

# FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 212-16 USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number 113

Town Groton  
Place (neighborhood or village)

## Photograph

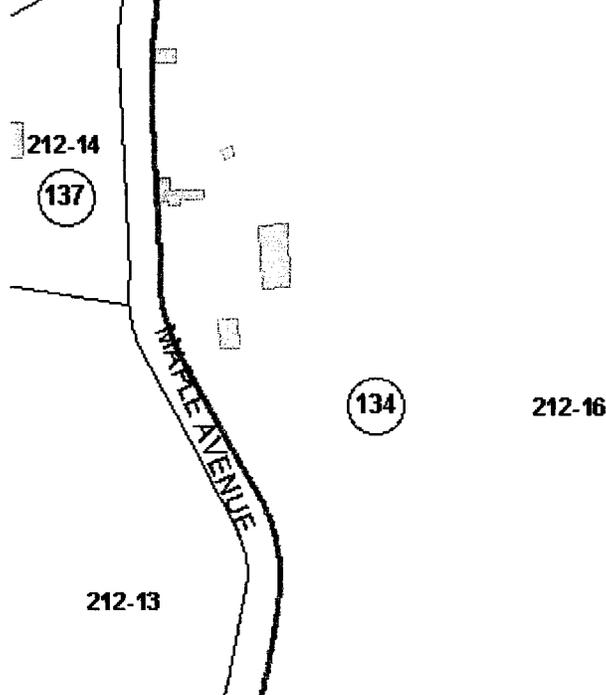
(3"x3" or 3-1/2x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Roll Negative(s)

## Sketch Map

212-14.2

North Toward Top



Recorded by Sanford Johnson

Organization Groton Historical Commission

Date (month/year) 12/07

Address 134 Maple Avenue

Historic Name P. Dunsmore House

Uses: Present Residential-agricultural

Original Residential-agricultural

Date of Construction c. 1840

Source 1828-1829 field notes by Butler

Style/Form Federal

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Unknown

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

3 detached barns; second residence

Major Alterations (with dates)

Some windows replaced, c. 2000

Condition Good

Moved no  yes  Date

Acreage 70

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.*

- \* The house at 134 Maple Avenue is a 2 1/2-story, side-gabled, 5x1-bay Federal style design with a 2-story, 2-bay rear ell and attached shed; The ell has a gabled dormer facing south over an enclosed shed roofed porch; The attached shed has a vehicle opening in the south elevation and 2 fixed 3-pane windows above
- \* Ornament consists of the symmetrical fenestration in the façade, corner boards and molded cornice
- \* Windows are mainly 6/6 double-hung sash, some of which may have been recently replaced
- \* The center entry has pilasters, cornice and 1/2-length sidelights
- \* The detached Victorian Eclectic style barn measuring approximately 40'x30' is a side-gabled form of 2 stories with 2 vehicle openings in the west facing façade which is articulated by an off-center wall gable over the 2/2 sash and northern barn door that has a pent roof; Above the pent roof is a flared course of shingle that divides the clapboard exterior below from the stagger-butt shingle cladding in the wall gable which is trimmed with a stick style gable ornament above the mow door; The gable ornament appears in the side gables as well; Northeast of this is an unornamented and more recently built vertical flushboard barn measuring around 40'x100' with vehicle openings in the gable ends and paired ventilators on the roof ridge; A much smaller third outbuilding is northeast of the house and is clad in wood clapboards; This also has a roof vent, pedestrian door and measures approximately 12'x12' and may serve as an ice house; a fourth outbuilding is visible in the eastern distance
- \* The house and barns are in good condition and occupy a large open parcel that may be under cultivation

### 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 of Groton shows this to be the property of Phineas Dunsmore. Butler's field notes describe a house of 1 story, 1 chimney and 3 windows across the façade, significantly smaller than the current building. Given the architectural design, it was probably rebuilt or enlarged shortly afterward. By 1847, the owner was Joel Shattuck who owned 100 acres, a horse, 3 cows and a farm valued at \$3000. Mr. Shattuck, who was born c. 1806, married to Nancy and had 5 children, also grew hops in 1850, a time when the once-popular crop was in decline in Groton due to competition with western growers. Mr. Shattuck remained here until at least 1889 according to county atlases. The 1930 owners were Edith and Francis G. Hayes who worked as a lawyer on Boston. By 1939, land was planted in hay and merchantable timber.

### 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; 1939 WPA map; Federal census agricultural schedules, 1850-1880; Previous GHC Research; 1896, 1921 Sanborn Fire Insurance map; Resident Directories, 1918, 1929; Butler's town history; 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**

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, MA 02125

**Area(s)**

**Form No.**



134 Maple Avenue



134 Maple Avenue

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Town**  
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134 Maple Avenue

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Community  
Property Address

Groton  
134 Maple Avenue

Massachusetts Archives Building  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

Form No

### National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

Individually eligible  X

Eligible only in a historic district

Contributing to a potential historic district

Potential historic district

Criteria:  A  B  C  D

Criteria considerations:  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Statement of significance by: Sanford Johnson

*The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.*

The Federal Style Joel Shattuck House at 134 Maple Avenue is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level. The 1847 property owner was Joel Shattuck who owned 100 acres, a horse, 3 cows and a farm valued at \$3000. Mr. Shattuck, who was born c. 1806, married to Nancy and had 5 children, also grew hops in 1850, a time when the once-popular crop was in decline in Groton due to competition with western growers. Mr. Shattuck remained here until at least 1889 according to county atlases. The 1930 owners were Edith and Francis G. Hayes who worked as a lawyer on Boston. By 1939, land was planted in hay and merchantable timber. The building's associations with historic agricultural activity in Groton establish its significance under Criterion A. The design of the house's symmetrical façade and its setting amid farm fields with barns, including one of the town's most ornate Victorian examples, make the property eligible under Criterion C. The house and barn retain integrity of design, materials, setting and workmanship.