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1 - ALLEY ROAD

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

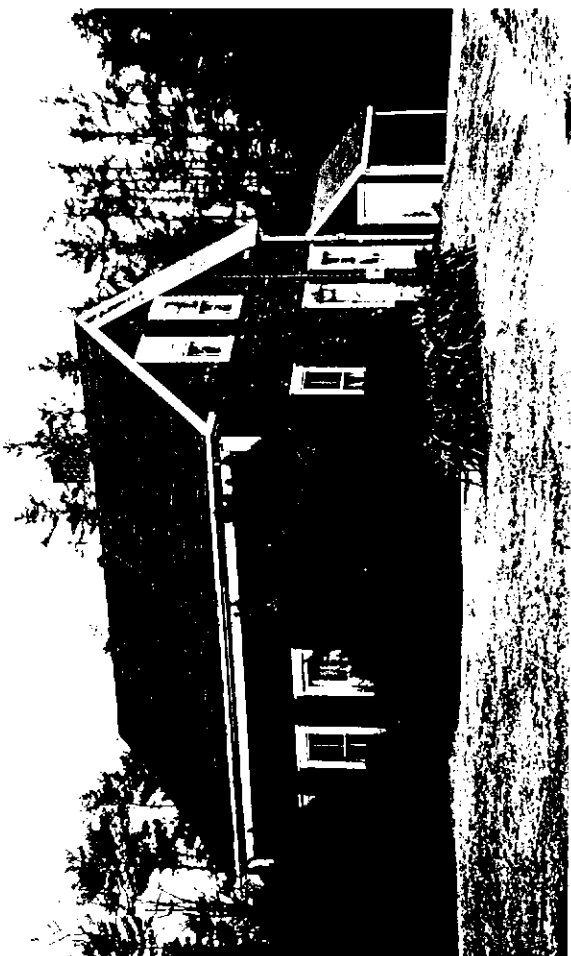
Form Number

28'6

Snipatuit Pond

39

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 221 Alley Road

Historic Name J.D.D.F. Hathaway House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction ca. 1850

Source Walling 1856

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation not visible

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

2 sheds (late 19th/early 20th c.)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

none

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 24.33 acres

Setting set back from the road about 50 feet; landscape elements include grass, trees, shrubs, and open fields to the south; bordered by stone perimeter wall with gabled well cover in yard

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
221 Alley Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
39**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

221 Alley Road is a 1½-story, Greek Revival-style, residential building. It is a typical and unaltered example of a modest Greek Revival-style house within the town. The timber frame building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (east elevation) and is three bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and has a simple wood surround. Fenestration consists of 2/2 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple molded lintels. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the west roof slope near the ridge. Other notable exterior architectural features include cornerboards and returns. The property is in good condition and includes two, 1-story, gable-roof sheds (late 19th/early 20th c.) to the rear of the house. One of the sheds is in poor condition and is falling down.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Alley Road was named for the Alley family whose members resided along this road in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (1879, 1936, 1941 maps). 221 Alley Road was constructed ca. 1850, before 1856 when J.D.D.F. Hathaway lived there (Walling 1856). Hathaway continued to reside there until at least 1879 (1879 map). Several other Hathaways are listed in the early-20th-century directories, many living along Division and Marion roads. By 1916, the house was occupied by Valentine Gajoski [*sic*], a local weaver (Foss 1916:). Members of the Gayoski family continued to reside at the house until at least 1941 (1941 map). In 1929 John Gayoski, a poulterer, and his wife Mary F. (Foss 1933:179) moved from Alley Road to the Israel Cowen House at 214 Neck Road (MHC 145, 1810) where they resided until at least 1969 (1941 map; 1969b map). Other members of the Gayoski family also owned houses in the immediate area at this time (1941 map). A small triangular parcel of land at the intersection of Burgess Avenue and Alley Street was locally designated as Thomas Gayoski Corner in honor of Thomas Gayoski who owned property there (1969b map). Gayoski, a lifelong resident and chicken farmer, is buried nearby at Union Cemetery (MHC 813).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
- Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.
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- Hurd, Duane Hamilton, ed. *History of Plymouth County*. J.W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, PA, 1884.
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- Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.
- Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
- Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

- 1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

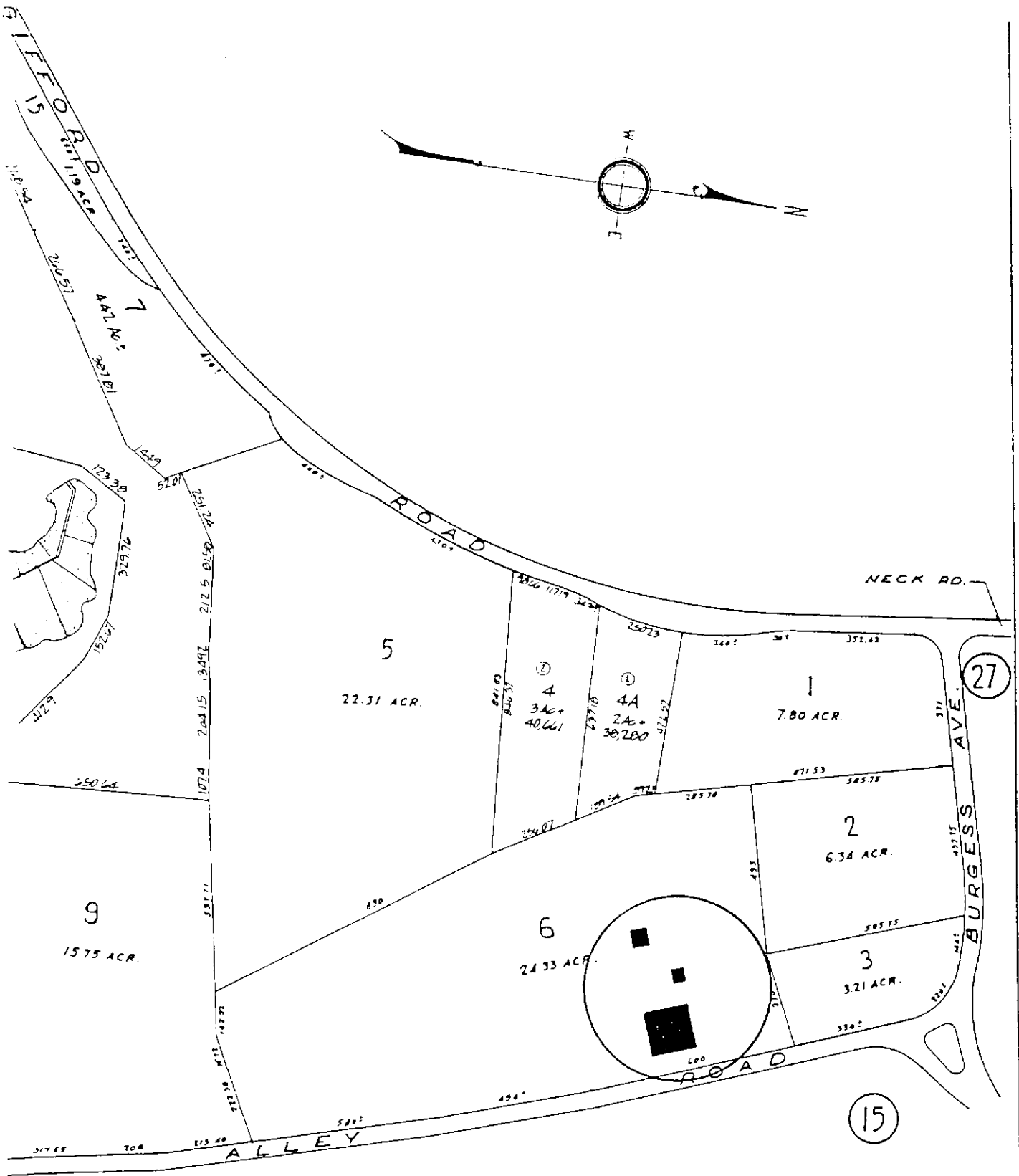
Property Address:
221 Alley Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
39

- 1830 *Map of Rochester.* A. B. Hammond.
1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County.* Henry Francis Walling.
1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts.* Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903.*
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1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map.* Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
----- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans.* Various surveyors and dates.



TOWN OF ROCHESTER ASSESSORS' PLANS

2 - BRALEY HILL ROAD
BOWEN'S LANE

FORM C - OBJECT

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

46/11

Assawompset Pond

906

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address or Location Brale Hill Road (Route 105)

Historic Name Peak Rock

Ownership **Public** **Private**

Type of Structure (*check one*)

- statue monument
- bust milestone
- group composition marker
- religious shrine
- boundary marker
- other (*specify*) _____

Date of Construction 1664

Source date on rock; Committee of Town 1907

Designer/Sculptor _____

Materials uncut granite

Alterations (*with dates*) date carved on rock (1664)

Condition good

Moved **no** **yes** Date _____

Acreage 0.72 acres

Setting set back from Braley Hill Road about 2 feet with sloping land to the rear

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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Rochester

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Braley Hill Road

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Massachusetts Archives Facility
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Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
906

DESIGN ASSESSMENT (continued)

Located on the east side of Braley Hill Road, set back about 2 feet from the street, stands Peak Rock, an irregularly-shaped granite rock approximately 3-4 feet in height and about 4 feet in diameter. The rock has been carved on its west side with the words "PEAK ROCK 1664" all in capital letters. To the northeast of the rock stands a sign placed by the Acushnet Historical Society and the Acushnet Arts Council. To the east of both the rock and sign, stands a low stone wall which runs along this side of the road. The rock stands just to the north of the property at 68 Braley Hill Road (MHC 43, mid-19th c./before 1856), also located on the east side of Braley Hill Road. Peak Rock is one of several monuments located in the town which commemorate important events in Rochester.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Peak Rock marks the boundary between Rochester and Acushnet and commemorates the day the town of Dartmouth was incorporated. On June 8, 1664 the court at Plymouth established the town of Acushnet and placed this rock to mark the boundary between Acushnet in Bristol County and Rochester in Plymouth County. By 1685, the towns of Plymouth Colony were divided into 3 counties: Plymouth, Bristol, and Barnstable. Rochester was initially included in Barnstable County, which was the smallest, with only 6 towns including Rochester. Peak Rock became the corner of Dartmouth, Freetown, and Rochester, although by a change of the boundary line it no longer borders Freetown. In 1707 Rochester sent a petition to be transferred to Plymouth County, and in 1709 the transfer was made (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:41-42). A sign placed next to the rock by the Acushnet Historical Society and the Acushnet Arts Council on July 4, 1986 reads:

"On 8 June 1664 the court at Plymouth granted a new township of Dartmouth (. . . that tracte of land comonly known by the name of Acushena, Ponagansett and Coaksett . . .), designating this stone to mark the boundary between what was to be Rochester in Plymouth County and Acushnet in Bristol County"

Rochester has several notable objects including Joe's Rock in North Rochester, near the New Bedford Waterworks (MHC 13, 1899), which according to local legend, was the hiding place of a fugitive during the Revolutionary War. Also in Rochester is Witch Rock, which stands on a corner beside the "Old Country Road" (present-day Rounseville Road), and Devil's Rock, which contains what is said to be the imprint of the devil's foot left when he leapt from the boulder (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:33).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
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906

PHOTOGRAPHS



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Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.

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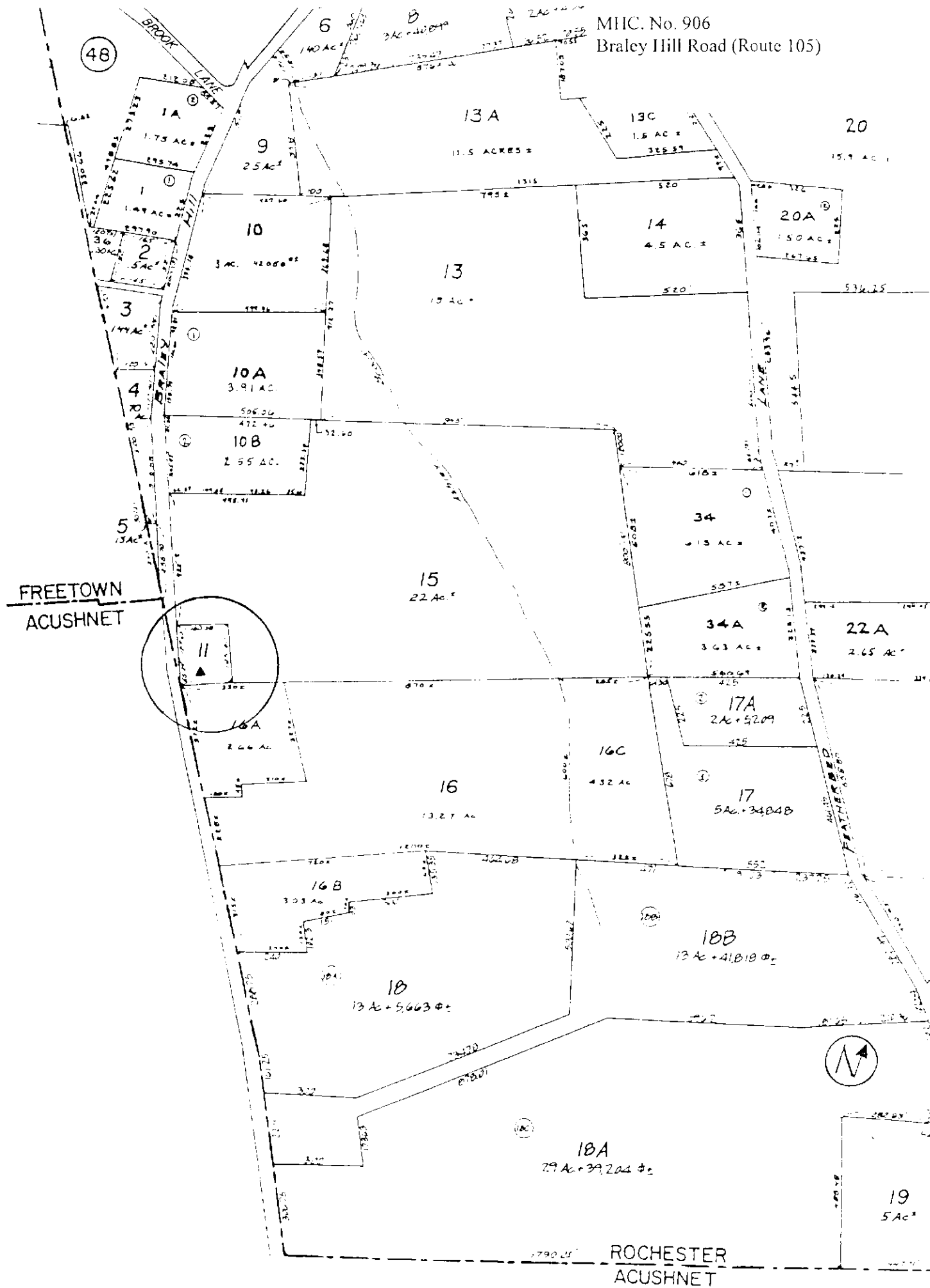
REMEMBERING WHEN



This photo ran on Sept. 24 with the incorrect caption. The photo was taken on July 4, 1986, at the dedication of the plaque marking "Peak Rock 1664," the pyramidal bouldstone in Acushnet, marking the northeastern boundary of what was then the town of Dartmouth. Acushnet Historical Society Chairman Irwin Marks, center, and state Rep. John Bradford, right, spoke before about 200 people about the historical significance of Peak Rock.

Stafford-Times library photo

MHC. No. 906
Braley Hill Road (Route 105)



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

45/11

Assawompset Pond

40

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address Braley Hill Road (Route 105)

Historic Name ice house

Uses: Present vacant

Original industrial

Date of Construction early 20th c.

Source visual inspection

Style/Form No Style

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation poured concrete

Wall/Trim asphalt shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

remains of outbuilding to the southwest; 2 rectangular concrete slabs to northwest

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

wood walls covered in asphalt

Condition poor/ruins

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 40.53 acres

Setting set right at water and accessed by a dirt path in a heavily wooded area; not visible from road

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:

Rochester

Property Address:

Braley Hill Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Massachusetts Archives Facility

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

Form No.

40

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

This former ice house is located on the east side of Braley Hill Road (Route 105) on the south shore of Great Quittacas Pond. It is a 1½-story, wood frame structure with walls that are covered in asbestos shingles. It is a typical example of an early-20th-century New England icehouse and is notable within the survey area as the only known surviving icehouse in Rochester. The building is rectangular in plan and has a front-facing, high-pitched gable roof. Tall, narrow loft doors hanging on hinges are located in the upper story of the building on the north and south elevations. The ground floor entrance doors have been removed and their tall, narrow, vertical entrances remain exposed. The building rests on a poured concrete foundation and the roof and exterior walls are covered with asphalt shingles. Notable interior architectural features include exposed braces and rafters and the remains of a pulley system in the gable end between the loft doors and braces. Wood shavings, which served as insulation, are visible through large holes in the walls. The property is in poor condition and also includes remains of an outbuilding, which lay to the southwest of the building crushed underneath a fallen tree and 2 rectangular concrete slabs (approx. 1 ft. by 5 ft.) that lay to northwest of building that were used for transporting ice in slabs.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Braley Hill Road, originally known as Long Plain Road, was re-named for the Braley family, many of which were farmers, who resided along this road and Featherbed Lane in the 19th and 20th centuries. Located on the west side of Rochester, it serves as a north-south connector to North Avenue and Hartley Road and runs through the adjacent town of Acushnet.

The use of ice for refrigeration became popular in New England by the middle of the 19th century, especially as farmers shifted to dairy production. The buildings used to store ice through the summer can usually be recognized by their thick insulated walls and few windows. Icehouses are usually located under evergreen trees or other shady locations. Most icehouses were built above ground with sawdust used on the floor and packed between walls for insulation. A door frame is usually made at each end of the building to facilitate loading and unloading. The ice was packed tightly, filling the interior completely, and surrounded on all sides by the sawdust packing. The structure is normally tall with a steeply pitched roof to provide the ice with air space for ventilation. Icehouses were still being used on New England farms in the 1920s and continued to be used until electrical refrigeration was made practical in the 1930s and 1940s (Visser 1997:113-115).

The icehouse off Braley Hill Road was constructed in the early 20th century to the designs of a typical New England icehouse. It is set at the edge of Great Quittacas Pond to allow for the ice to be cut from the pond in the winter and stored in the icehouse. Although the icehouse stands on the property owned by the New Bedford Waterworks (MHC Area M), according to Charlie Kennedy, Assistant Superintendent of the plant, it was not constructed for use by the waterworks facility (personal communication, Charlie Kennedy, April 1998). It is unclear as to who used the icehouse since historic maps available for the area do not show the building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.

Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
Braley Hill Road

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

Area(s)

Form No.
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PHOTOGRAPHS



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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Boston, Massachusetts 02125

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40

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Visser, Thomas Durant. *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings*. Hanover, NH, 1997.

