

# FORM B - Building

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

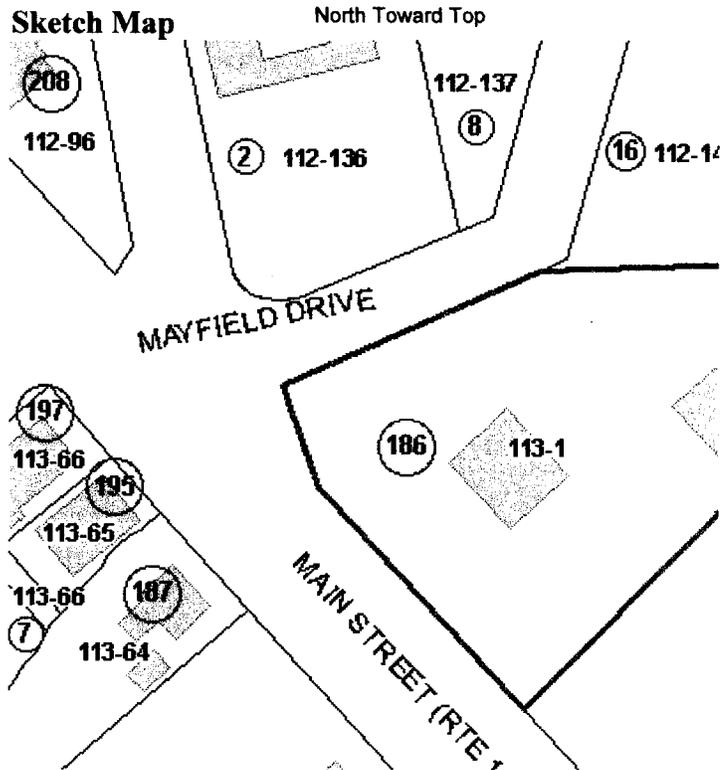
Map and Lot # 113-1 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 355

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)



Recorded by Sanford Johnson  
Organization Groton Historical Commission  
Date (month/year) 12/07

Address 186 Main Street  
Historic Name Hollingsworth House  
Uses: Present Residential  
Original Residential  
Date of Construction c. 1860  
Source 1856 Walling map; 1875 Beers atlas  
Style/Form Italianate  
Architect/Builder  
Exterior Material:  
Foundation Granite  
Wall/Trim Vinyl clapboard  
Roof Unknown  
Outbuildings/secondary structure Detached carriage shed  
Major Alterations (with dates) Re-sided with vinyl, c. 1970

Condition Fair  
Moved no  yes  Date  
Acreage .8  
Setting Town Center

## 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 186 Main Street is an Italianate style design of 2 stories built on a 3x5 bay plan with a very low-pitched deck-hip roof and enclosed 1-story porch on the south side
- \* Decorative features include the corner quoins, dentils at the eave and the symmetrical fenestration in the façade
- \* Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash with plain trim in the second story while the first story of the façade has paired 6/6 units; Additional window types include the 8-pane casements in the south side enclosed porch
- \* The center entry has a transom and sidelights under a 1-story semi-circular entry porch articulated with a balustrade at the roof level, cornice, dentils, frieze and Doric columns; the front entry is elevated above the landscape by tiered earthen bank traversed by brick steps
- \* 2 brick chimneys occupy the roof ridge as well as a metal cap on the central deck
- \* The house is in fair condition but appears to retain most of its historic features and fabric
- \* The house is larger than some other houses in Groton Center and is set back farther from Main Street
- \* The wood clapboard carriage barn is 2 stories high and also has a low-pitched deck hip roof; vehicle access is through a rolling door in the façade; additional openings contain 6/6 sash and a mow door; the carriage barn is one of perhaps a dozen in the town center and is more refined in its design than most although the condition is only fair

### 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 of 186 Main Street was vacant at the time of the 1856 Walling map. The initial owner may have been Anna Hollingsworth who lived at or near this location in 1865 according to the state census. The parcel is labeled with a building belonging to G. S. Graves on the 1875 and 1889 county atlases. This is George Sumner Graves who served as supervisor of elections in 1884, chief engineer of the fire department from 1884-1885 and was a representative to the state legislature in 1886. Dr. Green also notes that he was the son of John Jackson Graves who lived at 108 Pleasant Street (MHC #87) and that George worked as an owner and trustee of real estate. It is interesting that Mr. Graves, while living previously in South Groton had hot air balloons launched from Boston and Fitchburg land on his property in 1860 and 1871. He also owned the house at 16 Hollis Street (MHC #333). By 1921, the outbuilding was in use as an auto house. The 1930 owner was the coal dealer Mark A. Blood and by 1959, Dr. LaVigne was the owner.

### 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; 1896, 1921 Sanborn Fire Insurance map; Resident Directories, 1888, 1918, 1929; Dr. Green, Chapter XVII, p. 10; Vol ii, p. 16, 17, 28, 32, 33, 120, 396; Vol iv, p. 270; 1930 Somes map; Resident directories, 1918, 1929; 1855, 1865 state census; May, "Houses", pp. 93,

**\*\* 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.

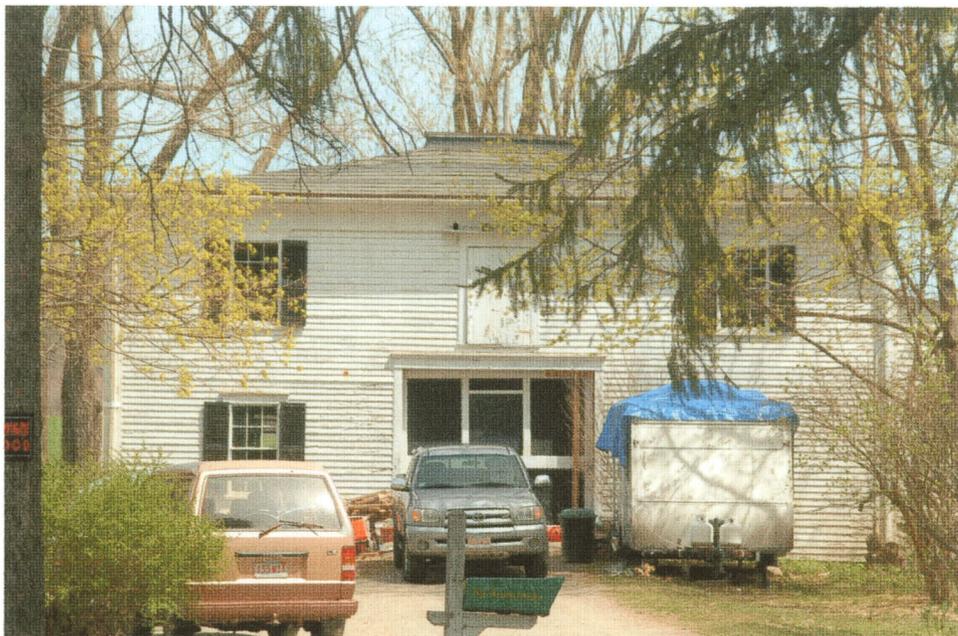
**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Town**  
Groton

**Property Address**

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

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



186 Main Street



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