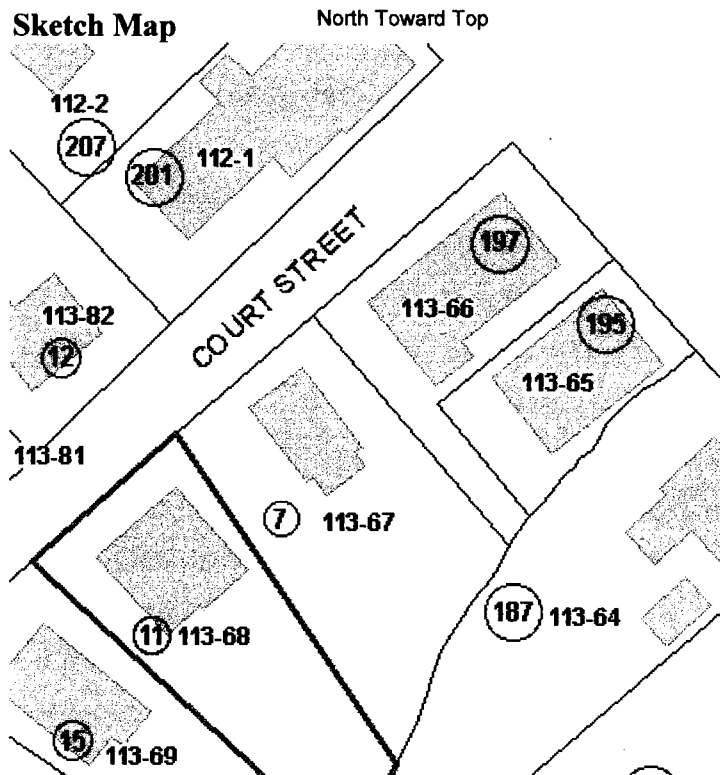
Map and Lot # 113-68 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 63

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)



Recorded by Sanford Johnson

Organization Groton Historical Commission

Date (month/year) 12/07

Address 11 Court Street

Historic Name William Lawrence-Samuel Tarbell Hous

Uses: Present Residence

Original Residence

Date of Construction c. 1740

Source Previous GHC Research; May, "Houses", p. 30

Style/Form Colonial

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Major Alterations (with dates)

Entry rebuilt, c. 1940

Condition Good

Moved no yes Date 1843

Acreage .24

Setting Town Center

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 Lawrence-Tarbell House at 11 Court Street was built c. 1740 in the Colonial style and later remodeled with a Colonial Revival door surround; The 3x2-bay main block is 2 1/2 stories and is enlarged at the rear by 2 shed roofed additions
- * Decorative features include the symmetrical fenestration, corner boards, gable returns and molded cornice
- * The center entry has a Colonial Revival style surround with pilasters, sidelights, denticulated cornice and tympanum
- * A low brick chimney rises from the rear slope of the roof
- * Windows are 6/6 double-hung units with plain trim
- * The house occupies a parcel on a side street in Groton Center and is of similar scale to others on Court Street but smaller than the typical houses on nearby Main Street

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.

Court Street was not in existence in 1832, the time of the earliest street map of Groton Center. By 1847, just before the arrival of the railroad, it was a dead end and the house at 11 Court Street may have been occupied by Jacob Reed. Shortly before, in 1843 according to historian Virginia May, the house was moved from its location a short distance to the east on Main Street where it had been built c. 1740 by Col. William Lawrence (1697-1764). He occupied the house with his wife Susanne Prescott whom he married in 1722. Col. Lawrence served the town as representative to the general court and commander of the local militia regiment. A subsequent owner was Samuel Tarbell around the end of the 18th century, a time when Main Street had not yet been straightened to its current configuration. Mr. Tarbell farmed the land now occupied by the triangle between Main and Hollis Streets southeast of School Street. After Mr. Reed's ownership, W. C. Lewis's name is associated with the house in 1856. This is William Crosby Lewis, a deputy sheriff from 1837-1851, who lived with his wife Emeline and their son William Henry Harrison Lewis. Subsequent owners were Mrs. Gleason according to the 1875 county atlas and F. L. Blood in 1889. The 1888 resident directory indicates Charles E. was a person named Blood on Court Street. He drove a bread cart while Frank L. Blood lived on High Street (now Powderhouse Road), perhaps renting the house to his relative Charles. Frank Lawrence Blood was a justice of the peace and attended the Boston University School of Law. He was the son of Andrew and Susan Blood and was born in Groton in 1854. He married Grace Hollingsworth, a daughter of John Mark and Ann (Tileston) Hollingsworth, of Groton. By 1921, the house had acquired a rear outbuilding that is reflected on the Sanborn Fire Insurance map of that year. May states the outbuilding was moved here from the property of William F. Wharton, an owner of multiple Groton houses.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

continuation sheet

Previous GHC Research; S. A. Green, Vol ii, p. 114, 295; Vol ii, 372; iv, p. 271, 401; Sanborn Fire Insurance map, 1921; 1856 Walling map of Middlesex County; 1875 Beers atlas; 1889 Walker atlas; 1832 and 1847 Butler maps; 1939 WPA map; Butler's 1829 field notes; Federal census agricultural schedules, 1850-1880; 1855, 1865 state census; May, "Houses" p. 30; 1888 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

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Town
Groton

Property Address

Area(s)

Form No.



11 Court Street