Maps

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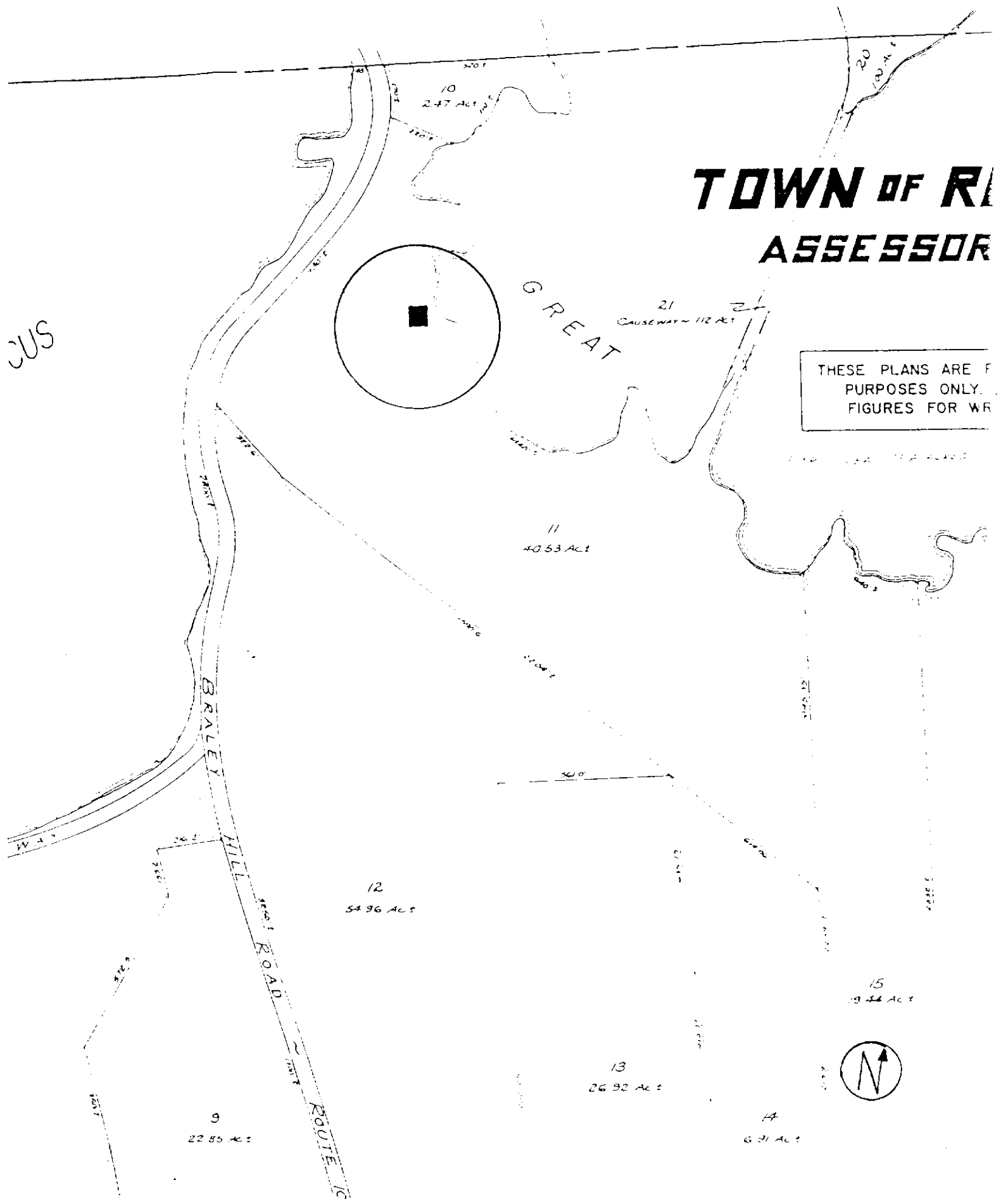
----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

MIDDLEBOROUGH

TOWN OF RA ASSESSOR

THESE PLANS ARE FOR
PURPOSES ONLY.
FIGURES FOR WR

CUS



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

46/18

Assawompset Pond

41.42

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 32 Braley Hill Road (Route 105)

Historic Name Corner Stone Farm

Uses: Present residential/commercial

Original residential

Date of Construction early 20th c./ before 1936

Source visual inspection/ 1936 map

Style/Form Dutch Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation poured concrete

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

detached barn (MHC 42, late 19th/early 20th c.); garage (attached to barn); shed

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

side ell

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 13 acres

Setting set back from road about 30 feet; low, stone wall to west; paved drive to south; wooded to north, east, and south

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
32 Braley Hill Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
41, 42**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

Corner Stone Farm at 32 Braley Hill Road (Route 105) is a 1½-story, Dutch Colonial Revival-style, residential/commercial building. It is a relatively rare example of the Dutch Colonial Revival style and is notable for its hip and gable dormers on the west slope of the roof and similarly-designed gambrel-roof ell on the south elevation. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gambrel roof. The main block has a symmetrical, three-bay facade (west elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and has a simple wood surround. Fenestration consists of 2/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood lintels and scalloped molding below the sills. The structural system is timber frame on a granite foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Brick chimneys are located on the ridge of the main roof and slope of the ell addition. Other notable exterior architectural features include cornerboards and returns. A 1-story, shed-roof ell set on a stone and concrete foundation is attached to the rear of the 1½-story side ell.

The property is in good condition and also includes three outbuildings. A large, 1½-story, side-gable barn (MHC 42, late 19th/early 20th c.) with a 1-story, gable-roof garage ell (early 20th c.) is located to the northeast of the house. The first stories of both are comprised of fieldstone with wood shingles below the eaves. To the southeast of the house stands a 1-story, end-gable, 2-bay garage (early 20th c.) with a smaller, 1-story, shed-roof ell attached to its north elevation. This garage also has a stone first story with wood shingle above. The ell to the garage is used for a gift shop, apparently selling the figures/silhouettes which appear on the front lawn.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Braley Hill Road, originally known as Long Plain Road, was re-named for the Braley family, many of which were farmers, who resided along this road and Featherbed Lane in the 19th and 20th centuries. Located on the west side of Rochester, it serves as a north-south connector to North Avenue and Hartley Road and runs through the adjacent town of Acushnet.

32 Braley Hill Road was constructed in the early 20th century, prior to 1936, when it was occupied by a member of the Authier family (1936 map). There are no Authiers listed in the 1933 directory, although Joseph Authier, a farmer, had lived on North Avenue in 1919 and 1926 (Foss 1919, 1926). The building remained in the Authier family until at least 1941 (1941 map). A property on nearby Featherbed Lane was also occupied by members of the Authier family in the 1930s and 1940s (1936, 1941 maps). In 1939 the property was purchased by G. Sousa. Currently, the property is owned by C. St. Don, who resides on the first floor and operates the front-facing gable garage as a gift shop. St. Don's daughter resides on the second floor with her family (the Cunhas) (Rochester Historical Commission).

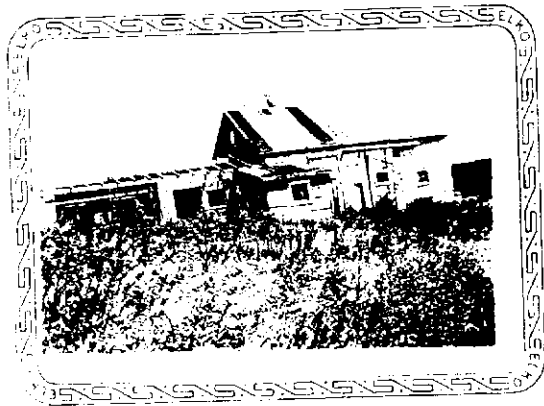
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- Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.

FRONT



BACK



SIDE



BACK

SOLD HOUSE WHEN HE PURCHASED IT IN 1939

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
32 Braley Hill Road

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

Area(s)

Form No.
41, 42

- Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.
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41, 42

PHOTOGRAPHS



FORM B - BUILDING

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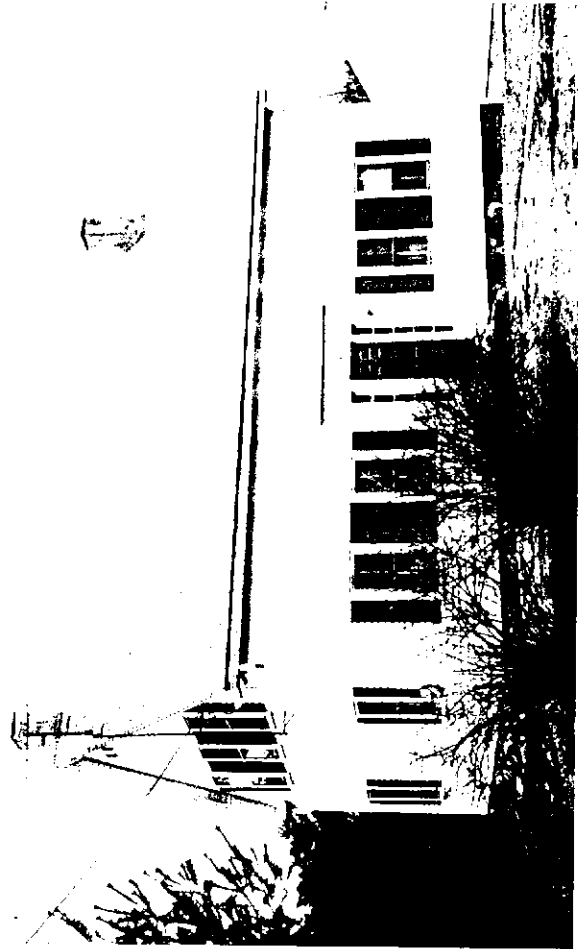
Form Number

46/16A

Assawompset Pond

43

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address 68 Braley Hill Road (Route 105)

Historic Name Edwards-Rounseville House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction mid-19th c./before 1856

Source Walling 1856

Style/Form Greek Revival/Full Cape

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

detached garage (mid-20th c.)

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

vinyl siding; rear ell

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 2.66 acres

Setting set back from road about 25 feet and accessed by a gravel drive to the south; land slopes to the rear

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
68 Braley Hill Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
43**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

68 Braley Hill Road (Route 105) is a 1½-story, Greek Revival-style, residential building. It is a good example of the Greek Revival style, although most of its stylistic elements are limited to the door surround and cornice returns. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (west elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade within a classical entablature and is flanked by 5-light sidelights. Fenestration consists of 2/2 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple molding surrounds. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with vinyl siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Brick chimneys skimmed with concrete are located on the ridge and west slope of the main roof. A 1-story, gable-roof ell is attached to the rear elevation. The property is in good condition and also includes a detached, 1-story, two-bay, gable-roof garage (mid-20 c.) to the south of the house.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Braley Hill Road, originally known as Long Plain Road, was re-named for the Braley family, many of which were farmers, who resided along this road and Featherbed Lane in the 19th and 20th centuries. Located on the west side of Rochester, it serves as a north-south connector to North Avenue and Hartley Road and runs through the adjacent town of Acushnet.

68 Braley Hill Road was constructed in the mid-19th century, prior to 1856 when G. Edwards lived there (Walling 1856). Edwards continued to reside at this address until at least 1879 (1879 map). Prior to 1916, the property was purchased by Edwin E. Rounseville, a farmer, who lived there with his son Edwin E. Jr., also a farmer (Foss 1916). Following his father's death on July 31, 1925, Edwin E., Jr., remained at this address along with his wife, Nellie E. (Foss 1926, 1933). The property was subsequently handed down to other members of the Rounseville family, including L. Rounseville (1969c) and the present owner, Edwin E. Rounseville III (List of Residents 1997).

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Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.

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Leonard, Mary Hall. "Old Rochester and Her Daughter Towns". *New England Magazine*, vol. 20, p. 613-635, n.d.

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Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.

Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
68 Braley Hill Road

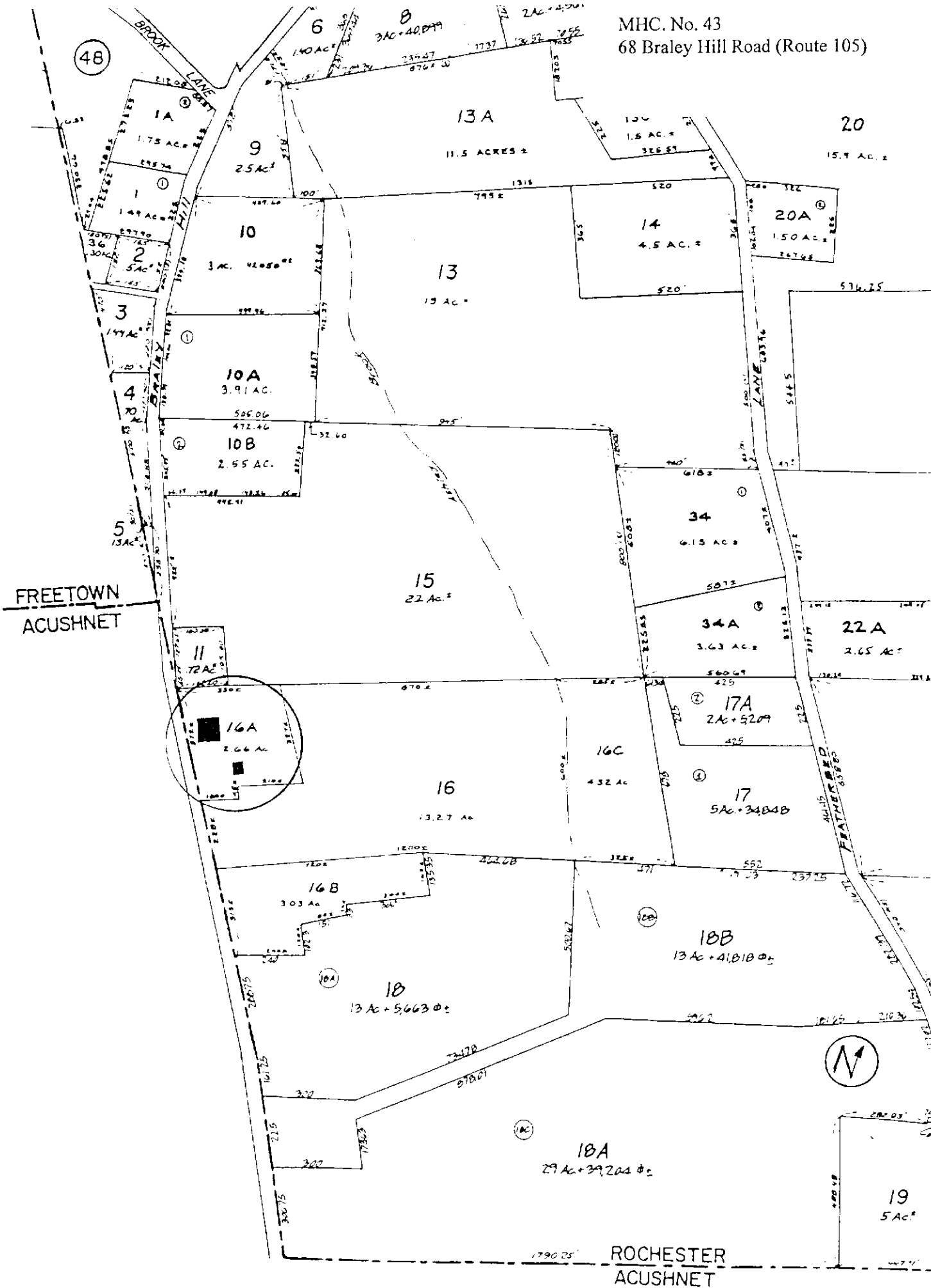
**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
43

- 1830 *Map of Rochester.* A. B. Hammond.
1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County.* Henry Francis Walling.
1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts.* Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903.*
1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.
1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.
1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704.* Rochester Historical Society.
1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854.* Rochester Historical Society.
1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map.* Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
----- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans.* Various surveyors and dates.

MHC. No. 43
68 Braley Hill Road (Route 105)



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

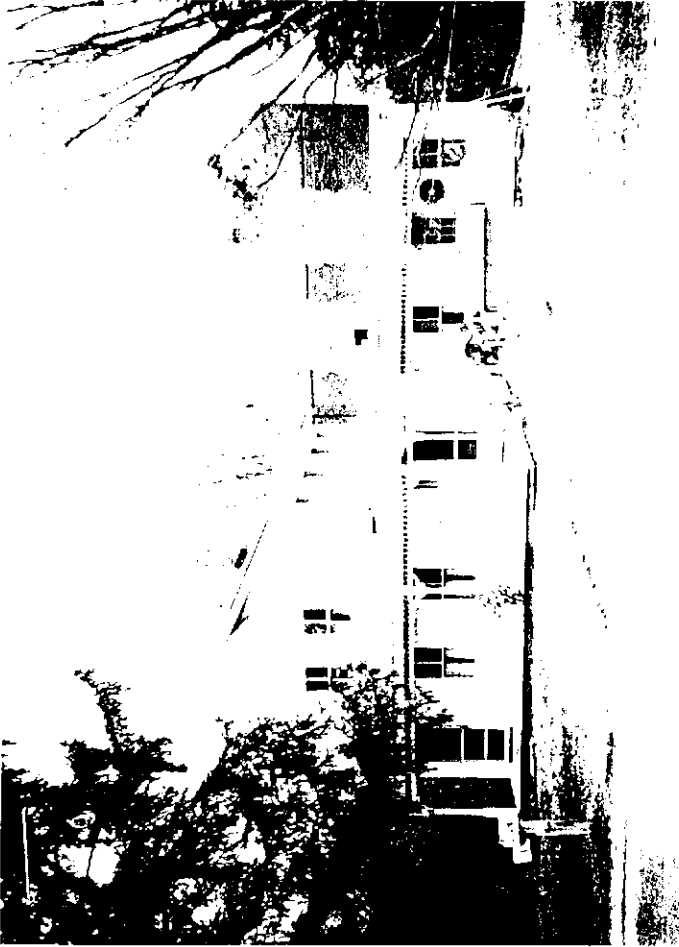
Form Number

46/15

Assawompset Pond

44

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address 96 Braley Hill Road (Route 105)

Historic Name B. E. Hoar House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction ca. 1850

Source Walling 1856

Style/Form Greek Revival/Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim clapboard, wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

detached garage (early 20th c./before 1930)

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

gambrel-roof ell (ca. 1900)

Condition good

Moved X no _____ yes Date _____

Acreage 22 acres

Setting situated in a wooded area and set back from the road about 25 feet; accessed by gravel drive with sloping land to the east

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
96 Braley Hill Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
44**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

The property at 96 Braley Hill Road (Route 105) is a 1½-story, Greek Revival/Victorian Eclectic-style, residential building. It is an unusual example of a Greek Revival-style house updated in the late 19th century. The building is notable as it is actually comprised of two buildings, one moved to the site around 1900 and attached to the south end. The building as it appears today, has an L-shaped plan, consisting of a front-facing, gable-roof main block (original), and a gambrel-roof side ell extension on the south elevation. The main block has an asymmetrical, three-bay facade (west elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is offset on the facade and has a simple wood surround. Fenestration consists of 2/2 and 2/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with projecting lintels. Both blocks sit on fieldstone foundations. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Two shed-roof dormers are located on the west elevation of the gambrel-roof block while a large shed-roof dormer spans the south slope of the main block. Brick chimneys are located on the center ridge of the main block and the east slope of the ell addition. A 1-story, flat-roof porch with slender turned supports and decorative brackets is located along the facade and south elevations of the main block. This porch has been enclosed on the eastern portion of the south elevation and appears again on the west elevation of the gambrel-roof ell. Other notable exterior architectural features include cornerboards and cornice returns. A detached barn that once stood on the property was taken down in the 1970's. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, hip-roof, detached garage (early 20th c./before 1930) in poor condition located to the south of the house.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Braley Hill Road, originally known as Long Plain Road, was re-named for the Braley family, many of which were farmers, who resided along this road and Featherbed Lane in the 19th and 20th centuries. Located on the west side of Rochester, it serves as a north-south connector to North Avenue and Hartley Road and runs through the adjacent town of Acushnet.

