

# FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 113-81 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 314

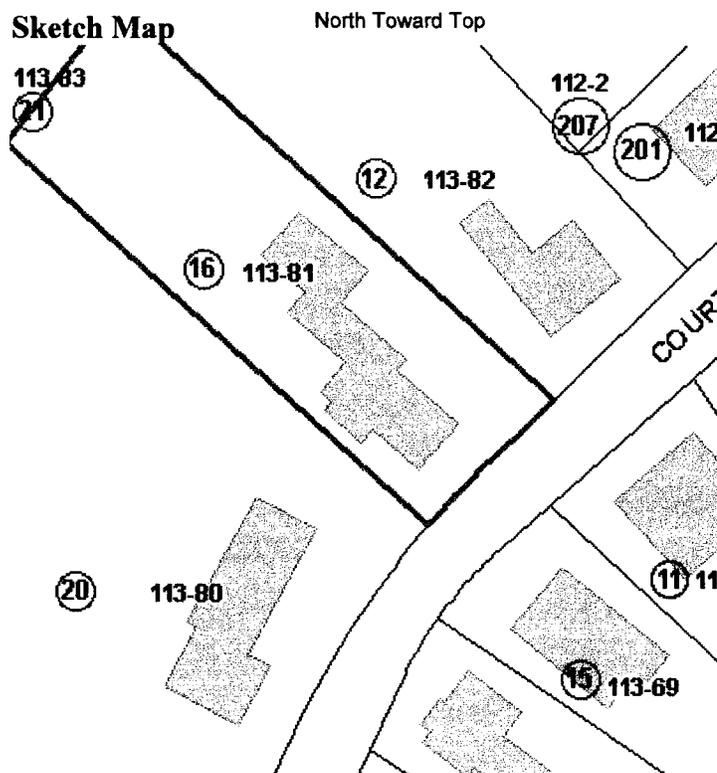
Town Groton  
Place (neighborhood or village) Groton Center

## 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)

## Sketch Map



Recorded by Sanford Johnson

Organization Groton Historical Commission

Date (month/year) 12/07

Address 16 Court Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction c. 1850

Source 1856 Walling map

Style/Form Greek Revival; Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Split granite

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Attached carriage barn

Major Alterations (with dates)

Enclosed porch added to façade, c. 1900

Condition Good

Moved no  yes  Date

Acreage .33

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 house at 16 Court Street is a 1 1/2-story, 3x2-bay, front-gabled form with elements of the Greek Revival and Victorian Eclectic styles; the plan of the main block of the house is enlarged by the enclosed front porch, the 1-story bay window at the northeast corner and the rear ell of 1 story that connects the carriage barn
- \* The house is articulated by the paneled pilasters, gable returns, molded cornice and frieze
- \* Windows are largely obscured but appear to consist mainly of plainly trimmed 6/6 double hung units; a triangular vent occupies the peak of the front gable; The main entry is covered by the enclosed porch
- \* Brick chimneys rise from both slopes of the main block of the house
- \* The carriage barn is a front-gabled form clad in wood clapboards with a vehicle door, gable peak window and glazed mow door in the principal elevation; additional openings pierce the side elevation; eaves are detailed with a molded cornice
- \* the house and barn are well-maintained and retains integrity of design; the scale is typical for side streets in Groton Center but are smaller than those on Main Street; the barn is one of approximately a two dozen in the center area

### 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.*

In 1847, the avenue of Court Street was a dead end, the new railroad not having stimulated the full amount of growth in that direction. By 1875, the entire street was laid out and the occupant of 16 Court Street appears to have been J. W. Parker whose name is at this location on the county atlas from that year. This is John Warren Parker according to Dr. Green who indicates he was the Groton town clerk from 1851-1854 and was aid to the Chief Marshall for the 1855 town bicentennial. Also, he was a representative to the state legislature in 1855 and 1856, a justice of the peace in 1855, 1862 and 1886. Mr. Parker was the son of Eri Parker, and was born in 1826 in Littleton. He worked as a merchant, and was living in Groton at the time of Dr. Green's history (1890) which states he was the second railroad station agent (after Augustus W. Wood) and served in that capacity from 1862-1886. By 1921, the house had been built to its current configuration with the attached barn in use as an auto house. The 1930 occupant was Mrs. Andrew Kemp. This is Bridget Kemp, widow of Andrew according to the 1929 resident directory.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

continuation sheet

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; Previous GHC Research; 1921 Sanborn Fire Insurance map; S. A. Green: IX, p. 17; XV, p. 15, 21, 22; XVIII, 3, 5; Vol ii, pp. 14, 18, 31-33, 119; iv, p. 330; 1930 Somes map; Resident directories;

**\*\* 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**

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**Town**  
Groton

**Property Address**

**Area(s)**

**Form No.**



16 Court Street