

# FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 112 32 USGS Quad Area(s) Y Form Number 331

Town Groton Center  
Place (neighborhood or village) Groton Center

## Photograph

(3"x3" or 3-1/2"x5" 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 22 Elm Street  
Historic Name  
Uses: Present Multi-unit residential  
Original Residential

Date of Construction c. 1820

Source Estimate

Style/Form Federal

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)

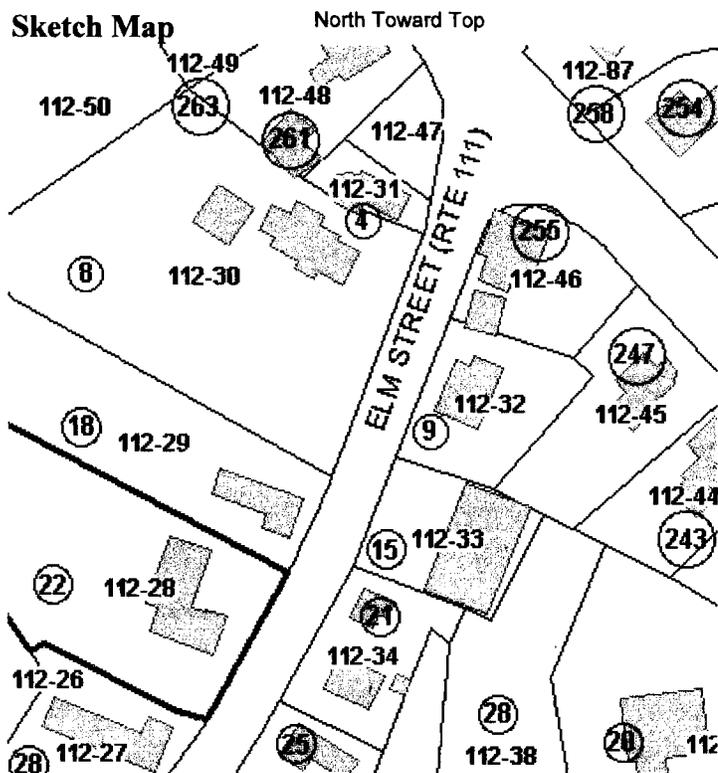
Condition Good

Moved no  yes  Date

Acreage .75

Setting Town Center

## Sketch Map



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 22 Elm Street is a 2 1/2-story, side-gabled, 5x2-bay Federal style design with a 2-story rear ell and attached barn
- \* Ornament consists of the symmetrical fenestration in the façade and molded cornice
- \* Windows are mainly 6/6 double-hung sash with beaded trim
- \* The center entry has wide plain trim boards, cornice and 1/2-length sidelights
- \* The perpendicular rear ell consists of 2 bays, contains a secondary entry and connects the side-gabled barn to the house
- \* The barn has a vehicle door, pedestrian door, mow door as well as 6 and 9-pane fixed sash in the first story; siding is wood clapboard
- \* The house and barn are in good condition and occupy a parcel near the junction of Main Street; the scale is typical for Groton Center

### 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 1832 owner of the house appears to have been J. Sawtell 2nd, who was followed by Mrs. A. Fletcher in 1847. From c. 1856-c. 1889, the owner was George Samuel Gates whom Dr. Green notes was a representative to the state legislature in 1864 and 1874, a notary public, justice of the peace and town treasurer from 1879-1887. He was born in 1817 in Peterborough, NH and moved to Groton by 1847 where he worked as a baker, probably at the site of the modern building at 15 Elm Street. Local historians suggest Mr. Gates owned a cracker bakery located at the current site of 15 Elm Street. At that time, he owned a bakery at the corner of Main Street and West Street, then known as Fagot Lane for the everpresent pile of firewood to fuel the bakers' ovens. By 1921, the footprint of the house appeared in its current configuration and included an auto house in the right side. The 1930 owner appears to have been the H. W. Whiting heirs. This is Henry W. Whiting who died in 1928 but had been the superintendent of the Groton School.

### 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, Chapters V, p. 14; XI, p. 11; Vol ii, p. 15, 17, 28, 32, 73, 74, 119, 372; iv, 270; 1930 Somes map; Resident directories; 1855, 1865 state census; May, "Houses", pp. 92, 119

**\*\* 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**  
Groton

**Property Address**

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
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Boston, MA 02125

**Area(s)**  
**Form No.**



22 Elm Street