96 Braley Hill Road was constructed ca. 1850, prior to 1856 when it was occupied by B.E. Hoar (Walling 1856), followed by T. Spooner in 1879 (1879 map). Around 1900, a gambrel-roof ell, originally a separate house, was moved to the property and converted into the side ell. It currently houses the kitchen (personal communication, Barbara Besse, May 1998). By 1903, the property was occupied by Frank L. Borden, a farmer and lumber dealer; and Everett L. Borden, a teamster (Foss 1903). It was probably during this period that the garage was constructed. Frank continued to reside there, along with his wife Jennie, until at least 1941 (1941 map). The Bordens remained there until 1950, when Raymond and Alberta King acquired the property. Raymond and Alberta are the parents of Barbara Besse, the town historian, who lives nearby at 289 North Avenue (MHC 26, 1830). Alberta continues to reside at 96 Braley Hill Road to the present day (personal communication, Barbara Besse, May 1998).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
- Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
96 Braley Hill Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
44

Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.
Hurd, Duane Hamilton, ed. *History of Plymouth County*. J.W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, PA, 1884.
Leonard, Mary Hall. "Old Rochester and Her Daughter Towns". *New England Magazine*, vol. 20, p. 613-635, n.d.
Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.
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Personal Communication, Barbara Besse, Town Historian, May 1998.
Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

- 1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.
- 1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.
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- 1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
- 1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.
- 1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.
- 1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.
- 1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans*. Various surveyors and dates.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
96 Braley Hill Road

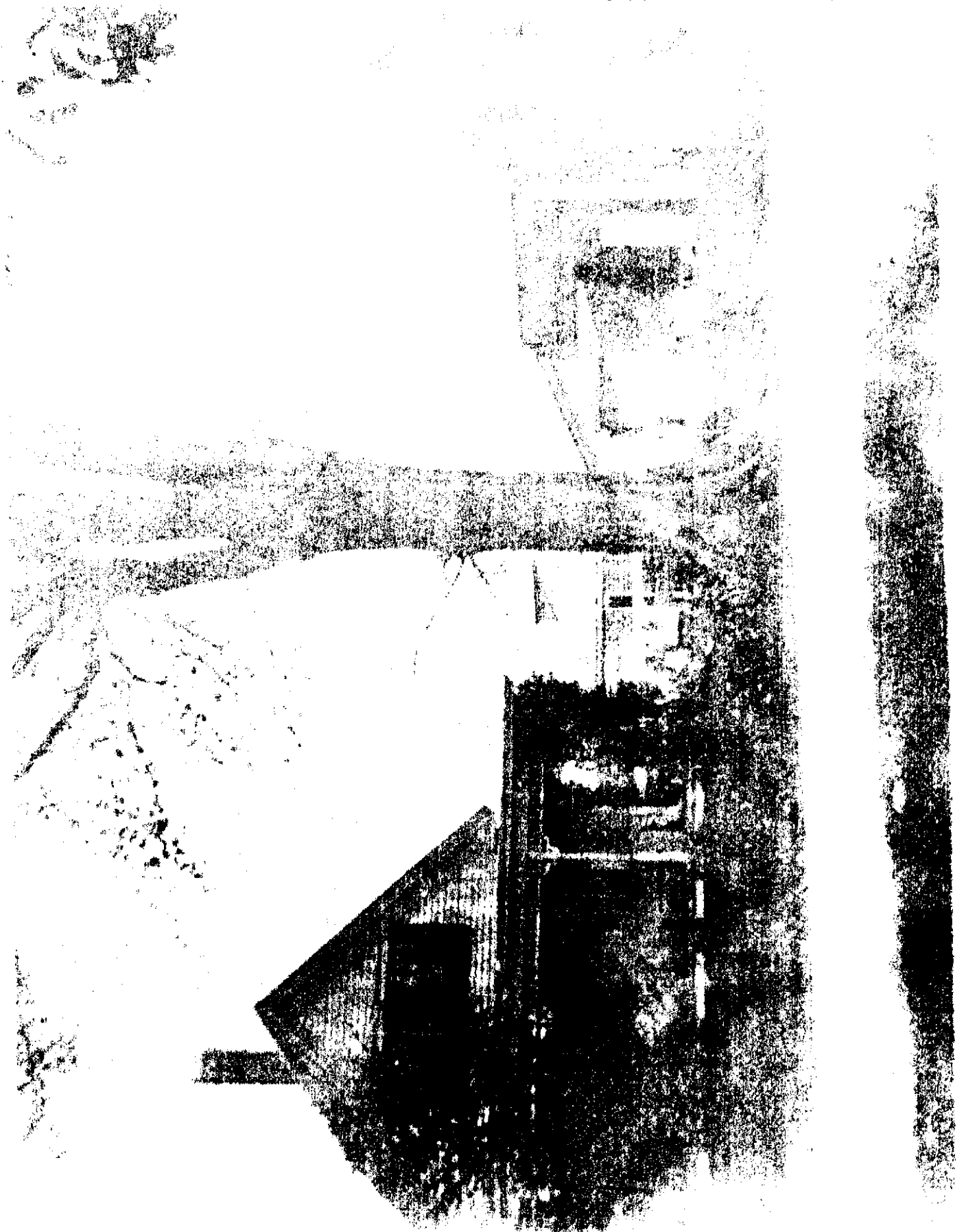
Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

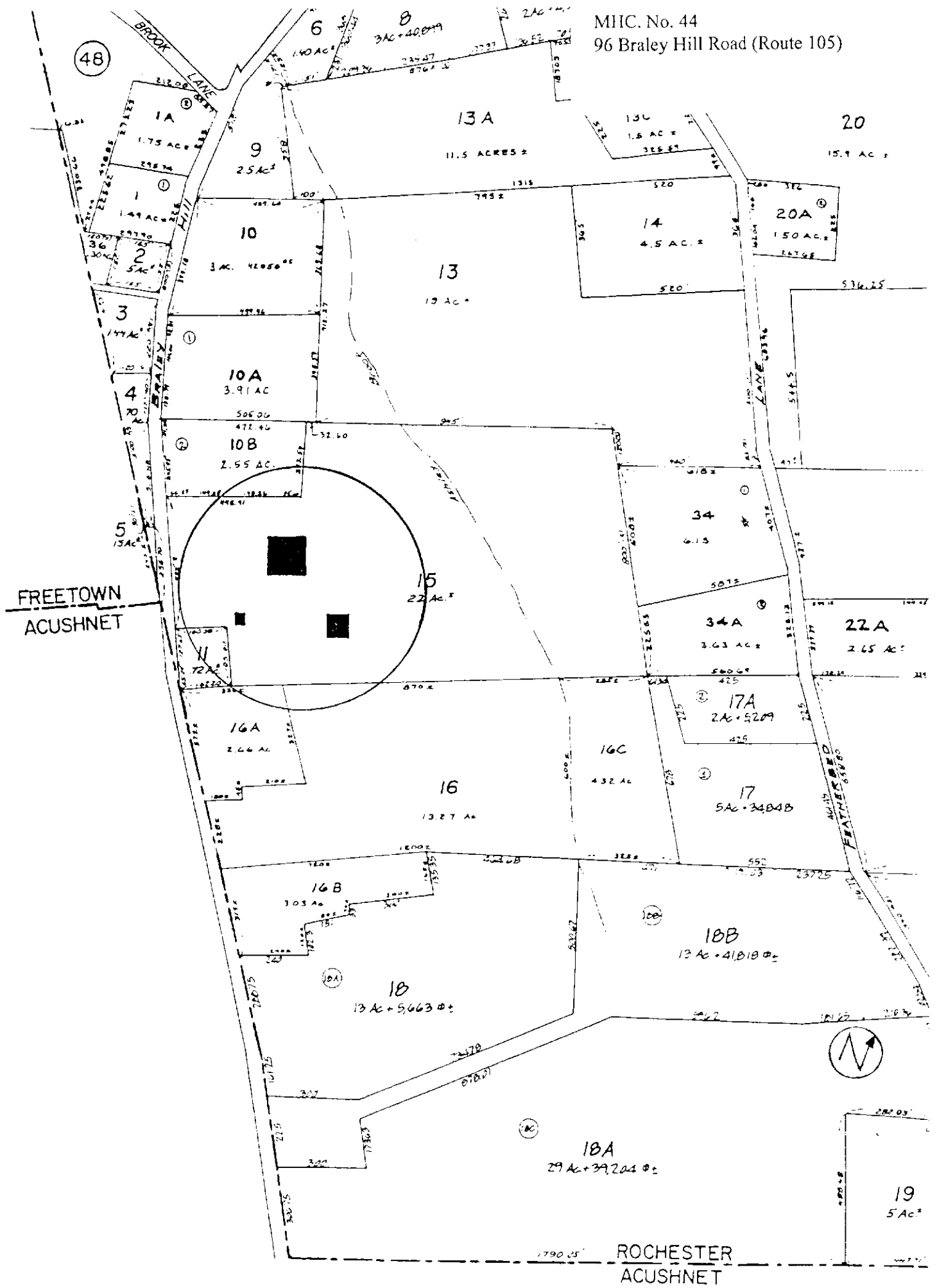
Form No.
44

PHOTOGRAPHS





MHC. No. 44
96 Braley Hill Road (Route 105)



3 - BURGESS AVE - CLAPP ROAD

FORM C - OBJECT

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Assessor's number

15

USGS Quad

Snipatuit Pond

Area(s)

J

Form Number

913

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address or Location Burgess Ave./Alley Rd

Name Thomas Gayoski Corner

Ownership Public Private

Type of Object (check one):

- statue monument
- bust milestone
- group composition marker
- religious shrine
- boundary marker
- other (specify) _____

Date of Construction May 1994

Source Builder

Designer/Sculptor David Hughes

Materials Wood

Alterations (with dates) No

Condition Good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage Small triangle

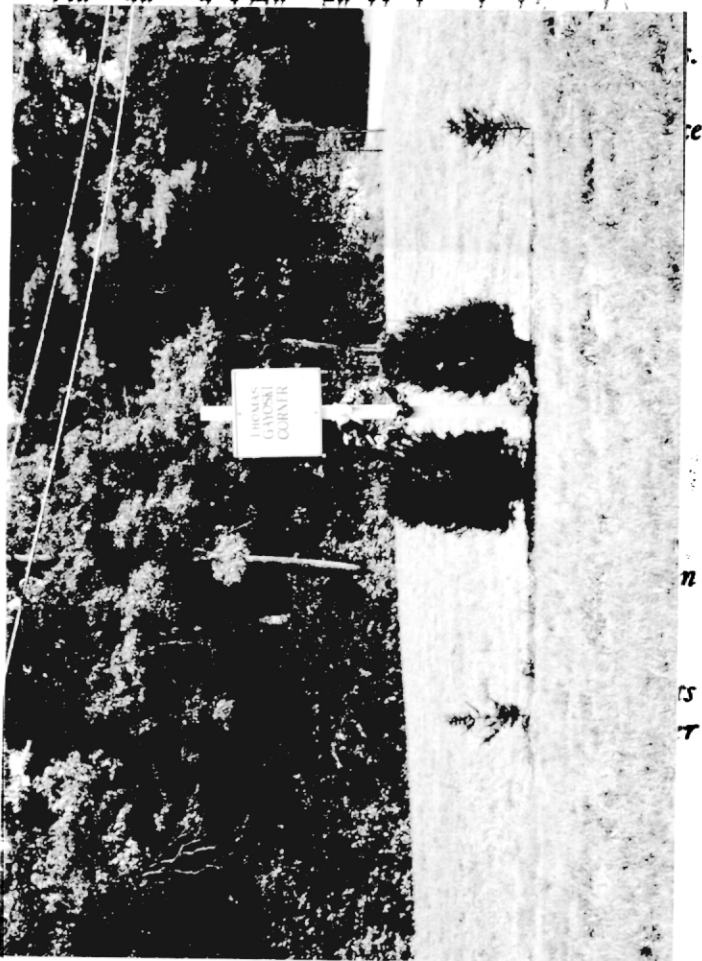
Setting Open area between 2 roads
very rural, fields nearby

Recorded by Susan M. LaFleur

Organization Rochester Historical Comm.

Date (month/year) April 1999

Photograph



OBJECT FORM

DESIGN ASSESSMENT *see continuation sheet*

Describe the design features of the object, and evaluate in terms of other similar types of objects within the community.

David Hughes, then a Selectman of the town, donated the materials and made the memorial. The marker is a square wooden sign 24" x 24", with a raised frame border. The post and sign are painted white with black lettering, the frame is gray. The post is about 4" x 4" square and approximately 7 ft. high.

The marker sits in a rather large triangle formed where Alley Rd. and Burgess Ave. meet. Small evergreen trees have been planted on either side.

There are two similar markers in the town also honoring residents who gave of themselves to the town.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

Explain the history of the object, and how it relates to the development of the community.

Erected in memory of Thomas Gayoski Sr. by the Town of Rochester this marker stands within sight of his home. Then Selectman David Hughes brought the idea of a marker before the Board and the plan and a sight were approved.

A Rochester native, Thomas passed away Oct. 7, 1993. He was a self employed carpenter and farmer working land his father had before him. Raising corn and other vegetables to be sold at a road side stand. He also had raised chickens for a time.

Civic minded, he was a volunteer firefighter, town building Inspector and was animal control officer for the town. It's as dog officer that he is best known, holding the position for 33 years. Everyone with a problem knew one call would bring Tom Gayoski in short order, no matter the day or time.

ENTIRE INSCRIPTION *(if applicable)*:

The simple inscription reads

THOMAS GAYOSKI CORNER
Dedicated May 30, 1994

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

The Sentinel Newspaper - Oct. 1993
The Standard Times Newspaper - Oct. 1993
David Hughes - Past Rochester Selectman

Recommended for listing in National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
120 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Rochester

Burgess Ave. & Alley Rd.

Area(s)	Form No.
J	913

Historical narrative cont.

Tom carried on a tradition started by his father, holding Easter Egg Hunts on his property for 45 years for the fun and enjoyment of the Town's children.

A member of the Rochester Grange for 50 years, he served as Master a total of 15 years and chairman of its annual fair for many years. He helped maintain the building by repairing anything he saw that needed doing, rarely if ever asking for help.

Past Selectman David Hughes described him as a "down to earth, no frills kind of guy who was very easy to be around." He was always willing to help whenever and wherever he was needed never expecting anything in return. For this reason among others the town was proud to show their appreciation to a man who worked hard for his family and community and is missed by many throughout the town.

The Marker was erected and dedicated May 29, 1994 with family, town officials, grange members and friends in attendance. After the unveiling, a wreath was placed on the sign post by the Master of Rochester Grange.

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

15/19D

Snipatuit Pond

45

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 66 Burgess Avenue

Historic Name J. H. Clark House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction early 19th c.

Source visual inspection/ Walling 1856

Style/Form Federal/ Full Cape

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

1-story garage (early 20th c.); 3 sheds (late 19th-early 20th c.)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

1-story, side-gable ell (19th c.)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 6 acres

Setting set back about 25 feet from road; stone wall along north perimeter; gravel drive to south; large field to north and east

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
66 Burgess Avenue**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
45**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

The J. H. Clark House at 66 Burgess Avenue is a 1½-story, Federal-style, residential building. It is an excellent and well-preserved example of a Federal-style Cape, the Cape form being the predominant building type in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (west elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade beneath a 6-light transom and flanked by 4-light sidelights and fluted pilasters. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with splayed lintels and simple wood sills. The structural system is timber frame on a granite foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the center of the roof at the ridge. A 1-story, side-gable ell (19th century) set on a stone foundation is attached to the south elevation. A 1-story, shed-roof porch with Tuscan columns and a plain rail is located on the west elevation of the ell. The property is in good condition and also includes four outbuildings. A 1-story, hip-roof, wood-shingle garage (early 20th century) and three side-gable, wood shingle sheds (late 19th/early 20th c.) set on stone foundations are located to the northeast of the house, to the east of an open field.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Burgess Avenue was named for Joseph Burgess who lived in the area known as Scragged Neck in the 18th century. Burgess was one of the only residents of the area in the early 18th century (1969a map).

The J. H. Clark House was constructed in the early 19th century. The first known occupant of the house was J.H. Clark who lived there as early as 1856 (Walling 1856). He remained at this address until at least 1879 (1879 map). By 1907, the house was occupied by Stillman H. Ryder who had a box board and lumber mill on the west side of Walnut Plain Road near Burgess Avenue (Walling 1856, Foss 1907). This mill was run as a saw mill by W. Rider [*sic*] in the mid-19th century (Walling 1856). By 1879 the mill was known as the Vaughn and Ryder Box Board Mill. Vaughn and Ryder also operated a saw mill on the east side of Walnut Plain Road, near Burgess Avenue (1879 map). This second mill was later known as the Sturtevant Mill. Members of the Ryder family continued to occupy this house until at least 1941, when Jennie Ryder resided there (Foss 1933, 1941 map). Several other members of the Ryder family resided along Walnut Plain and Ryder roads in the 19th century (Walling 1856, 1879 map). Ryder Road takes its name from this family.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

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Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
66 Burgess Avenue

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

Area(s)

Form No.
45

PHOTOGRAPHS



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
66 Burgess Avenue

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
45

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.
Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

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- 1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
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- 1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

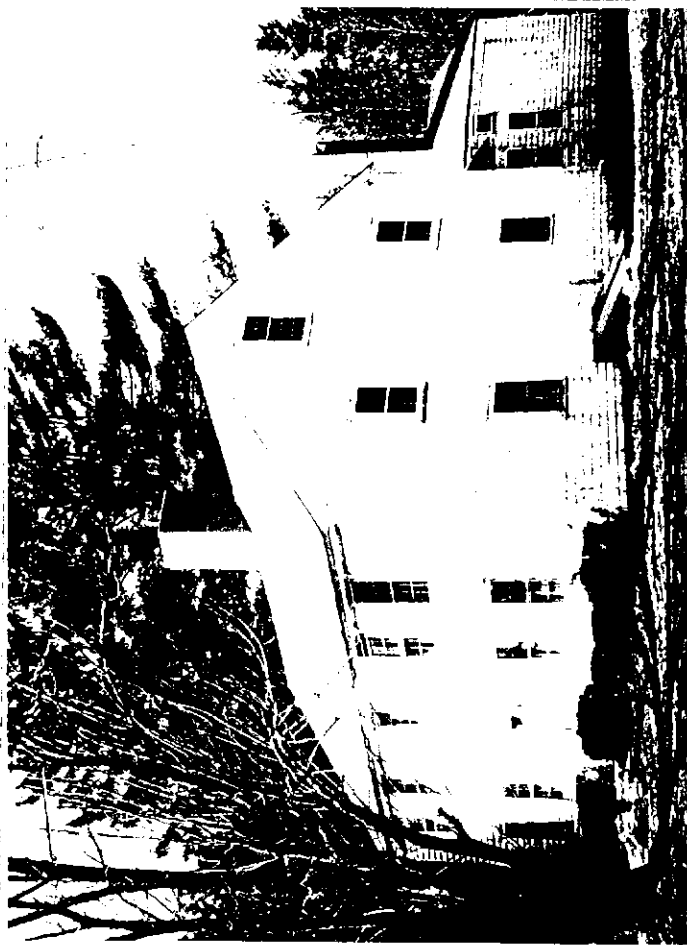
Form Number

29/7

Marion

46

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address 43 Clapp Road

Historic Name Samuel Winslow House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction ca. 1735

Source RHS files (deed research)

Style/Form Georgian

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

1 1/2-story barn/garage (late 19th c.)

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

1 1/2-story, end-gable rear ell (19th c.)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 22.64 acres

Setting set back about 15 feet from road; woods to north;
grass, trees, shrubs; cranberry bog to east

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
43 Clapp Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
46**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION** *(continued)*

The Samuel Winslow House at 43 Clapp Road is a large, 2½-story, Georgian-style, residential building. It is a well-preserved example of its type and period within the town and is notable as one of only several Georgian-style buildings still remaining in Rochester. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (south elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and has a classical gable pediment with a fluted pilaster surround. Fenestration consists of 2/2, 6/6, and 6/12 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood lintels and sills. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A massive brick chimney is centrally-located at the ridge. A 1½-story, gable-roof ell (19th c.) set on a stone foundation, is attached to the rear elevation of the main block. An interior brick chimney pierces the roofline of the south slope of this ell. The ell is notable for eyebrow windows set high on the wall surface, just below the eaves. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1½-story, saltbox roof, wood shingle barn/garage (late 19th c.) and a large, irregularly-shaped cranberry bog accessed by a dirt drive and bordered by mature trees to the east of the house.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Clapp Road was named for the Clapp family, early settlers of the town. The earliest records of the town, from 1697, mention Increase Clapp (Increase Clapp House (MHC 23, 1704)) as selectmen. Major Earl Clapp was a distinguished officer in the Revolutionary War (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett 1907:60).

43 Clapp Road was constructed ca. 1735 by Samuel Winslow who deeded the land and house to Jonathan Delano, Sr., a weaver, in 1735. Jonathan's son, Jonathan, Jr., sold the house and land to Ebenezer Clapp, in 1755. The house remained in the Clapp family for over 200 years, until the 1990s. Ebenezer left the land to his grandson Nathaniel in 1792. The property then passed to Nathaniel's son William in 1829; to William's son Nathaniel P. in 1883; to Nathaniel's widow Frances (Nathaniel died August 28, 1917) in 1917; to Frances' nephew William B. in 1923; and to William's son Earl in 1942 (RHS files, deed and probate records). Earl, a shipper, continued to reside there, along with his wife Irene (Foss 1933:177), until at least 1969 (1969c map). His son Raymond owned the property in the late 20th century, selling it in the 1990s (RHS files). It is currently vacant (List of Residents 1997).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett. *Mattapoissett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.

Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoissett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
43 Clapp Road

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

Area(s)

Form No.
46

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.

Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.

1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.

1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.

1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.

1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.

1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
43 Clapp Road

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

Area(s)

Form No.
46

PHOTOGRAPHS



FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number	USGS Quad	Area(s)	Form Number
		A-C	34 46

Town Rochester
 Place (neighborhood or village) just outside
and north of center



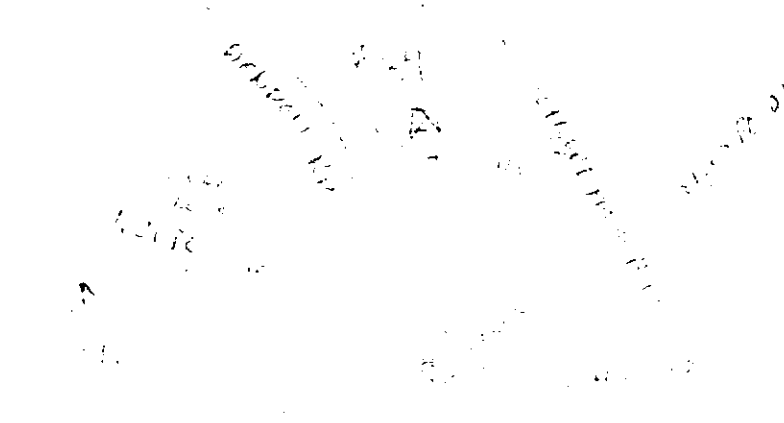
Address 43 Clapp Road
 Historic Name Clapp Homestead
 Present home
 Original home, weaver's shop
 Date of Construction 1735 +-
 Deed: S. Winslow to Jonathan Deland
Book 30.p.64
 Form "Mansion House"
 Architect/Builder Samuel Winslow

Foundation Material:
 Foundation Stone
 Wall/Trim Wood shingles
 Roof _____
 Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

Major Alterations (with dates) _____
interior gutted and "Modernized"

Condition solid
 Moved no yes Date _____
 Acreage 58 original
 Setting very rural, woods, road only;
recently paved

SKETCH MAP
 Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.



Recorded by _____
 Organization _____
 Date (month/year) _____

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This is a typical "mansion house".always kept up,kept neat and repaired,but never with an eye to History. It is sound as far as known.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE see continuation sheet

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.

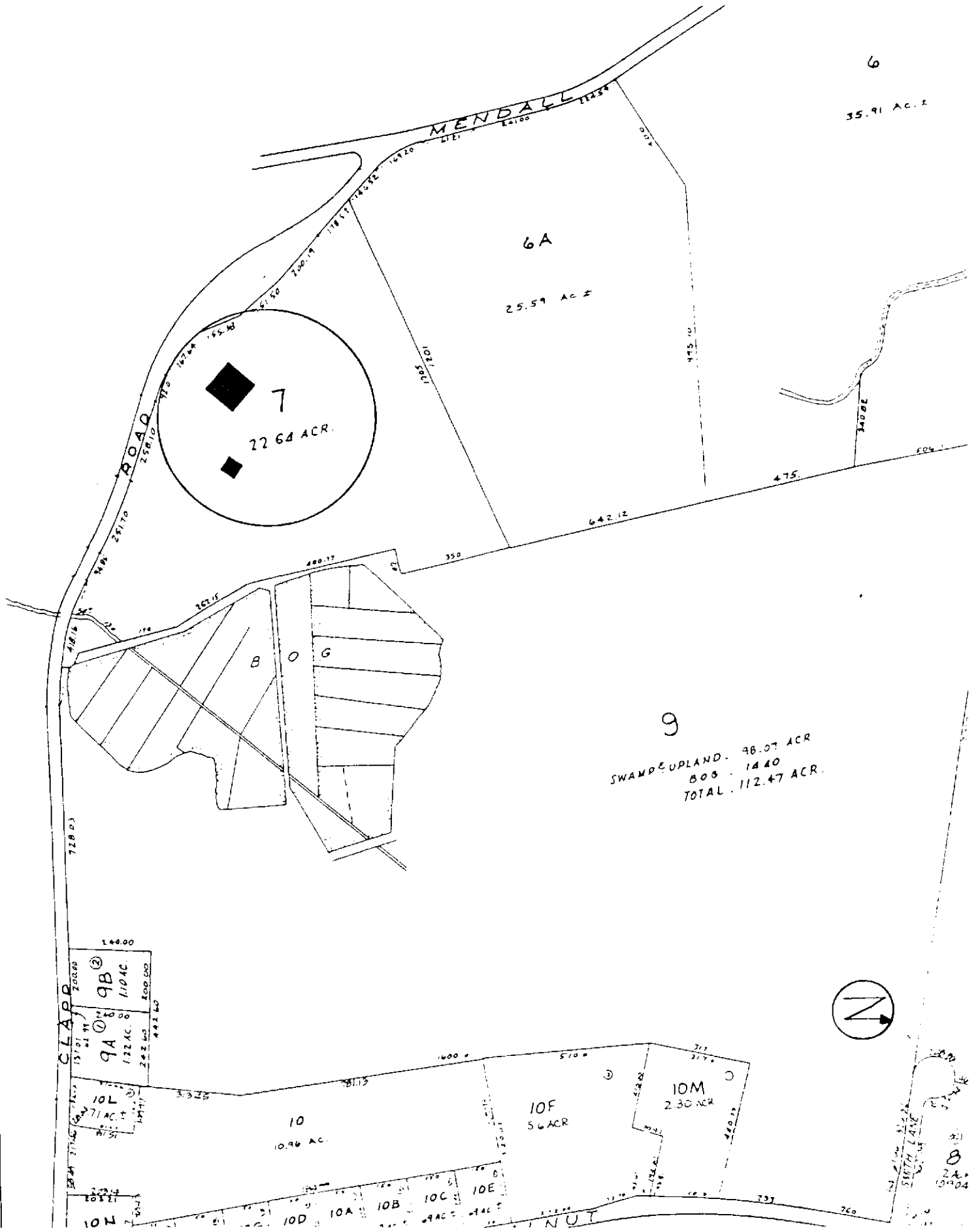
House sold by Samuel Winslow to Jonathan Delano,who sold it to Ebenezer Clapp,1755,father of the famous Indian fighter ,Maj.Earl Clapp. It stayed in the Calpp family untill1990s,when Raymond W.Clapp,g.g.g.g. grandson of Ebenezer sold it.

The line follows: Wbenezer to grandson Nathaniel,to son William,to son Nathaniel, to nephew William B. to son Earl,to son Raymond.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Deeds:	
Bk.44,p.49	Rochester Vital Records
Delano to Clapp	Plymouth County Registry of Deeds
Bk.30;p.68	Probate Court,:
Winslow to Delano	4150 O.S. 1792 Ebenezer to Nathaniel
	4208 O.S. 1829 Nathaniel to William
	1225 1883 William to Nathaniel P.
	25786 1917 Nathaniel to widow Frances
	32413 1923 Frances to William B.
	54207 1942 William B. to Earl

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

11/5A

Marion

3

47

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

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 169 Clapp Road

Historic Name _____

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction 1810

Source sign on house/ visual inspection

Style/Form No Style/ 3/4 Cape

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

1-story shed (20th c.); 1-story attached garage (early 20th c.)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

1-story, end-gable ell (mid-late 19th c.); 4-bay, shed-roof
dormer (1950s)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 0.45 acres

Setting set back about 20 feet from road; stone retaining
wall along south and west; accessed by gravel
drive to east



Sketch Map

see attached map

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
169 Clapp Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
47**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION** *(continued)*

169 Clapp Road is a 1½-story, ¾-Cape, residential building. It is a good example of its type and period within the town and is notable as one of several ¾-Capes surviving in Rochester. The Cape form was the dominant building type in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has an asymmetrical, four-bay facade (south elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is offset on the facade and has a 2-light transom and simple wood molding surround. Fenestration consists of 12/12 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood sills and lintels. The structural system is timber frame on a granite foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A single gable-dormer projects from the south roof slope and a large, shed-roof dormer (1950s) appears along the rear (north) slope. Two interior, brick chimneys pierce the roofline, one near the ridge and the other on the south roof slope. Other notable architectural features include cornice returns and cornerboards. A 1-story, side-gable, wood shingle ell (mid-late 19th c.) set on a stone foundation is attached to the east elevation. A small, 1-story, flat-roof sun porch is located on the north side of the ell. A 1-story, side-gable, wood shingle garage (early 20th c.) is attached to the northeast corner of the ell. The property is in good condition and features a dressed granite wall along its front edge and a 1-story, saltbox-roof, wood shingle shed to the south.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Clapp Road was named for the Clapp family, early settlers of the town. The earliest records of the town, from 1697, mention Increase Clapp (Increase Clapp House (MHC 23, 1704)) as selectmen. Major Earl Clapp was a distinguished officer in the Revolutionary War (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:60).

According to town historian Barbara Besse, 169 Clapp Road was constructed in 1810 to house a man who ran the grist mill at the Hiller farm (personal communication, Barbara Besse, June 1998). Originally part of the Hiller Estate (East-Over Farms (MHC Area B)), the property is identified on the 1856 map as a store and by 1879, T.W. Leonard was residing there (1879 map). Numerous Leonards lived in the immediate area, at what is presently known as East-Over Farms (MHC Area B). The building is shown on the 1936 and 1941 maps although no name is given for its occupant. M. Spangler bought the property in the 1950s and occupied it until at least 1969 (1969c map). For the past two years, the property has been occupied by Dick Noble, an employee at East-Over Farms. According to Mr. Noble, the property was sold out of the Hiller family in the mid-20th century, although they retained a "first right of refusal" for the property. About 4 years ago, the property was again purchased by East-Over Farms. Currently, it is owned by Robert B. Hiller III (Rochester Historical Commission).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
- Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.
- Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.
- Hurd, Duane Hamilton, ed. *History of Plymouth County*. J.W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, PA, 1884.

... of ... 1755
of ... 1757

E. Clapp -
Clapp Rd

1755

Ebenezer Clapp bought
his house from
Jonathan Delaw^r (Bk 44, p. 49)

[Jonathan had it as heir of his
father Jonathan, which he
bought from Samuel Winslow,
James Robinson + ~~John~~ Nicholas
Snow (the latter with John Winslow)
When is house first mentioned?

Increase Clapp lived in another
house - at end of Bowen's Lane -
marked R. GIFFORD on Map. (1969)

Clapp

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
169 Clapp Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

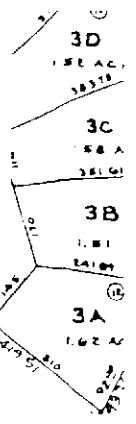
Form No.
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Leonard, Mary Hall. *"Old Rochester and Her Daughter Towns"*. New England Magazine, vol. 20, p. 613-635, n.d.
Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.
Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.
Personal Communication, Barbara Besse, May and June 1998.
Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

- 1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.
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- 1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.
- 1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
- 1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.
- 1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.
- 1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.
- 1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans*. Various surveyors and dates.

MHC. No. 47
169 Clapp Road

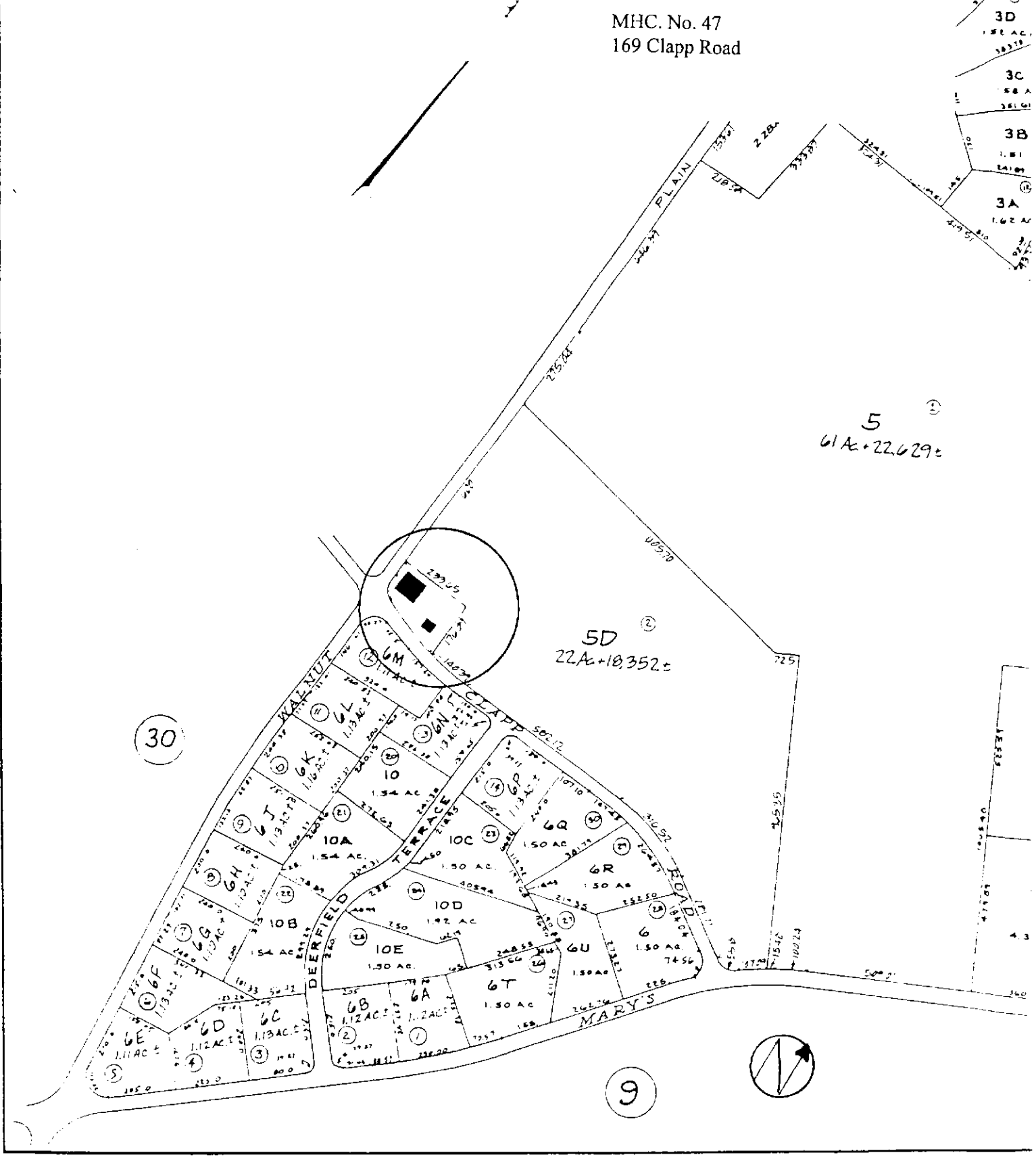
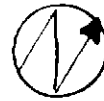


5
61 Ac + 22,629±

5D
22 Ac + 10,352±

30

9



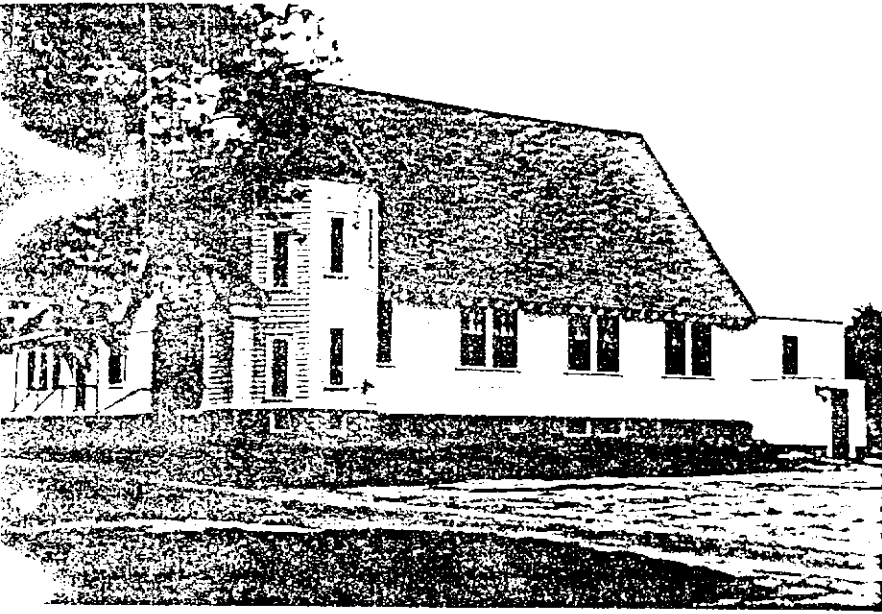
4 - CONSTITUTION WAY

FORM B - BUILDING

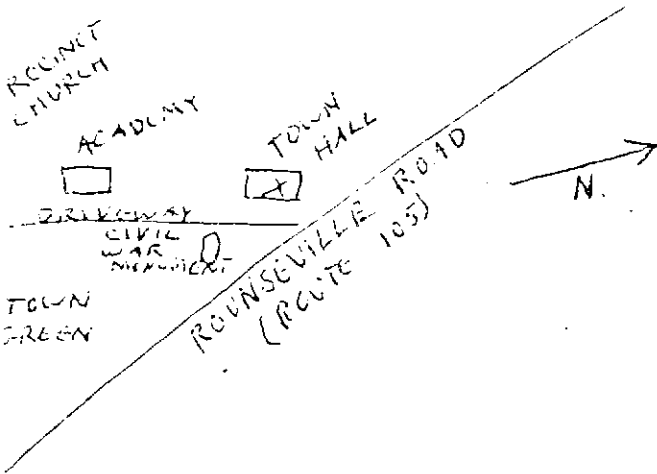
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. <u>A</u>	Form no. <u>ROC.1</u>
-------------------------	--------------------------

Three Buildings in Rochester Center A 105, Town Rochester



In relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Rounseville Road

Town Hall and Library

use Town Hall and Library

owner Town

tion:

1892

see Town Records, "Mattapoissett and Old Rochester"

Wood Frame, Gabled, Turreted

ct

Exterior wall fabric Wood

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features Civil War monument should be considered part of this property and be preserved.

Altered Addition Date 1973

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre _____ Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 500' +

Approximate distance of building from street

40'

6. Recorded by Judith J. Gurney

Organization Historical Commission

Date June 12, 1973

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE USGS Quadrant <u>Maxion (76)</u> MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

JUN 30 1973

7. Original owner (if known) Town (Given by Mrs. Charles H. Leonard)
 Original use Town Hall and Library
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<u> </u>	Conservation	<u> </u>	Recreation	<u> </u>
Agricultural	<u> </u>	Education	<u> x </u>	Religion	<u> </u>
Architectural	<u> </u>	Exploration/ settlement	<u> </u>	Science/ invention	<u> </u>
The Arts	<u> x </u>	Industry	<u> </u>	Social/ Humanitarian	<u> x </u>
Commerce	<u> </u>	Military	<u> </u>	Transportation	<u> </u>
Communication	<u> </u>	Political	<u> x </u>		
Community development	<u> x </u>				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This building is not old-it replaces the original - but it is an integral part of the town green as a whole. It has been the center of town Government since 1892, and the site of town government, social, artistic, law enforcement, politics, planning and educational interests since the founding of the town in 1679

In the early days of this building, it was used as a Probate Court and Town Court, Justices James Ruggles and Theophilus King, presiding.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

"Mattapoissett and Old Rochester" by Leonard and others
 Proprietors Records, Vol. I, II, III, Plymouth County Registry of Deeds
 Map of 1795
 Assorted deeds, Plymouth County Registry of Deeds

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

31/32

Marion

A

1

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Rochester Center

Address 1 Constitution Way

Historic Name Rochester Town Hall

Uses: Present civic

Original civic

Date of Construction 1892

Source MHC B Form 1973

Style/Form Queen Anne

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation concrete slab

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

none

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

rear ell (early-mid 20th c.); side ell (mid 20th c.)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 19.53 acres

Setting situated west of the town green; accessed by a paved lot with woods to west

Recorded by M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**

Rochester

Property Address:

1 Constitution Way

Massachusetts Historical Commission**Massachusetts Archives Facility****220 Morrissey Boulevard****Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)**

A

Form No.

