

# FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 116-10 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 344

Town Groton  
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)

Address 53 Main Street  
Historic Name Shumway House  
Uses: Present Residential  
Original Residential  
Date of Construction c. 1850

Source 1856 Walling map

Style/Form Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Split granite

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Major Alterations (with dates)

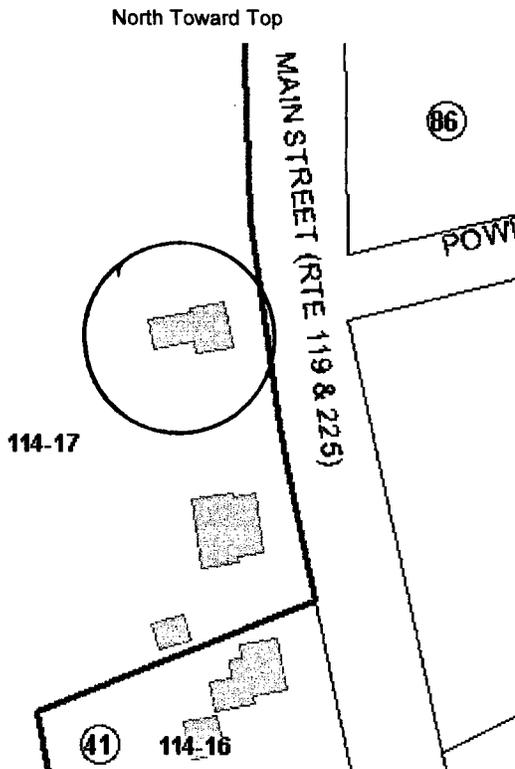
Condition Good

Moved no  yes  Date

Acreage Part of L.A. campus

Setting Town Center, near ballfields

## 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 53 Main Street is a side-gabled, 4x2-bay, 2-story house has elements of the Gothic Revival style; a 1-story rear ell expands the plan of the main block of the house
- \* Decorative features of the house are the symmetrical fenestration in the façade, gable returns, paired eave brackets and dentils, steeply pitched roof and molded cornice
- \* Windows in the façade are 6/6 double-hung sash with hood moldings; gabled dormers in the front slope of the roof have 2/2 sash
- \* The main entry appears to be located in the south elevation and is trimmed with pilasters, sidelights and a cornice; Additional entries are under the south side porch at both the first and second stories
- \* A small brick chimney rises from the center of the main roof ridge
- \* The house is set close to Main Street and is adjacent to the baseball field for Lawrence Academy; The school houses faculty in the building
- \* The house is well-maintained and is a locally rare example of the Gothic Revival style; it is smaller than many other house along Main Street and is more comparable in scale to those on Groton Center side streets

### 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 initial owner of 53 Main Street was Rev. Goldsmith according to the 1856 Walling map, although May states in "Groton Houses" that the construction date is 1865, suggesting the current building may have replaced an earlier house. Rev. Goldsmith was born c. 1810 in Hallowell, ME, was an alumnus of Brown College (1833) and the Andover Theological Seminary and preached in RI, NH and Princeton, MA before coming to Groton in 1849. He served as minister intermittently until 1866. He and his wife Sarah had 3 children. Rev. Goldsmith died in 1887. A subsequent owner was L. L. Condry who was listed in the 1865 state census as a ship master married to Sarah with two children. The 1888 resident directory lists Lewis L. Condry as a resident of Main Street. By the time of the 1930 Groton map, the house belonged to Lawrence Academy.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

continuation sheet

1856 Walling map of Middlesex County; 1875 Beers atlas; 1889 Walker atlas; 1832 and 1847 Butler maps; 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; 1855, 1865 state census; May, "Houses" p. 169;

**\*\* 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  
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Boston, MA 02125

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



53 Main Street



53 Main Street