

FORM B - Building

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

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)

Map and Lot # 113 13 USGS Quad Area(s) Y Form Number 345, 346

Town Groton3

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 71 Main Street

Historic Name Palmer House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction c. 1900

Source Estimate

Style/Form Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Undetermined

Wall/Trim Wood clapboard

Roof Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/secondary structure

Detached 19th c. carriage barn

Major Alterations (with dates)

Porch rebuilt, 2008

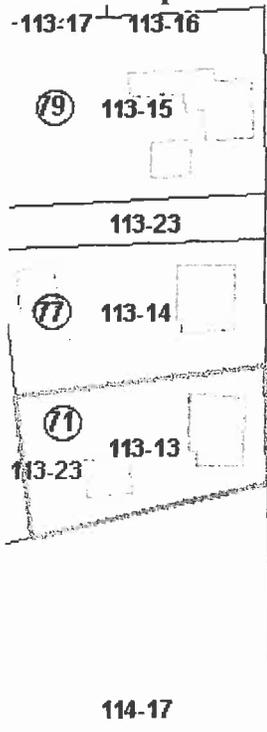
Condition Good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage .3

Setting Town Center

Sketch Map



North Toward Top

MAIN STREET (RTE 119 & 225)

86 116-12

Recorded by Sanford Johnson

Organization Groton Historical Commission

Date (month/year) 12/08

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 side-gambrel, 4x2-bay, 2 1/2-story Victorian Eclectic style house at 71 Main Street is a well-maintained example that abuts the Lawrence Academy baseball diamond
- * Details include the gable returns, corner boards and the central wall gable with steeply pitch roof
- * A full-width hipped porch on the façade and south end wall covers the first story and is supported by modern Doric columns
- * Windows are mainly 2/2 double-hung sash and have slim hoods; the example in the south gable end is a paired unit
- * The main entrance is off center in the façade and has simple trim
- * The detached carriage barn is a gambrel form with vehicle door, mow door and 6/6 double hung sash in the façade; details include the gable returns, molded cornice and ornamental bracing in the vehicle door

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 Palmer House first appears on an historic map of Groton in 1930 when it is labeled the house of the farmer Frank H. Palmer and his wife Edna. The 1918 resident directory lists Mr. Palmer as a resident of Main Street, suggesting he had his house built by that time. Mr. Palmer's relative, (possibly his father) Moses P. Palmer was a boarder in the house. Moses was also a farmer who previously lived at 270 Boston Road (MHC #130). He was wounded in the Civil War, served as a representative to the Middlesex District Court in 1883, justice of the peace in 1881, state senator in 1888. Frank and Edna continued to live here until at least 1942 according to the map from that year printed in the Lawrence Academy history by Douglas Frank.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

continuation sheet

1930 Somes map of Groton; Resident directories, 1918, 1929; Frank's history of Lawrence Academy, p. 298;

**** 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
Massachusetts Archives Building
Boston, MA 02125

Photos Taken 3-6/08

Area(s)
Form No.



71 Main Street