1

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

The Rochester Town Hall, constructed in 1892, is an excellent example of the Queen Anne style as it was applied to civic buildings in the late 19th century. Situated to the west of the Town Green (MHC 815), the 1½-story building stands within a complex that comprises the town's civic center. The building is complex in plan and is comprised of the main block, an integral entry porch, a side ell, a rear ell, and an octagonal tower. The main block has a front-facing, asymmetrical, four-bay facade (east elevation) and is four bays in depth. A 2-story, hip-roof octagonal tower is attached to the north slope of the roof and projects slightly beyond the eaves. The primary entrance is offset on the facade and consists of a pair of wood doors flanked by single-light sidelights. The entrance is set within a 1-bay, front gable integral porch with a recessed entry vestibule that is accessed by concrete steps. Fenestration consists of single and paired 6/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is wood frame on a concrete slab foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A hip dormer projects from the east slope of the roof and one brick chimney rises from the roof ridge.

The building displays many notable exterior architectural features, including a Palladian window set in the gable end of the facade, pilasters, drip molding, cornice returns, cornerboards, and exposed rafters as well as half-timbering and a boxed cornice in the gable end of the entry porch. Other structures attached to the main block include a 1-story, gable-roof, rear ell (early to mid-20th c.) that extends along the south and west elevation and a 1-story, hip-roof ell (currently the assessor's office) along the south and east elevation (early 20th c.). The building is accessed by a paved drive and parking lot to the north. Landscape elements consist of foundation plantings and small shrubs with woods to the west. The property is in good condition and, with the exception of the rear gable addition, retains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Rochester Center has served as the civic center of the town since the late 17th century, when its first meetinghouse (not extant) was built. The area was established as the town center in 1697 by the first constables of Rochester, who chose a wooded lot north of the present-day First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) and set it apart for the town. Originally named "the Ministry" woods, the area initially included a burying ground and training field. Several months after it was laid out, a location for the meeting house was chosen. The construction of the first Rochester Meeting House in 1699 led to the development of several local highways which helped to solidify and establish the town center in the 18th century. Town life centered around Rochester Center with the development of the town green and the erection of such buildings as First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837), Academy School (MHC 2, 1838), and Town Hall. During the 20th century other civic building erected there were the Plumb Corner Mall and Plumb Memorial Library.

The Town Hall stands on land that was once occupied by a schoolhouse. Constructed before 1854, it was known as the Town or Center School. The Center School educated all students within the district with the exception of the "older" students who were sent next door to the Academy (MHC 2, 1838). After 1869, the number of schools in town decreased as a result of the abolition of the district system, which placed the control of schools in the hands of the town. By 1880, the Leonard School, located on the north side of Mary's Pond Road, merged with the Center School. In 1882, the Center School was purchased by George W. Gifford for \$547.93 and moved to a lot on the corner of Mary's Pond Road and Walnut Plain Road. By 1901, the Church School merged with the Center School and taught grades one through four (MacGregor n.d.:1-6). Shortly after

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**

Rochester

Property Address:

1 Constitution Way

Massachusetts Historical Commission**Massachusetts Archives Facility****220 Morrissey Boulevard****Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)**

A

Form No.

1

this the schoolhouse was sold, cut in half, and moved by Henry Gidley to be used as a barn on New Bedford Road near the Wheel of Fortune Corner in the Mattapoissett Area (MHC Area F). As of 1950 the barn was still standing (Humphrey 1953:5), although whether it is extant today is unclear.

The present-day Town Hall is the third one to stand at Rochester Center. After the First Parish meetinghouse was constructed in 1760, the old meetinghouse of 1717 became the known as the town house and was used for town meetings and gatherings. In 1773, the town voted to cut the town house down to one story and divide it by a partition, using one half as a "workhouse to promote industry" and the other half as a town hall. Delayed by the American Revolution, this was not completed until 1781 when Lot Haskell and Deacon Seth Dexter became the town's first town officers. By 1792, the workhouse had been closed down by the state and the town hall was remodeled to convert the entire building into the town hall. In 1811, however, this building was taken down and its timbers were used to construct the second town hall in Rochester Center (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett 1907:144-145).

This second town hall was constructed in 1811 and located directly across the Academy (MHC 2, 1838) on the east side of the Town Green (MHC 815). The building was square in plan, with a low, hip roof and rising tiers of seats. In 1892, when the third Town Hall was erected, this old town hall was converted into a cranberry screen house and moved to the Pratt cranberry bog (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett 1907:145).

The present-day Town Hall was erected in 1892 from funds donated by Mrs. C.H. Leonard, who also renovated and refurbished the First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837). Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leonard donated half the money needed to build the new town hall and provided funds for subsequent additions such as the library (now the assessor's office), which served as the town library until the Joseph H. Plumb Memorial Library was built in 1976 (Gurney 1990:29). During the fall of 1931 a Civil War Monument (MHC 911, 1927) was erected before the town hall and in 1932, a bronze tablet bearing the names of 81 townsmen was placed on the monument ("Rochester to Dedicate Memorial Tablet and Stone" 1932:no page). Rochester's Town Hall is an integral part of civic life in Rochester and one of three central buildings that make up Rochester Center.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

Church, Harriet. "The Old Meeting House." *Wareham Courier*. April 1899.

Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett. *Mattapoissett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.

Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoissett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

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Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.

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Leonard, Mary Hall. "*Old Rochester and Her Daughter Towns*". *New England Magazine*, vol. 20, p. 613-635, n.d.

MacGregor, Dorothy H. "*Schools in the Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*", n.d.

Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:

Rochester

Property Address:

1 Constitution Way

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Massachusetts Archives Facility

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

A

Form No.

1

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

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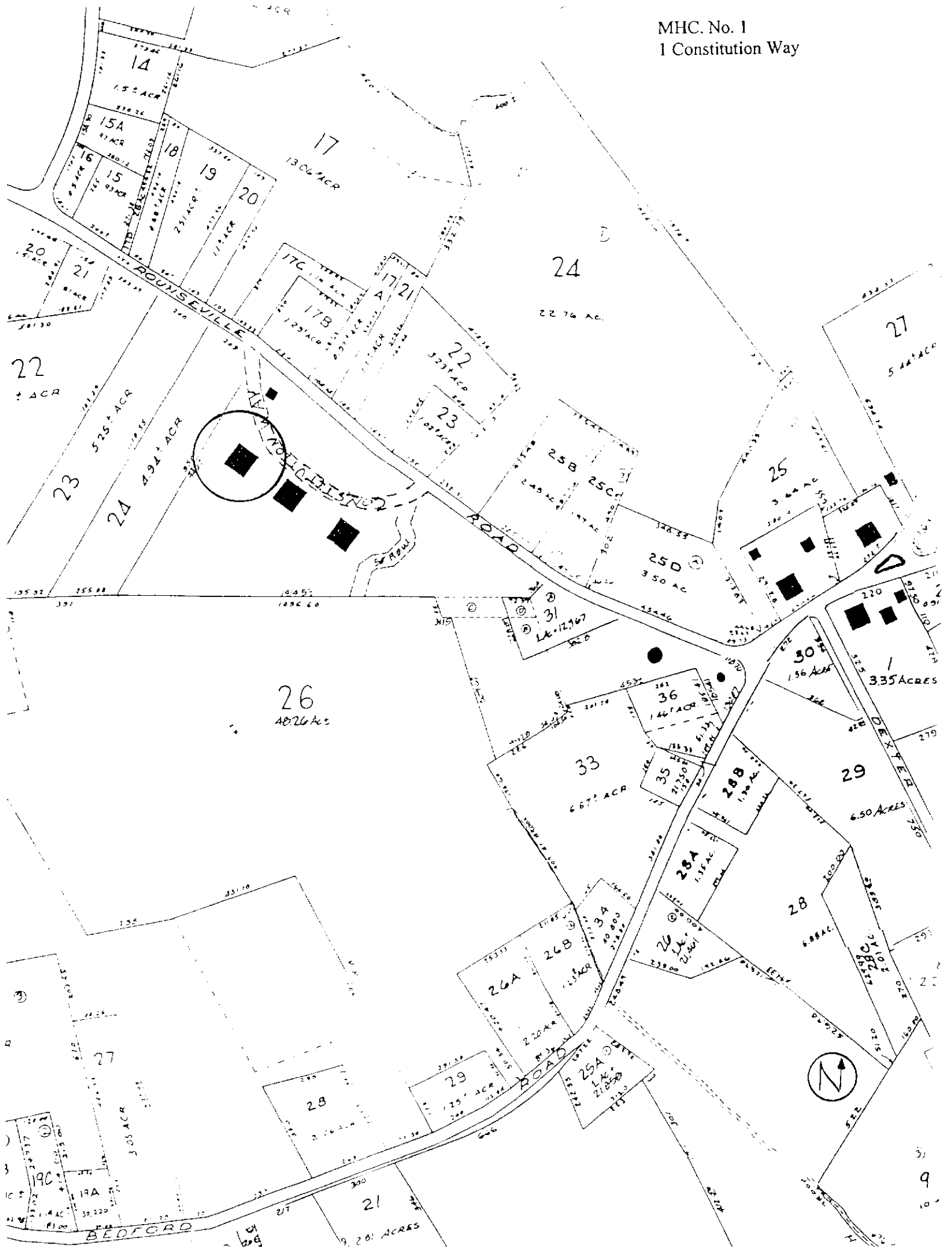
1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

MHC. No. 1
1 Constitution Way



Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archive Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community
Rochester

Property Address:
1 Constitution Way

Area(s)	Form No.
A	1

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible Eligible only in a historic district
 Contributing to a potential historic district Potential historic district

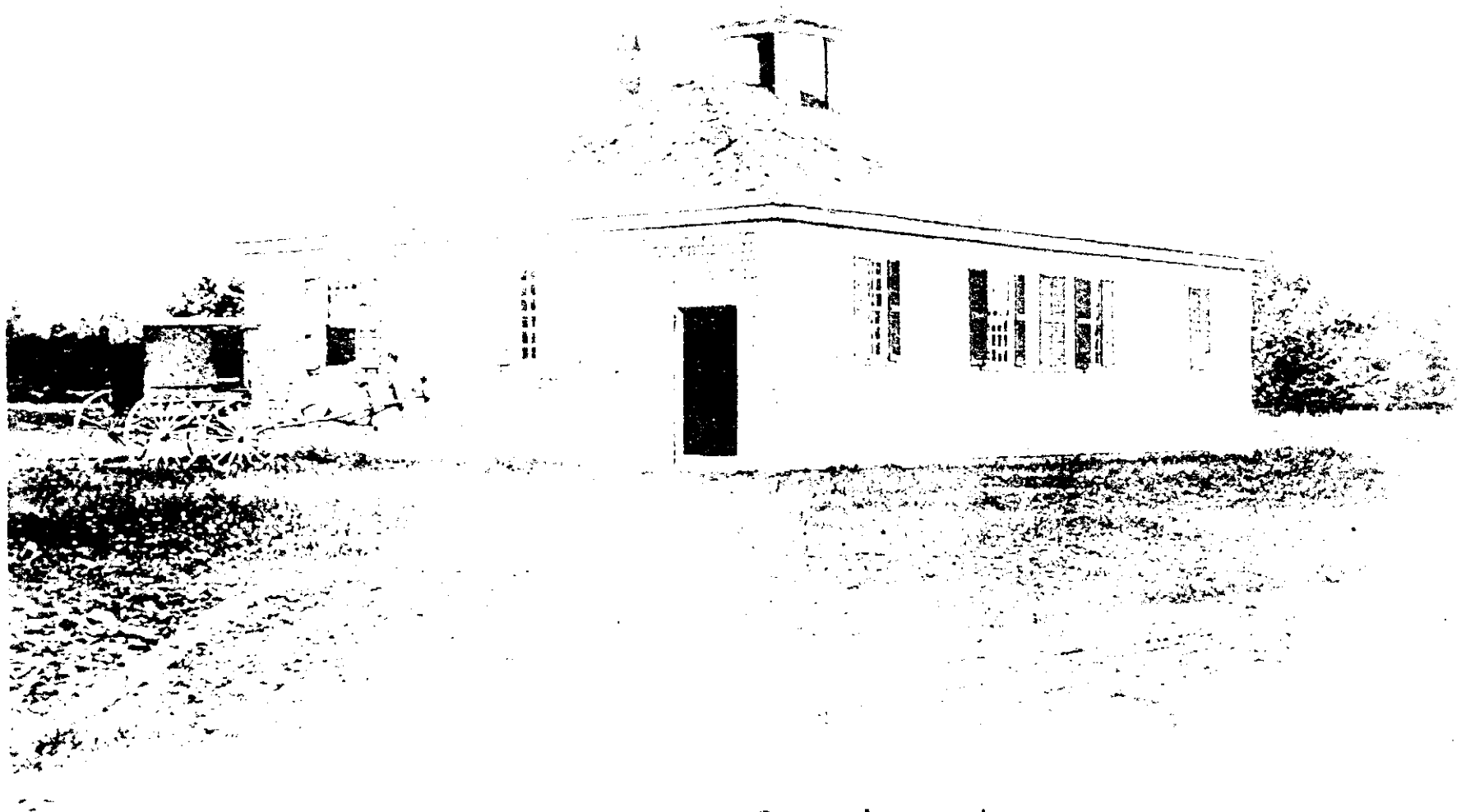
Criteria: A B C D

Criteria Considerations: A B C D E F G

Statement of Significance by: M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

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

The Rochester Town Hall is locally significant as an excellent example of the Queen Anne style and for its historical associations with the development of Rochester Center as the civic center of town. This building is the third Town Hall to stand on the Town Green at Rochester Center. The Rochester Town Hall possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criteria A and C of the NRHP in the areas of politics/government and architecture. The property is a contributing element to a potential Rochester Center Historic District. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.



Old Town House Rochester 1811

The Old Meeting House

Written for the Wareham Courier by Harriet Church, April, 1899

I wonder how many readers of the Courier have any recollection of the old meeting house at Rochester Center, which stood on very nearly the same spot where the present one now stands. It was a plain, square building, without the least pretension of architectural beauty, and the surrounding grounds were as plain and bare as the building itself, for no improvement society had ever ventured to plant a tree or shrub, or in any way to detract from its primeval barrenness.

On a Sabbath morning we may see the people gathering from all directions towards the old meeting house, for the parish is large and extends from Horseneck on the north to Wolf Island on the south, and from Mary's Pond on the east to Allen Marshall's on the west.

The parishoners are all "meetin' folk" and it must be a very urgent reason that would be considered a sufficient excuse for being absent from the Church on the Sabbath.

So we see them coming, the more distant in carriages, but mostly on foot, and once, but I think only once, - I remember seeing Allen Marshall riding up the green on horseback with his sister Hannah mounted on a pillion behind him.

The people coming from the north pass the little schoolhouse that stood by the corner of the wood, from the east they come over the green by the old town house. Those from South and West come around Dr. Haskell's corner, and a few come over the graveyard from Dexter's Lane. Those old landmarks have now all disappeared, excepting the graveyard, which is never failing but ever increasing.

But we must not linger too long on the outside, for though there is no warning bell, to tell us when the services are to commence, we all know the proper time to enter. So we go to the heavy oaken door, which is, as a matter of course, on the south side of the house. As I am writing solely from my own recollection, I may possibly be incorrect in some little particular, but it is now my impression that the door opened directly into the main body of the house, - at any rate there was certainly no entry where friends might stop for a moment to exchange a morning greeting. A wide aisle leads directly from the door to the opposite side of the house. There, in a high pulpit, which is entered by a flight of stairs on either side, the Rev. Jonathan Bigelow discourses the very soundest of sound doctrines. High above his head is a very heavy structure, or a platform, which was always the object of my childish fear and wonder -- of fear lest it fall on the speaker, and of wonder why it was ever placed there. And even now, in my mature years, I cannot fully understand its use, - whether it was intended to catch the more forcible points of the discourse and give them added force on the rebound, or if it was to serve as a sort of check or restraint to prevent the flights of pulpit eloquence from soaring too high, above the comprehension of the hearers.

Another aisle, slightly narrower than the first, crossed it at right angles from east to west, with an outer door at either end. and still another aisle ran nearly around the room just within the row of the wall pews. The pews were built in square, pig-pen fashion, with seats on three sides to accomodate a large family. A part of the pews had a small portion of the seats hung on hinges so that it

with a slam. It would have been considered a great offence for any person to sit during prayer, but the slamming privilege was only allowed to a few of the older pillars of the church, like Uncle Lot and Uncle Ben Haskell. In those days all aged people were aunts and uncles.

The old house was pleasant enough in summer, when the doors and windows were thrown open and the little birds came confidently around with their sweet twitterings, but in the winter the two huge box stoves were by no means sufficient to warm the whole house. How plainly I can even now seem to see the gentle faced old ladies coming at noon intermission with their little tin foot stoves, meekly asking for a few coals and at the same time taking the opportunity to exchange with each other a few quiet words of neighborly greeting. There were Aunt Dices Sturdevant, Aunt Haskell, Aunt Clapp Aunt Fear Haskell and other aunts whose very names were since forgotten.

The gallery extended around three sides of the house, and the part which was directly opposite the pulpit was occupied by the singers. Here you might hear those grand old tunes where the different parts of the music chased each other in and out among the bars, now this part taking the lead, and now that, it all very sure to come out together in perfect harmony at the end.

The orchestra itself would hardly meet the requirements of the present day if a fine toned organ was there, but instead Martin Ryder played the great bass viol, Joseph Haskell the violin, and sometimes Jacob Sparrow the clarinet. There was also another indescribable instrument which was played, or rather worked, by Prince Dexter. I do not know rightly its name, whether it was a bassoon or a trombone, but whatever it was it resembles David's harp in at least one respect, for it certainly was of most solemn sound.

But the time has come when the old must give place to the new. The last hymn has been sung and the last benediction pronounced. We see the large Bible lifted reverently from its long wonted place on the worn and faded pulpit cushions, and we hear the steps of the singers descending the time worn stairs that have resounded to the tread of generations of singers. We see the people leaving their respective pews and moving slowly towards the door—the door that looks out toward the hallowed spot where whatever part each person may have played in the great psalm of life, or however much of discord there may have seemed to be in the various lives, yet all shall meet in peaceful harmony at the end.

And so the Congregation are passing out, old and young, parents and children,; the young full of life and hope, looking only to the future and to the new house soon to be built: The old with many a loving, lingering look at the old familiar aisles and pews that are soon to be as if they had never been.

And so, one by one, they have passed through the broad open door, and have gone-----where?

All have vanished, and have become like the old house itself, only a half remembered dream of the past.

Lang Syne

Note: Miss Harriet Church would have been 30 years old when the building was torn down in 1857

First meeting house of Rochester was voted on Feb. 2, 1698, and was built about a year later, at the west end of the long bridge, by Peter Blackmer. It was to cost 60 £ and be 26 ft. long, 24 ft. wide, with 4 ft between the joist, and have a pulpit on "floats", 3 galleries of seats, and 3 south windows.

May 14, 1714, voted to build a new meeting house, 40 ft. long, 35 ft. wide, 20 ft. between joist, and to be finished by Oct. 31, 1715, be built by Peter Blackmer, with Stephen Andrews to prepare the land.

(This would seem to have been a two story building)

1725...voted to repair and remodel the meeting house, building up the gallery in the east end, lowering the seats in the east end, repairing the glass, getting a lock, and building seats for negroes and Indians under the stairs

1793. Voted to cut the meeting house down to one story, make a partition, add a chimney, set one half aside for Town House and one half for a work house, Deacon Church was to do the work.

The old town house photo shows a one story building.. is it the same one, ? work just completed????

It is generally accepted that it was built in 1811

It was sold to Judge Pratt in 1891, he removed it, new one built 1892



TYPICAL ^{Late} 17th century meeting house



our meeting house

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

31/32

Marion

A

2

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
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Boston, Massachusetts 02125



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Rochester Center

Address 7 Constitution Way

Historic Name Rochester Academy

Uses: Present recreation/culture

Original educational/school

Date of Construction 1838-1839

Source MHC B Form 1973

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim clapboard, wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

shed (late 19th c.)

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

rear ell (late 19th c.)

