

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 Victorian Eclectic style residence at 416 Old Ayer Road is a front-gabled, 2 1/2-story form with a 2 1/2-story, 3-bay rear ell and a shed porch over the south portion of the first story of the 3x3-bay main block; The ell connects to a 1-story gabled shed oriented parallel to the house and ell
- * Ornament consists of the gable returns, corner boards, frieze and molded cornice; the porch has square posts with molded caps
- * Windows are mainly 6/6 double-hung sash with slim hoods
- * The recessed side-hall entry has full-length sidelights, entablature and pilasters
- * 2 brick chimneys occupy the center of the roof ridge in the main block
- * The detached barn behind the ell has wood clapboard siding, a rolling vehicle door with transom, pedestrian door, fixed 6-pane and 6/6 sash in the east elevation; The roof ridge is surmounted by a square ventilator with pyramidal roof and weathervane; the barn is approximately 40'x60', slightly larger than average for Groton
- * The scale and materials of the house are typical for Groton although the Victorian form and details are less common in farmsteads in the town than the Federal style examples; extensive views to the west may take in Mount Wachusett

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.

While Calvin Hubbard's name appears associated with a farm near this location on Butler's 1832 map, it is likely the house was built later judging by its design. The owner in 1847 was Alvah Wright which seems a more appropriate estimate for the construction date. In 1850, he owned 43 acres, 2 horses, 4 cows and property valued in federal census agricultural schedules at \$2500, an average amount for the town. Mr. Wright remained here until at least 1875 at which time he is depicted as the owner of the adjacent property at or near 430 Old Ayer Road (MHC ###). Dr. Green notes he was born in 1816, married to Fanny Gilson Woods in 1841, had 1 daughter and she was the son of Artemus Woods. He and his wife Fanny were still living at the time of Dr. Green's publication in 1890. State census schedules from 1855 and 1865 list the family as including three children, two of whom were teachers in 1865: Maria and Fannie, ages 23 and 18. By 1889, the property is labeled with the name Black on the county atlas. By 1930, the owner was Thomas Clough, a farmer according to resident directories from 1918 and 1929.

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; May, "Groton Plantation", p. 77; Dr. Green, Vol ii, p. 315; 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.



416 Old Ayer Road



416 Old Ayer Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Community
Property Address

Groton
416 Old Ayer Road

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 Wright-Eliades House at 4126 Old Ayer Road is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places at the local level. While Calvin Hubbard's name appears associated with a farm near this location on Butler's 1832 map, it is likely the house was built later judging by its design. The owner in 1847 was Alvah Wright which seems a more appropriate estimate for the construction date. In 1850, he owned 43 acres, 2 horses, 4 cows and property valued in federal census agricultural schedules at \$2500, an average amount for the town. Mr. Wright remained here until at least 1875 at which time he is depicted as the owner of the adjacent property at or near 430 Old Ayer Road (MHC ###). Dr. Green notes he was born in 1816, married to Fanny Gilson Woods in 1841, had 1 daughter and she was the son of Artemus Woods. He and his wife Fanny were still living at the time of Dr. Green's publication in 1890. The building's associations with historic agricultural activity in Groton establish its significance under Criterion A. The design of the house's gable front façade and its setting amid farm fields with the large barn, make the property eligible under Criterion C. The house and barn retain integrity of design, materials, setting and workmanship.