

FORM B - Building

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

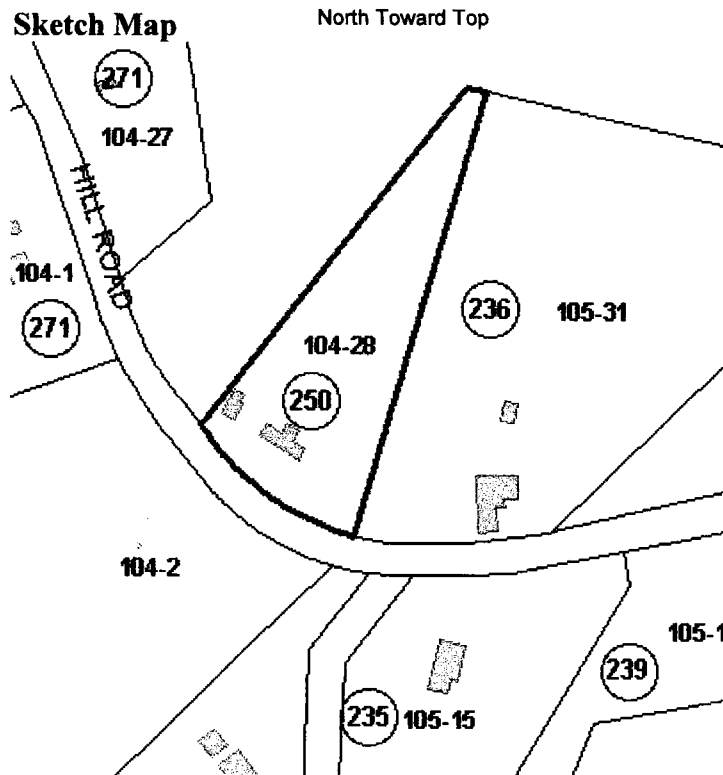
Map and Lot # 104-28 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 112

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 250 Hill Road

Historic Name Hartwell House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential-agricultural

Date of Construction c. 1750

Source Estimate; previous research

Style/Form Colonial

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Unknown

Wall/Trim Wood shingle

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Shed

Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition Fair

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 1.84

Setting Rural

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.

- * 250 Hill Road is a diminutive, side-gabled, 6x1-bay, 1 1/2-story house that may have Colonial Period origins judging by its form and small window openings
- * Decorative features are sparse other than the trellis over the off-center doorway
- * Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash of a variety of sizes, all rather small
- * The brick chimney rises just above the roof ridge and appears to have been rebuilt at a smaller scale than the original
- * The wood shingled shed at the west edge of the lot may have been built c. 1900 and is in some disrepair
- * The small size of the Hartwell House makes it an unusual Colonial Period survivor and may represent the form of many early houses from the period

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 Butler map and previous research by members of the GHC indicate this was the house of Eliab G. Bolton in that year. It is possible he moved here in 1821, the year he married Dorcas Farwell Concord. Nine days before his wedding, Dr. Green describes Mr. Bolton as having picked up an account book off the ground with names suggesting it belonged to someone in Warwick, MA, 45 miles west. Inquiries by Caleb Butler confirmed this and that the book had been blown the distance by a hurricane. Butler's field notes of 1828-29 describe the house as an old 1 story building with 1 chimney and three windows across the façade, an appearance similar to the current configuration. By 1847, the owner appears to have been W. Kemp according to Butler's subsequent map of the town. William Kemp is described in census records as a farmer and by Dr. Green as a native of Groton and drummer in the War of 1812, veteran of the campaign on Lake Ontario at Sacketts Harbor and later a resident of West Groton, then called Squannacook where he lived with his son until his death in 1885 at 96 years old. A subsequent owner was the painter James Hartwell in 1856 who was recorded as owning 12 acres and a house valued at \$500, an amount commensurate with the small scale of the building. Mr. Hartwell remained until at least 1889. A relative named George Hartwell lived here until his death c. 1917, after which his wife remained into the 1930s. By 1939, the land was planted in timber and the property in use as a farm.

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, 1888, 1918, 1929; Dr. Green, Chapter, IV, p. 8; Vol iv, p. 240; Chapter VIII, p. 6, 7; X, 29; Vol ii, p. 232; 1855, 1865 state census

**** 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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Area(s)
Form No.



250 Hill Road