Condition good

Moved X no yes Date _____

Acreage 19.53 acres

Setting situated west of the town green; accessed by a
gravel lot with woods to west

Recorded by M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

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7 Constitution Way

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A

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2

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

The Rochester Academy at 7 Constitution Way is a 2½-story, Greek Revival-style civic building. Situated to the west of the Town Green (MHC 815), it is a relatively intact example of a mid-19th century educational facility. The building has a rectangular plan, consisting of a main block with a front-facing gable roof and a rectangular bell tower. The main block has a symmetrical, three-bay facade (east elevation) and is five bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and is flanked by recessed panels and topped by a simple wood entablature. Fenestration consists of single, 20/20 and 10/15 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with flat drip molding and simple wood sills. The structural system is timber frame on a granite foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the center of the roof ridge. A secondary entrance is located on the south elevation and is topped by a bracketed, hip roof hood. The bell tower, set close to the front of the building, is open with a classical entablature supported by three square posts at each corner. Other notable exterior architectural features include a wide molded frieze below the cornice line, a triangular vent set in the gable end of the facade, a belt course, and recessed panel corner posts. Alterations include a 2-story, shed-roof rear ell (late 19th c.) A small, 1-story, end-gable shed (late 19th c.) that features exposed rafters and novelty siding is located to the rear of the building. The building is accessible by a gravel lot to the south and landscape elements include woods to the west of the property. The property is in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Rochester Center has served as the civic center of the town since the late 17th century, when its first meetinghouse (not extant) was built. The area was established as the town center in 1697 by the first constables of Rochester, who chose a wooded lot north of the present-day First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) and set it apart for the town. Originally named "the Ministry" woods, the area initially included a burying ground and training field. Several months after it was laid out, a location for the meeting house was chosen. The construction of the first Rochester Meeting House in 1699 led to the development of several local highways which helped to solidify and establish the town center in the 18th century. Town life centered around Rochester Center with the development of the town green and the erection of such buildings as First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837), Academy School (MHC 2, 1838), and Town Hall. During the 20th century other civic buildings erected there were the Plumb Corner Mall and Plumb Memorial Library.

By the early 19th century, the schools in the town of Rochester were under the control of a district system. This district system divided the town into legal districts, with each district having its own schoolhouse and an elected prudential committee-man. The committee-man selected the teacher and was responsible for providing school equipment. Each district had to provide its school with a building, 25 square feet or less, that included a hall or closet, desks and benches on three sides with 10 square feet of open space in the center for recitations. The schools held two terms (winter and summer) and each term averaged a length of 3 months. By 1859, Rochester had 11 districts with 11 schoolhouses that stood throughout the town. Several of these old schoolhouses can be seen throughout the town to the present day, functioning as barns or other types of outbuildings (MacGregor n.d.:1-6).

The present-day Academy was apparently one of two school buildings that stood in Rochester Center during the 19th century. The first school at Rochester Center, constructed in 1838, is the present-day Academy building. The second, known as the

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**

Rochester

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7 Constitution Way

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A

Form No.

2

Town or Center School, stood next to the Academy on the site of the present-day Town Hall (MHC 1, 1892). Constructed before 1854, the Center School was located in District One and educated all students within the district with the exception of the "older" students who were sent next door to the Academy. The district system was abolished in 1869 in favor of a more manageable school system. Over the next few decades small schools throughout the town were consolidated into larger schools. By 1880, the Leonard School, located on the north side of Mary's Pond Road, merged with the Center School. In 1882, the Center School was purchased by George W. Gifford for \$547.93 and moved to a lot on the corner of Mary's Pond Road and Walnut Plain Road. By 1901, the Church School on Mattapoissett Road merged with the Center School and taught grades one through four (MacGregor n.d.:1-6). Shortly after this the schoolhouse was sold, cut in half, and moved by Henry Gidley to be used as a barn on New Bedford Road near the Wheel of Fortune Corner in the Mattapoissett Area (MHC Area F). As of 1950 the barn was still standing (Humphrey 1953:5), although whether it is extant today is unclear.

The Rochester Academy was founded in 1836 and built in 1838 as part of this important educational movement in Rochester Center that began in the early 19th century. The Academy opened in 1839 under the direction of leading citizens of the town, including Reverend Jonathan Bigelow, George Bonney, Theophilus King, and Joseph Haskell. One of the first preceptors of the Academy was Dr. Henry Martyn Dexter, the noted leader of Congregationalism. The Rochester Academy was for a generation the most potent educational force in the town, allowing Rochester to be recognized as a country town that held education and intellectual betterment as a priority. The Academy educated the "older" students who were sent there by the Center School. The Academy building also included a boarding house that stood opposite the residence of Dr. Joseph Haskell. This boarding house was destroyed by fire in the late 19th century and by 1882 the Center School had moved, leaving a large, open space at the southeast corner of the Town Green (MHC 815) (RHS files).

In 1901, the Academy began teaching grammar grades 5 through 9 to relieve the congestion that was occurring in the few schoolhouses that were left after the abolition of the district system. On January 4, 1905 the town leased the upper story of the building for school purposes and in exchange the town agreed to maintain the exterior and interior of the building as well as pay half the cost of the insurance in lieu of rent (MacGregor n.d.:5). That same year, a wood shed from the old Leonard School lot was brought to the Academy and stands on the lot to the present day. It was shortly after this that the Academy was closed down for lack of funds, as were most country academies without endowment (Leonard n.d.:625). The building served as a vestry in the late 19th century and is used today as a convenient place for holding functions such as socials, suppers, auctions, meetings of various organizations, a Sunday school, choral groups, and debates (RHS files).

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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MacGregor, Dorothy H. *"Schools in the Town of Rochester, Massachusetts"*, n.d.

Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

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Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.

1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.

1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.

1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.

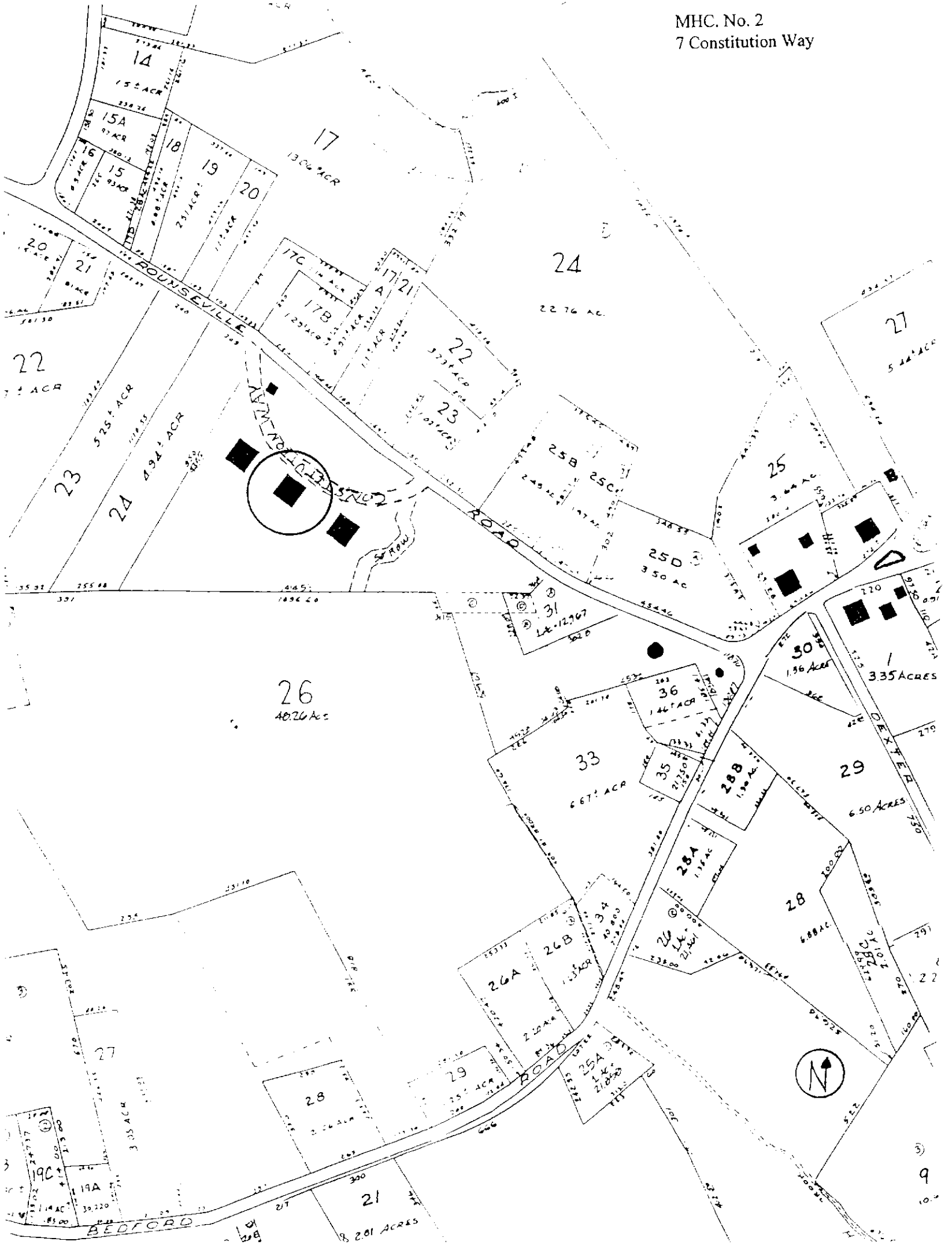
1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.

1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.



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Community
Rochester

Property Address:
7 Constitution Way

Area(s)	Form No.
A	2

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible 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: M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

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

The Rochester Academy is locally significant as a fine and well-preserved example of the Greek Revival style and as the first educational facility to be erected at Rochester Center. The Rochester Academy opened under the direction of many leading citizens of the town and served as the most important educational center in town for many years. The Rochester Academy possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criteria A and C of the NRHP in the areas of education and architecture. The property is a contributing element to a potential Rochester Center Historic District. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.

FORM B - BUILDING

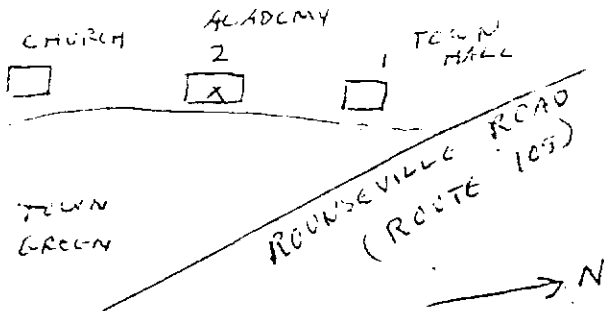
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
State House, Boston

In Area no. A	Form no. Bx. 2
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town Rochester
 address Town Green
 name Academy
 present use Vestry
 present owner Congregational Church
 description:
 date 1839
 source Ply. Co. Registry of Deeds
 style 2 story wooded

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric Wood
 Outbuildings (describe) _____
 Other features Belfry and Bell
remarkable fenestration

Altered Plumbing added Date circa 1930
 Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:
 Less than one acre Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 150'
 Approximate distance of building from street
4'

6. Recorded by Judith J. Gurney
 Organization Historical Commission
 Date June 12, 1973

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant mauim (76)
 MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Rev. Jonathar Bigelow, George Bonney et al

Original use Academy

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Church Vestry

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	<u> x </u>
Agricultural	_____	Education	<u> x </u>	Religion	<u> x </u>
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Humanitarian	<u> x </u>
Communication	_____	Political	_____	Transportation	_____
Community development	_____				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This building was the second academy in the town, the first having lasted only a few years. It graduated many important personages,

Structurally it remains original and sound and is an attractive asset to the area.

Through the years it has been used for a variety of purposes, including socials, suppers, auctions, meetings of various organizations, a Sunday School, choral groups, ("fugueing"), debates, and the like.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Plymouth Co. Registry of Deeds
"Mattapoisett and Old Rochester" by Leonard and others
Memoirs left by residents, especially L.C. Humphrey

ROCHESTER ACADEMY

ROCHESTER, MASS.

Rochester Academy opened its doors to students on the first Monday in May , 1839, having been founded at the urging of Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, Pastor of the First Congregational Church, “to be devoted exclusively to purposes of education.”

This noted and highly accredited institution gave instruction in “all English studies, Latin, Greek and French languages” and great attention was paid to the “moral conduct, general deportment and intellectual improvement of its scholars.” Many graduates became doctors, lawyers, teachers, ministers and judges , living beneficial lives in their own communities.

The Academy declined in the early 1860’s due to shortage of funds and the proliferation of academies being built in this area. The original building included a Vestry area which has been used for church purposes since its beginning. In 1865/66 older students from the then called Rochester Centre School attended the Academy. In 1905, the Town of Rochester formed an agreement with the church regarding repairs and insurance, permitting the use of the two upper rooms for classrooms, a use continued until 1941. These two large second floor rooms , converted to seven rooms and modernized by Old Colony Vocational Students, have become the pastor’s study, church office and religious education rooms.

The handsome Academy Building stands today, strong, firm and fully utilized, a tribute to it’s auspicious beginning.

NOTE: A more complete history available in Church Office.

OLD ROCHESTER ACADEMY
ROCHESTER, MASS.

The work of building the Rochester Academy started in 1838. For about two years previous the Rev. Jonathan Bigelow, pastor of First Congregational Church, George Bonney and others felt the need of a school of higher education. They arranged for the creation of the building which was completed in May 1839. The building then was opened to the pupils.

The prospectus issued at this time may be of interest and a copy follows:

"The trustees of Rochester Academy respectfully inform the public that a new building on the most approved plan has been erected in Rochester Center and will be opened on the first Monday of May next for the reception of pupils. Andrew Bigelow, late graduate of Amherst College, has been engaged as principal of the institution. He is now and has been for some time preceptor of Franklin Academy and is an approved and popular teacher. The services of a well qualified lady are secured to take charge of the female department."

The locality of this institution for health and morality is not surpassed by any in New England. The trustees confidently assure the Public that a thorough course of instruction will be given in this school in all English studies, Latin, Greek and French languages. Term of tuition, Common English branches, \$4.; Higher English \$4.50; Languages \$5. Good board in private families may be obtained from \$1.75 to \$2. Per week. Great attention will be paid to the moral conduct, general deportment and intellectual improvement of scholars sent to this school. Parents and guardians wishing to send children to the Academy, are requested to give notice of their intention to George Bonney of Rochester, or either of the trustees; George Bonney, James Haskell, Joseph Haskell, Martin Ryder, John C. Haskell, Joseph W. Church, Robert C. Randell, Samuel Lombard, Charles C. Holmes

Rochester, March 22, 1839 "

Scholars from surrounding towns entered the Academy on the opening day with Andrew Bigelow A.B. And his assistants as teachers. The Rev. Henry M. Dexter, whose ancestors were early settlers of the town, was the second teacher.

The most prosperous year of the Academy was in the year 1855-6, when Charles Park Rugg, a graduate of Amherst College, was the teacher. He was later Superintendent of Schools in New Bedford. After Mr. Rugg left town, the Academy started to decline for lack of funds and academies were being built in other localities. Thus the building was unoccupied except to be used as vestry for church purposes.

Many eminent lawyers, doctors, teachers, ministers and judges were graduated from the school and have lived useful lives in other communities. A large boarding house, situated on the opposite side of the road from the Academy, was kept by Robert C. Randall for the benefit of out of town students. This burned down many years ago.

((THE ABOVE IS A RE-TYPED COPY OF A HISTORY FOUND IN CHURCH FILES, A COPY TYPED FROM AN ARTICLE PRINTED IN NEW BEDFORD PAPER IN 1938 or 39.)

A copy of the act of corporation follows:

“Commonwealth of Massachusetts -- in the year one thousand eight hundred and thirty seven An Act to incorporate the Proprietors of the Rochester Academy. Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same as follows: Charles J. Holmes, Joseph Haskell, and George Bonney their associates and successors, are hereby made a Corporation by the name of the ‘Proprietors of the Rochester Academy’ to be established in the town of Rochester in the County of Plymouth, with all the powers and privileges, and subject to all the restrictions and liabilities, set forth in the 44th Chapter of the Revised Statues, with power to hold real and personal estate to an amount not exceeding \$20,000, to be devoted exclusively to purposes of education.

House of Representatives

April 3rd, 1837

Passed to be enacted

Julius Rockwell, Speaker

April 5, 1837 In Senate April 4th, 1837

Approved Passed to be enacted

Edward Everett

Horace Mann, President

¶ true copy, attest . John P. Bigelow, Sec. Of the Court”

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

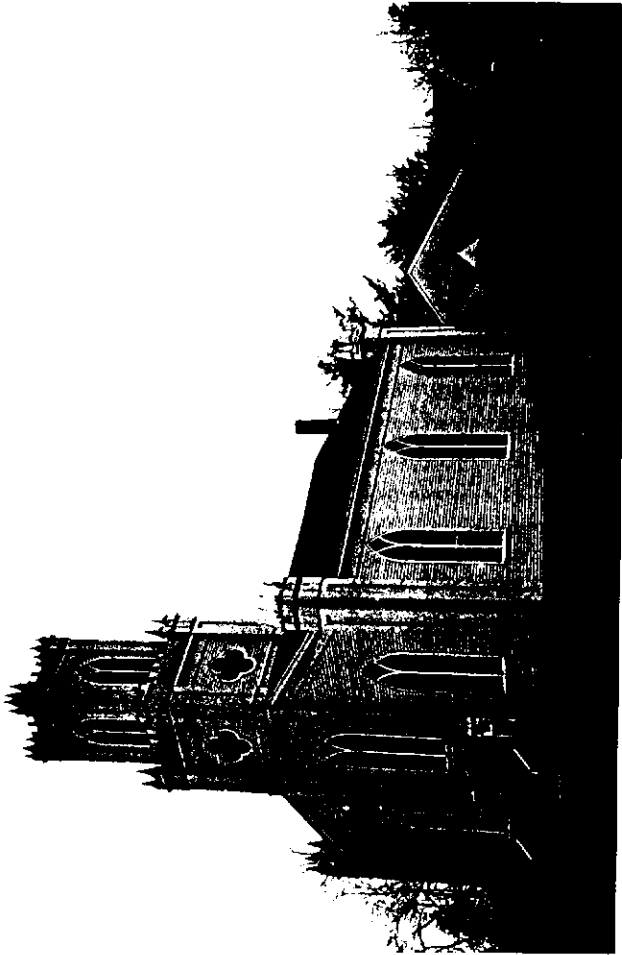
31/32

Marion

A

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Rochester Center

Address 11 Constitution Way

Historic Name First Congregational Church

Uses: Present church

Original church

Date of Construction 1837

Source Anonymous 1936

Style/Form Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder Solomon K. Eaton

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

none

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

renovated (1879); rear addition with hyphen (1993)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 19.53 acres

Setting situated west of the town green and accessed by a wooded; gravel lot with small shrubs to the west

Recorded by M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEETCommunity:
RochesterProperty Address:
11 Constitution WayMassachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
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Boston, Massachusetts 02125Area(s)
AForm No.
3**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION** *(continued)*

The First Congregational Church at 11 Constitution Way is one of Rochester's most distinctive historic buildings. Occupying a prominent place on the Town Green (MHC 815), it is an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style as it was applied to small-town churches in New England during the mid-late 19th century. This 1½-story building has a rectangular plan, consisting of a main block with a front-facing gable roof and a rectangular bell tower. The main block has a symmetrical, three-bay facade (east elevation) and is three bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and consists of a paired, wood door set within a wide arch surround. Fenestration consists of fixed, multi-light windows in lancet arch openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is timber frame on a granite foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the roof on the north slope. Other notable exterior features include quatrefoil windows on the bell tower as well as pointed finials and corner posts with recessed panels. A 1-story, end-gable addition (1993) is attached to the rear (east) elevation of the main block by a 1-story hyphen. The hyphen contains an open porch on its north elevation supported by simple posts with turned rails and accessed by a wood ramp. The property is in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Rochester Center has served as the civic center of the town since the late 17th century, when its first meetinghouse (not extant) was built. The area was established as the town center in 1697 by the first constables of Rochester, who chose a wooded lot north of the present-day First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) and set it apart for the town. Originally named "the Ministry" woods, the area initially included a burying ground and training field. Several months after it was laid out, a location for the meeting house was chosen. The construction of the first Rochester Meeting House in 1699 led to the development of several local highways which helped to solidify and establish the town center in the 18th century. Town life centered around Rochester Center with the development of the town green and the erection of such buildings as First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837), Academy School (MHC 2, 1838), and Town Hall. During the 20th century other civic buildings erected there were the Plumb Corner Mall and Plumb Memorial Library.

