

FORM B - Building

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

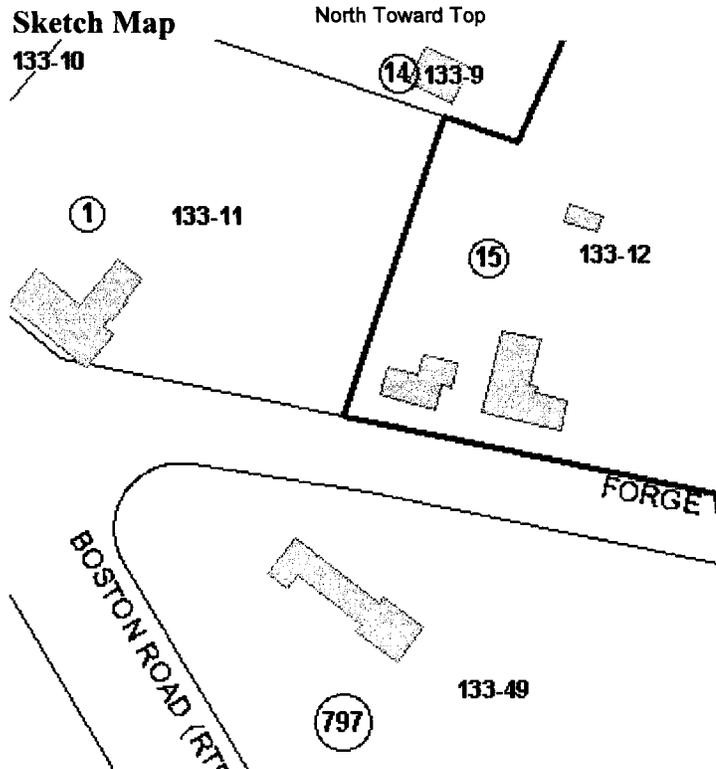
Map and Lot # 133-12 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 58

Town Groton
Place (neighborhood or village)

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 15 Forge Village Road
Historic Name Blodgett House
Uses: Present Residential
Original Residential-agricultural

Date of Construction c. 1847

Source May, "Houses", p. 52

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Split granite

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Attached barn

Major Alterations (with dates)

Additions to east side and rear, no date; front door replaced

Condition Fair

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 3

Setting Commercial intersection of State Rts 119 and 225

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 Blodgett House is a side-gabled, 5x2-bay, 2 1/2-story form with elements of the Greek Revival and Victorian Eclectic styles; The main block facing Forge Village Road has been expanded by additions to the east and north sides that connect the house to the barn
- * Decorative features include the Greek Revival style low pedimented hood over the center entry, corner blocks on some window surrounds, Victorian jigsaw brackets in the east side porch entrance, corner boards and molded cornice
- * Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash with a combination of plain and molded trim
- * The center entry, in addition to the decorative hood, has sidelights and plain trim
- * The gambrel front barn is sided with vertical flushboard and contains a vehicle entry in the center of the principal elevation; three additional openings are filled with fixed 6-pane barn sash; the barn is attached to the house by a 1-story shed that contains a garage
- * The well-maintained Blodgett House is one of two residences at the busy corner of State routes 119 and 225; the other is at 797 Boston Road (MHC #59)

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 parcel at 15 Forge Village Road appears vacant on the 1832 map of Groton but is occupied by a house owned by E. D. Derby in 1847. The federal census agricultural schedule of 1850 lists Edmund D. Derby as having 40 acres, a farm worth \$1200 with 2 horses and a cow. By the time of the 1860 census, his property was valued at \$3000, an increase that suggests construction of a new house or the addition of some other property. State census schedules from 1855 list Mr. Derby as a yeoman with a wife named Harriet, 2 children and a boarder. The valuation had risen to \$6500 by 1870, indicating further improvements or the addition of some other property, which by then amounted to 61 acres. A subsequent owner was G. Hardy in 1875. By the time of the 1889 county atlas, J. Fuzzard was the owner of this as well as the properties at 797 Boston Road and the Ridge Hill Tavern at 1 Forge Village Road (MHC #s 57 and 59). Fay Riggs was the 1930 owner. Mr. Riggs worked as a laborer and occupied the house with his wife Carolyn. By 1939, the land was planted in hay and was in semi agricultural use.

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 Soames map; 1855; 1865 state census; May, "Houses" p. 52;

**** 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

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Boston, MA 02125

Area(s)
Form No.



15 Forge Village Road