

FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 112 30 USGS Quad Area(s) Y Form Number 326

Town Groton Center
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 8 Elm Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present Multi-unit residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction c. 1870

Source 1875 county atlas; estimate

Style/Form Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Split granite

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Attached barn, c. 1900

Major Alterations (with dates)

Additions to rear of main block, c 1880

Condition Excellent

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 1.25

Setting Townn 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 multi-unit residence at 8 Elm Street appears to have at its core a 5x2-bay, side-gabled, 2 1/2-story form of Greek Revival design; this has been enlarged by the addition of a cross-gabled 2-story block projecting south from the façade and north from the rear elevation of the main block and by an addition expanding the rear or west by 3 bays; 2 open porches and one enclosed porch have also been added to the original plan, creating a larger than average residence for the neighborhood
- * Decorative features include the gable returns, corner boards and molded cornice on the main block and Doric columns supporting porches in the cross gabled block
- * Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash with beaded trim
- * The main entry appears to be at the junction of the main block and the cross-gabled block under the open porch; this is flanked by 1/2 length sidelights and pilasters; a screened porch projects off the back the cross gabled block
- * Two brick chimneys rise from the main roof ridge
- * The detached barn has wood clapboard siding, gable returns, molded cornice, a vehicle door, mow door and 6/6 sash in the façade; a metal ventilator occupies the roof ridge
- * The house is larger than average for the area and is well maintained

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 1847 Butler map of Groton center depicts the parcel and building as occupied by L. Whiting, although the current house may have been built after that date given the architectural style. Lemuel Whiting remained at this location until at least 1889 according to maps depicting owner names from 1856, 1875 and 1889. Dr. Green's history of Groton describes Mr. Whiting as being married to his wife Clarissa in 1839 and having two children. State census schedules from 1865 list him as a carpenter. By 1921, the house is depicted on the Sanborn map in the current configuration with an auto house attached to the rear in the existing barn. Porches currently attached to the house were in place by that time. The 1930 owner was G. H. Woods.

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; Resident Directories, 1918, 1929; Dr. Green, Vol. iii, p. 313; ; 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.



8 Elm Street