Rochester's First Congregational Church is the oldest extant building still standing on the Town Green (MHC 815) in Rochester Center and is the fourth house of worship to occupy the site. The town's first meeting house, built circa 1699, stood within the limits of the First Parish Cemetery (MHC 800) which was laid out at the same time. This first meeting house, according to town records, was "24 by 26 feet and 10 feet between joints, with a gable on each side and a pulpit and flours [sic] and girls for three gallerys, with three seats a pew." The builder was Peter Blackmer and the building committee included Samuel Prince and Mark Haskell (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett 1907:72-73). Shortly after this, the First Church of Rochester was organized at Rochester Center on October 13, 1703. By 1709 the church had 35 members including Jacob Bumpus, Thomas Dexter, Samuel Winslow, Thomas Perry, Mary Haskell, Mercy Winslow, and Sarah Dexter (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett 1907:73-74).

In 1714 the meetinghouse was voted too small to accommodate the congregation and by 1717 the second meeting house had been built. This building, almost twice as large as the first, was "40 feet by 35 feet and 20 feet between joints" (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett 1907:75). A third meetinghouse was constructed in 1760, again in response to a need for a larger structure. This third meetinghouse burned sometime in the early 19th century and was replaced by the present-day building

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3

in 1837.

The present First Congregational Church belongs to the town of Rochester and was built in September 1837 to the designs of Solomon K. Eaton ("Rochester Prepares to Celebrate 250th Anniversary" 1936:no page). Eaton was well-known for his ecclesiastical structures, as evident in the many churches he designed, including the North Rochester Congregational Church on North Avenue (MHC 24, 1841) and several in nearby Mattapoisett, Bridgewater, and New Bedford (Maker's Index). Between 1837 and 1845, four other new churches were formed out of the First Congregational Church. These sister churches, that stand in Mattapoisett, Wareham, North Rochester, and Marion, were also designed by Eaton, who was hired as architect and builder to erect the churches in the same style as the one at Rochester Center (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:90).

The church has had several additions and alterations funded and donated through the generosity of local residents. The bell was purchased for the church in 1850 by the Ladies Sewing Circle and the pipe organ was purchased in 1866. The church was closed for several months in 1879 and renovated to its current Gothic Revival appearance through donations from Mrs. E.G. Leonard, who also donated funds for additions to the Town Hall (MHC 1, 1892). By September 1902 the church was incorporated under the name "The First Congregational Church of Rochester, Massachusetts." In 1907 the organ was removed from the gallery to the right of the pulpit (First Congregational Church 1909:3-9). More recently, a large rear addition was constructed in 1993 to be used for meetings and other town functions.

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Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.

1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

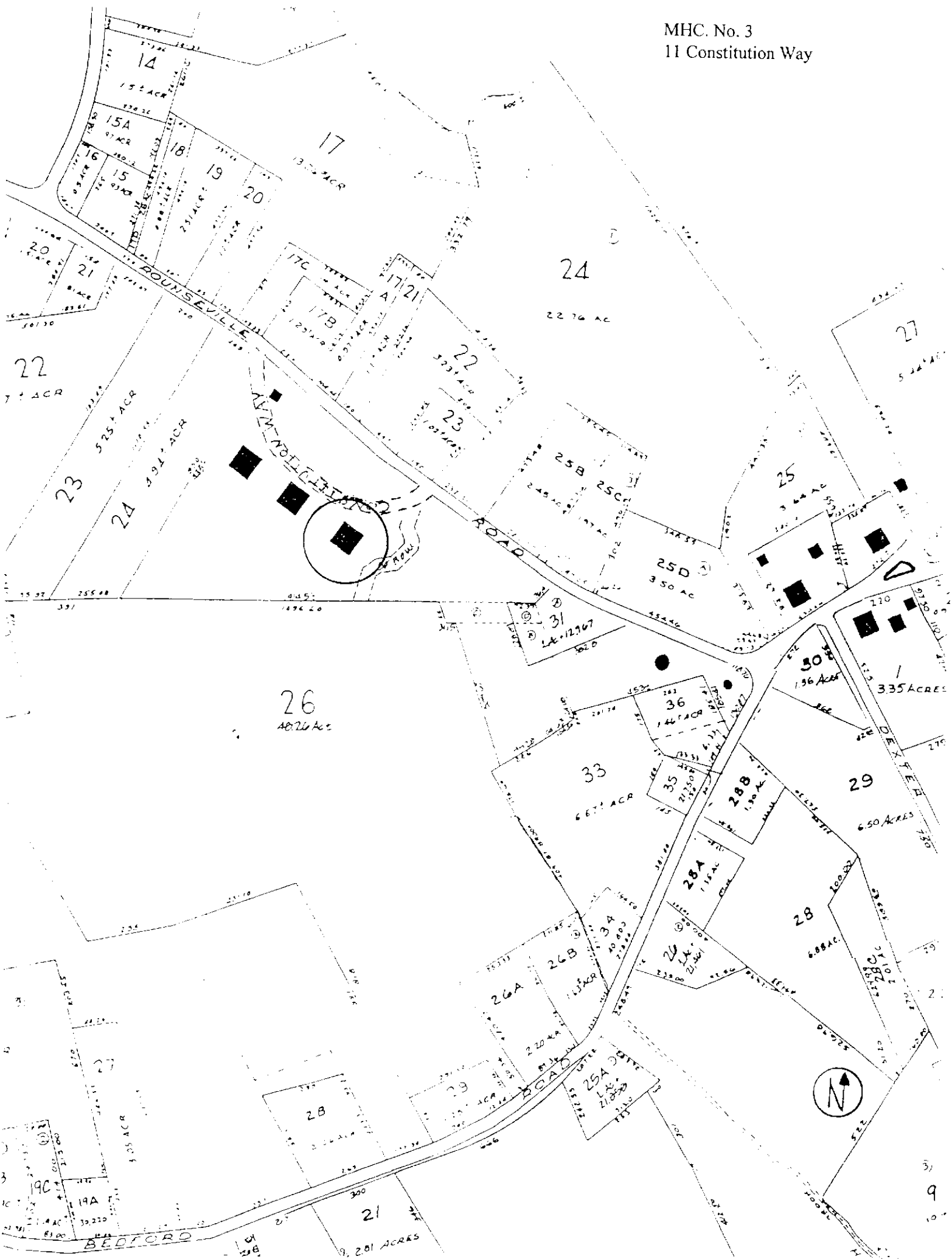
Property Address:
11 Constitution Way

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)
A

Form No.
3

- 1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903.*
- 1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.
- 1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.
- 1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704.* Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854.* Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map.* Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans.* Various surveyors and dates.



Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archive Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community
Rochester

Property Address:
11 Constitution Way

Area(s)	Form No.
A	3

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible 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: M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

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

The First Congregational Church is locally significant as one of Rochester's most distinctive historic buildings and as an excellent example of the Gothic Revival style. This church is the oldest extant building on the Town Green in Rochester Center and is the fourth house of worship to occupy the site. The First Congregational Church possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criterion C and criteria consideration A of the NRHP in the area of architecture. The property is a contributing element to a potential Rochester Center Historic District. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROCHESTER

Ministers who served:

1703-1709	Rev. Samuel Arnold
1710-1768	" Timothy Ruggles
1768-1792	" Jonathan Moore
1792-1798	Candidates & Supplies
1799-1827	Rev. Oliver Cobb
1827-1849	" Jonathan Bigelow
1850-1858	" Eli W. Harrington
1859-1861	" Sumner Clarke
1861-1868	" Edwin Leonard
1868-1870	" J. Wilson Ward
1871-1873	" Nelson Clarke
1873-1878	Candidates & Supplies
1878-1888	Rev. William R. Joyslin
1888-1891	" John L. Evans
1891-1893	" Nelson M. Bailey
1893-1895	" Joseph Wheelwright
1895-1896	" Frederick Alvord
1896-1897	" George B. Shanor
1898-1900	" John H. Quint
1900-1902	" Truman D. Childs
1904-1914	" Henry A. Stevens
1914-1934	Ministers were shared by this church and the Marion Methodist Church with each church paying a share. Some of the ministers were: Rev. Wilfred Hamilton, P. C. Baker, Eliot Studly and Clayton Small. Rev. J. Arthur Martin (student-later graduated and ordained.) Rev. John L. Findlay - Rev. Ralph Houston Rev. Melville Mansfield Nyman " Paul Harris " Lewis W. Hastings " Ward Arthur Knights " Vernon Lee Phillips " Margarite A. Hill (student) Interim Rev. Burn Rev. Arthur R. Lundberg " Edward F. White Interim Rev. Joseph Reeves and Supplies Rev. William Penn Fillebrown (student-ordained here) " George Taylor
1934-1944	
1944-1945	
1947-1951	
1951-1952	
1952-1954	
1954-1956	
1956-1959	
1959-1962	
1962-1966	
1966-1974	
1974-1976	
1976-1985	
1985-1996	

Interesting excerpts from various sources:

About Rev. Oliver Cobb. "Two churches, Rehoboth and Rochester, desired his services and he asked the advice of an Indian as to which he should accept. The Indian, Yankee-like, replied with a question. 'What are you going to preach for?' and added, 'If you are going to preach for money go where the most money is; if you are going to preach for souls go where the most devil is.' **And he came to Rochester.** (From Mattapoisett and Old Rochester)

Church Records, Mar. 1737 "Whereas the brethren of the 1st Church of Christ in Rochester have manifested their Dislike at the practice of persons who sell strong Drink with out License and are desirious to put a stop (as far as in them lieth) to such a practice, Deacon Roger Haskell, Mr. Ichabod King and Mr. Isaac Holmes to go to such persons and duly admonish them for such practice and signify our desire that they cease and if not that they will endeavor to bring them to punishment by the Law." Voted in the affirmative.

Church Records, Mar. 1751 "Deacon John Winslow desired to be dismissed as Deacon---granted: Desired to be dismissed from this church to some one of the neighbour churches and by vote of the church his Request was Denyd him as unscriptual."

From Old Sturbridge Village letter to Church Clerk, 1975:

Deacon James Foster - Excommunicated in 1814-15.
Believed to be the same man described in "Mattapoisett and Old Rochester" ... "early in the nineteenth century Dr. James Foster was a prominent physician near Rochester Center, but becoming depressed on account of financial troubles he finally took his own life."

FORM B - BUILDING

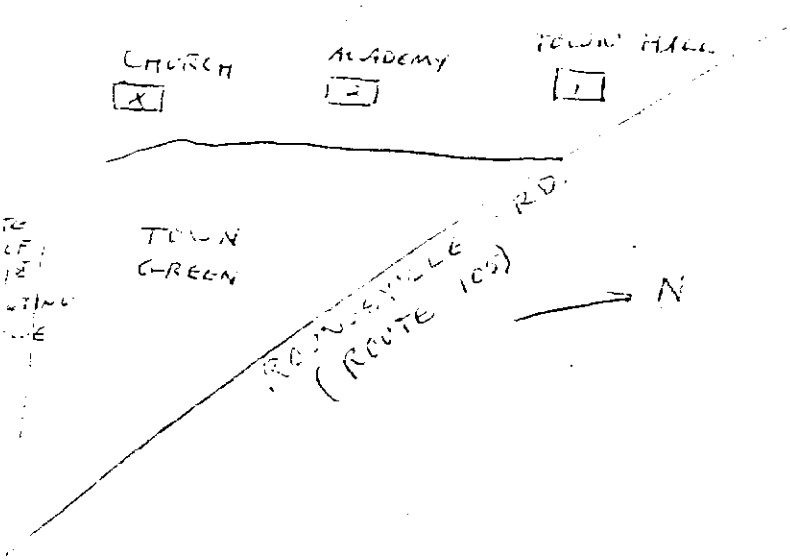
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. <u>1</u>	Form no. <u>Vol. 3</u>
-------------------------	---------------------------



m Rochester
 ress Town Green
 me Congregational Church
 sistent use Church
 sistent owner Church
 scription:
 e 1826
 Source "Mattapoisett and Old Roch."
Memoirs, L.C. Humphrey
Church Records
 le Christopher Wren

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect Solomon K. Eaton (\$3,450)
 Exterior wall fabric Wood
 Outbuildings (describe) torn down
 Other features remarkable pyramidal
crokets at gable and spire
 Altered bell (sound "A") Date 1850
organ 1866
 Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:
 Less than one acre _____ Over one acre x
 Approximate frontage 200'
 Approximate distance of building from street
4'

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant Manion (76)
 MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Judith J. Gurney
 Organization Historical Comm., Rochester
 Date June 12, 1973

(over)

JUN 30 1973

Preserve Carefully

CHURCH OF ROCHESTER

Five Kindred Churches

Echo of the Recent Bicentennary

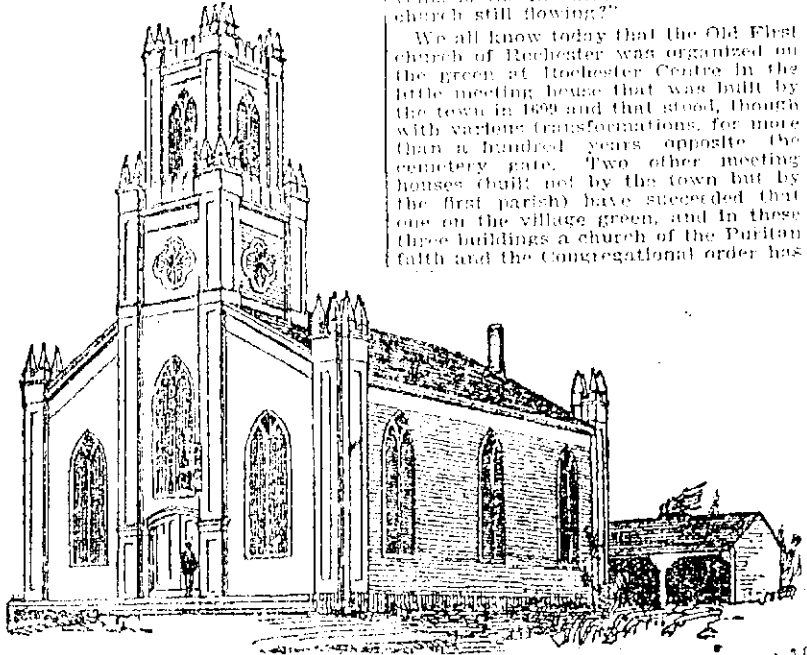
By

Mary H. Leonard

Return to Caroline L. Gordonough -

CHURCH OF ROCHESTER

By Mary H. Leonard.



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT ROCHESTER.

The First church of Rochester was organized by the Rev. Samuel Arnold, October 13, 1793, (Old Style Calendar.) The event is recorded by Mr. Arnold in the old church book as follows:

"It hath pleased our gracious God to shine in this dark corner of this wilderness and visit this dark spot of ground with the dayspring from on high through his tender mercy to settle a church according to the order of the Gospel, October 13, A. D., 1793."

Although the date of organization is given in the records as October 13, yet, following the same principle by which Washington's birthday is observed on Feb. 22, instead of Feb. 11, the church in Rochester, while not making any formal celebration, recognized Saturday October 24, as the New Style date of the anniversary, and gave to its church services of Oct. 25 a historic character that in a measure commemorated the "Two Centuries of Church Life" in Rochester of today.

"What was this Old First church of Rochester that was organized Oct. 13

for Oct. 24, 1793, and in what churchly veins is the life-blood of that ancient church still flowing?"

We all know today that the Old First church of Rochester was organized on the green at Rochester Centre in the little meeting house that was built by the town in 1699 and that stood, though with various transformations, for more than a hundred years opposite the cemetery gate. Two other meeting houses (built not by the town but by the first parish) have succeeded that one on the village green, and in these three buildings a church of the Puritan faith and the Congregational order has

without any reorganization held its unbroken history for these two hundred years. At least two well known families or groups of families at Rochester Centre—the Baskells and the Dexters—occupy the same farms whose virgin soil was broken by their ancestors of the same name about 1694, and have contributed to the church support and held membership or offices in this church through all these successive generations of church life.

Yet it is a curious fact that until very recently it has been believed, and often

reiterated with little question as to the historic accuracy of the statement, that the Old First church of Rochester was originally organized at Little Neck in Marion, and at some later indefinite period was removed to Rochester Centre. Rev. Samuel Arnold in his record of the church organization makes no mention of locality, and would doubtless have been amazed if one had suggested to him the need of setting down for future generations a fact of that time so patent and well known. But the misconception that arose and prevailed for years shows how easy it is for a historic clew to be lost, so that the



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT NORTH ROCHESTER.

subsequent dependent history becomes "a fable agreed upon."

There are no actual beginnings in life or in history. Every event bears relations to other events that have preceded it. So the organization of the First church of Rochester on Rochester Common in 1703, has important associations with the earlier attempt to establish a "ministry" at Little Neck, even though, as we know now, this attempt was doomed to failure. Of the earliest house lots laid out to the Rochester proprietors in 1630, sixteen were in Mattapoisett and sixteen at Sippican Neck; and the little village formed at the latter place had the proud distinction of including among its sixteen house lots "one for the minister, and one for the ministerie."

But the village did not grow. Mr. Shiverick, who was engaged by the proprietors in 1683 to "preach the word of god in Sippican," and who continued his preaching at Little Neck for four years, left a few months after the town was incorporated, without having been either ordained or "settled." In 1687 Mr. Samuel Arnold was definitely contracted with on liberal terms of settlement as the town's minister, and doubtless began his preaching at Little Neck. But after a new layout of lands in 1694 there was a movement of settlement at the Centre. Mr. Arnold soon removed to this locality, and after the meeting house had been built in 1699 the village which grew up around this central point quickly brought together a sufficient

number of Christian people to enable Mr. Arnold in 1703 to organize the church so long desired. Although most of the original church members lived in the central village, the church soon drew into itself the Christian people of all parts of Rochester, and in these days of united church and town life all the citizens were taxed for the church support.

Did I say that the effort to establish a ministry at Little Neck was "a failure"? It was only so in the sense that it failed to establish a permanent and organized church. It was no fault of Little Neck, nor of the town of Rochester, that that locality failed to offer those inducements that would make the citizens of the large and growing town unite upon this as the place "to sett a meeting house," and so centralize here for the future the town life.

But the temporary preaching at Little Neck kept the religious instincts of the people alive; all the faith and zeal that were expended there had fruition in the religious efforts that were made a little later and with better hope of permanency, in the more convenient locality at Rochester Centre. Into the church worshipping on Rochester Green the religious impulses that started at "Minister's Rock," and in the little temporary house of worship where Mr. Shiverick and Mr. Arnold preached, were gathered, and through the medium of a long church history in this central locality they have been transmitted to all the churches that occupy the Old Rochester territory.

To use the words of Mr. Brickett: "This place of worship at Little Neck is picturesque, with its massive Minister's rock round which the Indians held their powwows, and close at hand the ancient burial ground where sleep the early dead." The town of Marion, to which this interesting locality now belongs, rightly values its historic and poetic associations. But these associations belong to us all, and should be cherished by every student of Old Rochester history.

But, turning again to the church that was organized by Mr. Arnold in 1703, what was it that happened on that 13th of October? Probably no legal nor business organization was made that day. All questions of church funds, of repair and care of the meeting house, of salary or even of the choice of a minister in those days were in the hands of the town, and these acts may be read on the pages of the town book, but not in the records of the church. What really happened that day so far as we know, was, that seven Christian men of the town, following Mr. Arnold's lead, affixed their signatures to the solemn covenant which Mr. Arnold had written. The names of these signers of the covenant are of interest:

Samuel Arnold, Abraham Holmes, Samuel Hammond, Isaac Holmes, Jacob Bumpus, John Benson, Thomas Dexter, Anthony Coomes.

