

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 Victorian Eclectic style residence at 545 Farmers Row is a front-gabled, 2 1/2-story form with a 2-story, 4-bay north side ell clad in wood shingles and an enclosed shed porch over the first story of the ell; The ell connects to a front-gabled barn oriented parallel to the house and perpendicular to the ell; a 3-sided, 2-story bay window occupies the south bay of the house façade; A second bay exists at the rear of the south elevation
- * Ornament consists of the gable returns, corner boards, frieze and molded cornice; the porch has square posts
- * Openings have mainly 2/2 double-hung sash with plain trim except for those in the bay window which have 1/1 sash
- * The side-hall entry has a simple pedimented hood and fluted pilasters, all of which may be modern materials
- * A modern brick chimney rises from the south side elevation of the main block
- * The attached barn at the north end of the ell is banked with the north foundation wall extending below the grade of the front yard; Wood clapboard siding covers the street elevation and horizontal flushboards are found elsewhere; Access is through a rolling vehicle door in the principal elevation and through a second rolling door in the north elevation below the grade of the front yard; Both doors have fixed sash in the center; The front gable peak is lit by a 12/12 sash; Molded eave trim and corner boards articulate the barn
- * The scale and materials of the house and barn are typical for Groton although the Victorian form and details are less common in the town than the Federal style examples

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 farmhouse at 545 Farmers Row appears from its architectural features to have been built around the mid 19th century. The Groton maps of 1847 and 1856 indicate A. Stone lived in the area and may have been the occupant. Agricultural schedules of the 1860 federal census list Abel Stone as the owner of 55 acres valued at \$3500. He also owned a horse and 3 cows. This represents a reduction from the 1850 census which lists 195 acres on the property. The house is not depicted on the 1875 and 1889 county atlases despite its having been built sometime prior. The 1930 owner was Mrs. M. H. Culver, the widow of James Culver, a farmer according to the 1918 and 1929 resident directories. By 1939, the farm was planted in hay and fields in use as pasture.

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; 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

Town
Groton

Property Address

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

Area(s)
Form No.



545 Farmers Row



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