

FORM B - Building

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

Map and Lot # 102 69
USGS Quad
Area(s) W
Form Number 127
Town Groton
Place (neighborhood or village) West Groton

Photograph

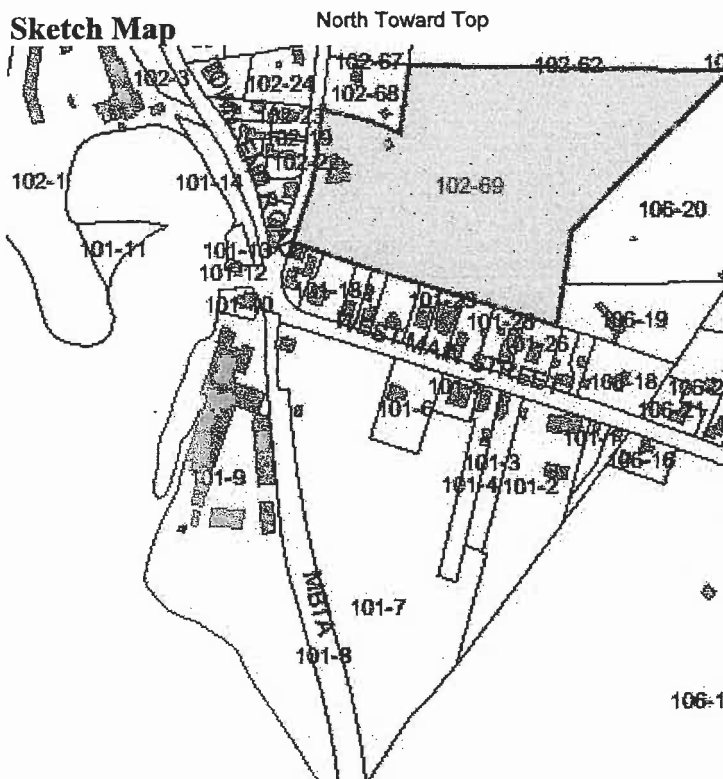
(3"x3" or 3-1/2x5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Address 18 Pepperell Road
Historic Name Sedley House
Uses: Present Residential
Original Residential
Date of Construction c. 1740

Roll Negative(s)

Source Previous GHS research
Style/Form Colonial

Sketch Map



Architect/Builder
Exterior Material:
Foundation Unknown
Wall/Trim Wood clapboards
Roof Asphalt shingles
Outbuildings/secondary structure Detached shed
Major Alterations (with dates) Several additions, not dated

Condition Excellent
Moved no yes Date
Acreage 12.867
Setting Rural village

Recorded by Sanford Johnson

Organization Groton Historical Commission

Date (month/year) 6/06

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 Sedley House is a Colonial style, 5x2-bay, side-gabled, 2 1/2-story form with numerous additions, mostly facing east and so not visible from the road; it is possible to see a 1-story ell set perpendicular to the main block of the house and projecting to the north along Pepperell Road; an open hipped entry porch is also located on this elevation
- * Architectural details include the symmetrical fenestration in the façade and the stout center brick chimney
- * The center entry is ornamented with a classical surround consisting of an entablature, pilasters and a transom; a secondary entry exists in the addition just east of the main block
- * Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash with plain trim
- * Landscape elements include the stone wall with split granite gateposts on Pepperell Road and mature evergreen trees that conceal much of the house
- * The house, while difficult to see from the road, is significantly larger than other Colonial houses in Groton given the additions visible on assessor's maps; an interior examination could reveal more detail about the initial construction

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.

Researchers for the GHS estimate the construction date for the house at c. 1740, although it is unsubstantiated. The Sedley house was occupied on maps from 1832 and 1847 by Samuel Rockwood whose house Butler describes in its current form but old and with a double front, an inscrutable notation. By 1856, the occupant was W. H. Smith. This may be William Smith who is listed in 1865 census schedules as a 63 year-old woolen manufacturer from England. By the time of the 1875 Beers atlas, the owner was Mrs. Sedley who, according to tax valuations from 1889, was Lucy Sedly, owner of a house and barn valued at \$1,200 on 45 acres. According to the 1888 resident directory, Mrs. Sedley's son Allen, a school teacher, lived here as well. Mrs. Sedley remained in residence until at least 1930 according to the map of the town from that year. Mrs. Sylvia S. Barrows, a Sedley descendant, occupied the house in 1967.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

continuation sheet

1832, 1847 Butler maps and field notes; 1856 Walling Map; 1875 Beers Atlas; 1889 Walker Atlas; Previous GHS research; Tax records, 1830-1889; 1888, 1918, 1929 resident directories; Tax records, 1830-1889;

**** 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, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

Form No.

18 Pepperell Road



Massachusetts Historical Commission

Community Groton

Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Property Address
18 Pepperell Road

Area(s) W

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 X

Potential historic district

Criteria: A B C D

Criteria considerations: A B C D E F G

The Colonial Style house at 18 Pepperell Road is potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as an individual resource at the local level. The Sedley house was occupied on maps from 1832 and 1847 by Samuel Rockwood whose house Butler describes in its current form but old and with a double front, an inscrutable notation. By 1856, the occupant was W. H. Smith. This may be William Smith who is listed in 1865 census schedules as a 63 year-old woolen manufacturer from England. By the time of the 1875 Beers atlas, the owner was Mrs. Sedley who, according to tax valuations from 1889, was Lucy Sedly, owner of a house and barn valued at \$1,200 on 45 acres. The building's associations with agricultural and industrial activities establish its significance under Criterion A. The design of the symmetrical façade, the surviving exterior materials and details make the property eligible under Criterion C. The house retains integrity of design, materials, setting and workmanship.