The first of these signers, Abraham Holmes, became also the first deacon of the new church. He and his brother Isaac Holmes lived beside "a little pond," now known as Snow's pond. Several generations later another Abraham Holmes, the grandfather of Mr. Charles J. Holmes, was a young lawyer living at Rochester Centre, and the leading spirit in stirring up revolutionary enthusiasm among the citizens. Samuel Hammond, the second signer, was one of the original proprietors who drew his house lot at Mattapoisett. Among the Wareham church members who with-

drew in 1739 there were twelve persons by the name of Bumpus. Probably Jacob Bumpus, the fourth signer, lived in that section of the town. Thomas Dexter and probably John Benson had homes at the Centre, while Anthony Coomes lived beside the "mill," a "Leonard's pond," on land that was given him on condition that he would do the work of a smith in that locality for a certain number of years.

At his death in 1708 Minister Arnold left a list of 35 members of the First church of Rochester at that date:

Males—Samuel Arnold, unworthy pastor, Abraham Holmes (deacon), Samuel Hammond, Isaac Holmes, Jacob Bumpus, John Benson, Thomas

Dexter, Anthony Coomes, Isaac Spooner, Benjamin Dexter, Samuel Winslow, Samuel White, Thomas Perry, Ebenezer Spooner, Samuel Arnold, Jr., Experience Holmes, John Hammond, 17. Females—Elizabeth Arnold, Mrs. Mary Hammond, Mrs. Sarah Arnold, Mary Haskel, Anna Holmes, All Spooner, Sarah Bumpus, Elizabeth Bumpus, Abigail Holmes, Lidian Joy



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT MARION.

Mercy Winslow, Mary Whitebridge, Ruth Perry, Mary Hammond, Sr., Mary Hammond, Jr., Elizabeth Arnold, Sarah Dexter, Mehitabel Clark—18.

During the pastorate of Mr. Arnold's successor, Rev. Timothy Ruggles, the membership of the church rapidly increased. This increase went on in all of the five permanent villages that were formed in Rochester near the beginnings of the town history. Today in these five villages there are five ancient churches of the Congregational order, all having from one to two hundred years of local church life, yet all tracing their history back directly into that of old First church that was organized in 1703. But it was by varied methods as well as at varied times that the four villages outside of the centre came at last to have their own distinct local church interests and church life. A brief history of these changes may not be without interest.

The increase in membership outside of the Central village went on at first more rapidly in the eastern and western parts of the town than in either the northern or southern. In the early part of the decade of the 1720's the seating capacity of the little meeting house was crowded to the utmost, and permission was granted to various persons to build "decently and on their own cost" pews upon the beams over the galleries,—a kind of second balcony arrangement.

But relief soon came. In 1736 thirty-one members with their families withdrew to form a church in Mattapoisett, the second precinct; and in 1739

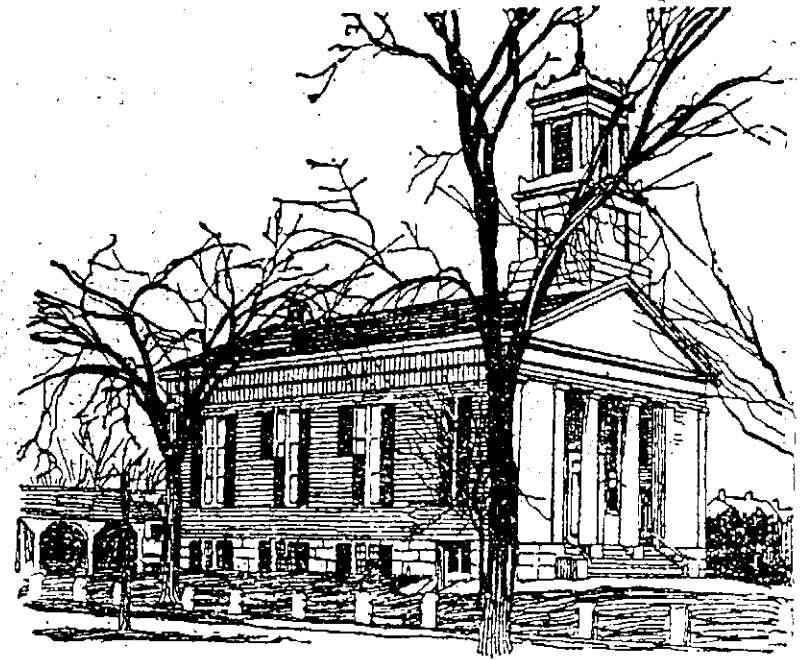


CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT WAREHAM.

thirty-three more were dismissed to form a church in the new town of Wareham. Although these two churches have such a long history in their own local territories, it is not to be forgotten that their members during a whole generation formed an integral part of the first church of Rochester. The very fact that at so early a date they were strong enough to form their own local churches shows how large a part they had played in the history of the first church during the first thirty or forty years.

The middle tier of Rochester villages, North Rochester, The Centre and Sippican, still held together as the first precinct for fifteen years after the withdrawal of the Wareham members. But in 1753 North Rochester was formed into the third precinct of Rochester, and its members formed themselves into the third church, which still stands as a church of the Congregational order, though at one time its continuance in the Congregational ranks seemed doubtful. We read in the records of the first parish that in 1741 a committee was appointed to deliver over to the parishioners of the third precinct their full proportion of the ministry lands, "whether they continue Congregationalists, or whether they are Baptists or Friends."

After the withdrawal of the North Rochester parish in 1753 the church members of Sippican and Rochester Centre had still before them another half century of united church life, and when the separation finally came, it was made by such gradual stages that



THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT MATTAPOISETT.

a whole generation had been born and had come to maturity before the process was completed; so that the people of neither parish seem fully to have realized what was really taking place. The proposal for division was due at first to the dissensions that arose about 1792 in relation to Rev. Mr. Moore, the third pastor of the First church. Mr. Moore seems to have had no friends in Sippican, though he still had strong adherents as well as opponents at Rochester Centre, where he resided.

About 1794 meetings began to be held in Sippican, and a movement to build a meeting house was started, though the building was not completed until 1799. In 1795, as we learn from the old First Parish Book: "The First Precinct voted to chuse an agent to go to the General Court, there to give the Reasons why the Petition of Tisdall Winslow and others in which they pray to be incorporated into a Religious Society by themselves should not be granted, and made choice of Major Elisha Ruggles for the above purpose."

The formation of the new precinct was thus delayed for a time. But the matter did not rest, and in 1798, the First Precinct voted: "That the inhabitants of sd. Precinct are willing that the Persons living within the following limits be incorporated into a separate Congregational society," and proceeded to mark out the bounds of the Fourth Precinct. Although no new church was then formed at Sippican, yet this formation of a new corporate religious society with its financial and business interests henceforth distinct from those of the First Parish, was a large (possibly the largest) step toward

such a church division, and it is from further actions passed about time that separate church establishment was then anticipated a probable final result.

But there was still a desire, in parishes probably, to retain the union which had continued so long. Probably also, after the time of division through which the church had been passing each parish wished of the other in meeting the expense support for a minister, which had been especially hard upon the Fourth or smaller precinct. In 1806 the First Precinct accepted of a committee appointed in concert with the committee of the Precinct on the subject of settling a pastor of the First church Rev. C. Cobb, who had already been proposed a time at Sippican. This was the first step toward a union of the parishes. The Committees of the parishes have agreed that the said Cobb shall preach in each precinct proportion to the money which the Precinct shall annually pay for the Salary, that the said 4th Precinct shall be entitled to any part of the preaching in their meeting house one Quarter to one half at their choice which they shall annually determine and send to the first Precinct in the month of April and such information shall be made to the said first Precinct sd. 4th Precinct have but one quarter part of the preaching and shall advance one quarter part of said salary at any time when the said 4th Precinct shall chuse to be desolved from the first Precinct in supporting a Preacher and will take the whole of supporting him on themselves.

take Permanent Provision there-
First Precinct will Relinquish
rights to him."

11, 1793, the last part of this con-
was modified as follows: "And
urther understood, that if either
contracting parties shall wish
is connected with the other, then
precinct wishing to be dis-
as aforesaid shall be obligat-
obliged to take Mr. Cobb for
acher and shall provide for the
t of his gallery and the pas-
ations betwixt said precinct and
nister shall after that time be
ed on the same footing as
no special contract had been
etc. It was also voted to "give
Milege Mr. Cobb requested in his

er of preaching the same ser-
n the first precinct which have
viously Delivered in the fourth,
on the Contrary when occasion
quire it."

ad of living at the Centre as the
earlier pastors of the First church
ne, Mr. Cobb, who had begun his
ing in the 4th Parish, took up his
ce on the road connecting the
ishes, but within the limits of
rth precinct. Feb. 6, 1793, Mr.
as ordained, and with this event
st church of Rochester entered
a new period of harmony and
ity. Under Mr. Cobb's earnest
ations many new members were
d in both parishes, and for a
of a century this partnership of
o precincts with one church roll
o minister seems to have worked
fully.

her important step in the pro-
separation was taken March 23,
The First church of Rochester

that there be three communions
y at the Lord's table attended
Harbour meeting house.

that John Clapp be an agent to
sacramental vessels,
that 2 Deacons be chosen in the
Precinct.

By ballot chose James Clark and
y Hiller deacons."

this separation of the church
ces in the two precincts, there
le left to call for reorganiza-
zen the time for nominal separa-
last arrived. But as the church
rger and the minister grew older
is able to bear the increasing
s, the time grew finally ripe for
aration which must surely come,
naturally to be expected that
st and larger precinct, which had
the least advantage from the
ed plan, and felt able to assume
port of a minister, should be
t to grow tired of the existing
ment and begin to wish for the
ervices of a minister, who should
within their own borders, as was
e during the first century of the
s existence.

ass on to Jan. 23, 1826, when the
arish of Rochester voted to ac-
e report of a committee as fol-
"The committee appointed to
r the expediency of dissolving
nection with the fourth parish
ding another minister have it

tended that duty and ask leave to make
the following report:

"Though notified of the proceedings of
this parish the fourth parish have ap-
pointed no committee to confer with us
on these subjects.

"From conferring with the standing
committee of that parish we learn that
they are desirous that the connection
should remain as it at present exists.
They expressed an individual willing-
ness to take and support the Rev. Mr.
Cobb if that could be done, but they
were unwilling to commit, or appear to
commit, the parish on that subject.

"As to the expediency of dissolving the
connection with the fourth parish and
settling another minister, the commit-
tee beg leave to be excused from offer-
ing an opinion.

"As we could not satisfy ourselves that
the other precinct would bear half the
expense of the settlement and support
of another minister. If this assurance
could be obtained we should think it
expedient to settle another minister
without dissolving the connection."

The later steps in this church separa-
tion I have taken as they are set down
in Minister Cobb's own handwriting in
the church record book, as follows:

March, 1827. The church voted: To
give Rev. Jonathan Bigelow an invita-
tion to become an associate pastor of
the first church in Rochester, and a
committee was chosen to communicate
said vote to the first parish for their
concurrence and that Mr. Bigelow
should be the minister of said parish.

June 11, 1827. "The church regularly
notified and convened at the meeting
house in the fourth parish to take into
consideration the advice of an ecclesi-
astical council convened by the church
for the purpose of installing Rev. Joha-
han Bigelow an associate with our
present pastor.

"The advice given by the council was
in reply to two questions proposed by
the committee of the church, viz: 1.
Is it expedient that this church be di-
vided? 2. If so, in what manner? The
council voted unanimously that it is ex-
pedient that the church be divided.

2. Voted unanimously that the
branches of the church of which the
Rev. Oliver Cobb is pastor be ac-
knowledged and hereafter recognized
as two distinct churches on the follow-
ing conditions: viz, the branch of the
church of which he has been pastor
and to which his pastoral relation is
continued be called the South church
in Rochester, and that the ancient
book of Records be left in the hands of
the Centre church, they furnishing an
entire copy of the same to the South
church."

The church having voted to follow
the advice of the council, and
Bigelow having been duly installed,
the church divided its list of members
and the two churches went on their
separate ways. During Mr. Cobb's
pastorate the First church of Rochester
had grown to 140 members. In 1826
83 now constituted the Centre church,
and the remaining 57 the South church.

To quote again from Mr. Bigelow:
"When, by the advice of council the
separation took place, there was no
change of organization in the Separation

church, no change of membership, no
change of house of worship, no change
of pastors. Everything went on the
same as before, with the exception of
holding worship every Sunday instead
of every other Sunday. The same
statement also applies to the church at
Rochester Centre, except that they
now had a new pastor, and one who
lived within their own borders, as had
been the case during the first hundred
years of the church's history.

One more, and the closing act in the
separation of the two parishes, is thus
set down in the records of the First
parish: Dec. 6, 1827. The committee
of the first and fourth parishes of Roch-
ester appointed to adjust the matters
that have been in difference between
them, have attended that service and
report that they have conferred to-
gether in relation to the same, and
for the purpose of perpetuating the
harmony and kindness that have sub-
sisted from the separation of the fourth
from the first Parish, and being uncer-
tain whether either have a just de-
mand on the other except as it regards
the fund, they recommend to the said
parishes to relinquish all claims and
demands which either may suppose it
may have on the other, and that the
first parish relinquish to the fourth one
half the fund the two parishes own in
common.

John Clapp,
George B. Nye,
John Coleman,
Com. of fourth Parish.
Isaac Thompson,
Charles J. Holmes,
Seth Haskell,
Com. of first Parish.

Every one who has much experience
in life knows that every break-up of
interests that have been long united,
has painful elements. Yet separations
must come, and be courageously faced.
We think these records show that the
men who effected these necessary
changes of church and parish life were
men of broad sympathies and con-
ciliatory minds, and that there were as
few elements of misunderstanding as
are usually to be expected when such
weighty interests are involved. Yet
the decision of the council was in part
a compromise, and as is usual in com-
promises the results were not entirely
satisfactory to either party. In the

Centre church a committee was ap-
pointed to copy the church records for
the South church. The chairman of
this committee was Deacon Isaac
Thompson, who died in March, 1836.
The second book of church records,
covering the twenty-nine years of Mr.
Cobb's pastorate, was now copied in
the hand-writing, we believe, of Dea-
con Thompson himself. This was of
itself a large undertaking, for Mr.
Cobb's records were very full, and the
penmanship, though scholarly, was
minute. It was also a labor of love,
for the church had made no appropriation
to pay for this service. But the an-
cient book of records, covering the
first century of the church history, was
not copied. It is manifestly impossible
that Deacon Thompson, with a large
family dependent upon him and many

business cares, could have undertaken
this work gratuitously, nor is it likely
that if undertaken, he could have
accomplished it during the short re-
mainder of his life. Nor do we believe
that at that age any one could have
had the courage to undertake the
copying of these closely written and
faded inscriptions. The book remained
in the hands of Mr. Cobb, whose
scholarly mind recognized its historic
importance, and doubtless treasured it
more carefully than any one else would
have done, in spite of the fact that
it had all been written by the three
pastors who resided on the territory of
Rochester Centre, where he was no
longer pastor. In 1900 the church at
Rochester borrowed the book from the
Marion church, and raising funds by
subscription had a copy of the book
made for their own use.

For some years the distinction of
Centre and South churches was at-
tempted to be made, though not uni-
formly, for when Mr. Bigelow was dis-
missed in 1849 the call for a council was
given as from the First church of
Rochester. Three years later, in 1852,
the town of Marion was incorporated,
and the churches became naturally
known, in general, simply as the Con-
gregational churches of Rochester and
Marion.

But it is not strange that Rev. Oliver
Cobb, who in early manhood began his
pastorate in the First church, after a
period of dissension and discouragement,
and had seen the work grow to
large proportions under his hands, could
not easily accept the idea that his long
and honorable pastorate in a church
of ancient heritage was now exchanged
for one without these old associations.
Everything seemed to be going on as
before, except that he now preached
weekly in one pulpit instead of alterna-
tely in two. It was his love for the
church of God, and for the First church
of Rochester, where the best strength
of his manhood had been expended,
that led him to dwell, morbidly per-
haps, upon the story of its past; and
knowing that the beginnings of reli-
gious effort in the old town had been
made within the limits of the precinct
where the work of his declining years
was continued, one can understand how
it happened that (to use the words that
were once said to me by an aged citi-
zen of Marion), "Sippican used to be
the fourth precinct, but afterwards,
while Dr. Cobb was here, it became the
First precinct." Doubtless Dr. Cobb
fully believed, as others have since be-
lieved (partly, perhaps, because of Dr.
Cobb's writings), that the ancient
church was really organized at Little
Neck; but he forgot (as was perhaps
not unnatural under the circumstances),
that even if this were true, the "Apos-
tolic Succession" of its influence could
not have descended to the Marion
church except through one hundred in-
termediary years of church history at
Rochester Centre.

No one can read the writings that
Mr. Cobb has left behind him without
recognizing how earnest and devoted
was the man, how sincere and success-
ful his labors for the church. He did
good service for the church at Roches-

right to engage the entire service of a pastor who should reside within their own borders. But when the church at Rochester Centre built its present meeting house, in 1837, Dr. Cobb was asked to preach the last sermon in the old meeting house before it was pulled down. After the death of Dr. Cobb affectionate tributes of praise were spoken by his old parishioners at Rochester Centre, and today the few who can remember him speak his name in terms of honor and good will. So Rev. Oliver Cobb holds an honored place in history as the fourth pastor of the First church of Rochester. Yet we think, after all, that his highest claim to public remembrance comes through the fact that it was under his ministration that the local church life at Marion was begun, growing steadily and unconsciously

as an integral part of the First church, until having become "of full age" it was ready to go on, without revolution or outward change, in its own independent church life. Above the Marion pulpit may be seen today two marble tablets that commemorate the long pastoral services of Drs. Oliver and Leander Cobb, father and son, whose combined pastorates in the Marion church cover nearly three fourths of a century.

But if the loss of the name of "First church" to the one over which he ministered was not pleasing to Mr. Cobb, no more was it acceptable to the church at Rochester Centre, and after the death of Mr. Cobb it became still harder to tolerate from others the denial of the right to use the name. On the records of this church one may read today the following preamble and resolutions:

"Dec. 31, 1861. Whereas, the right of this church to be designated as 'the First Congregational church in Rochester' has been called in question at various times within the last few years by individuals who do not reside within the limits of this town, and who have no ecclesiastical authority over us nor church membership with us, it has seemed expedient to us to take such action at this time as shall hereafter and forever prevent all interference and remove the ground of all such disputes as minister strife rather than Godly edifying. Therefore,

"Resolved: First, that this church was originally incorporated as 'The First Congregational church of Rochester,' and by no vote or voluntary action of this church have we ever vitiated our right to this designation—that it is our only legal name and the only name by which we wish to be designated by our sister churches.

"2d. Resolved, that the title of the 'Central church in Rochester,' by which we have sometimes allowed ourselves to be designated, was never our legal name—that it was never acceptable to the members of this church and that it was only temporarily endured in consideration of the peculiar feelings of a former and beloved pastor now gone to his rest.

"3d. Resolved, that as an independent Congregational church we utterly repudiate any designation which is neither our legal name nor a title of our voluntary adoption.

memories of the Fathers of this ancient church, and ever preserving unchanged and as a precious legacy that name which they gave it, we will emulate their example in every good word and work and strive to carry forward to its completeness that spiritual edifice which they began upon the true foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone.

"5th. Resolved: That Deacon John H. Clark be requested to prepare a historical statement of such of the facts referred to in the foregoing resolves as he was personally cognizant of, as well as such as have come to his knowledge through credible sources, and that such papers prepared and signed by him be put on file with the other papers of this church.

"Voted, that brother George B. Haskell be chosen to confer with Dea. Clark and to assist him in the duties assigned to him in the last of the foregoing resolutions.

Probably these papers were never prepared by Deacon Clark. Deacon John S. Ryder, the present church clerk, informs me that no such papers were ever put on file with the church. The records given in this article are transcribed from the entries as originally made in the church books, and that of the First Parish. It is fitting to add that notwithstanding the vigorous resolutions passed in 1861 the church at Rochester Centre was not at that time really an incorporated body. The church that Mr. Arnold organized in 1793 on the village green at Rochester was in truth, and was named, the "First Church of Rochester," and it has never reorganized or changed its name. But for nearly two centuries the town and the parish were the only legal corporations. In 1902, however, on the occasion of receiving a legacy from the estate of Mrs. Elizabeth Leonard, the legal steps of incorporation were really taken, and the church at Rochester Centre today bears the legal and incorporated name of "The First Congregational Church of Rochester in Massachusetts."

But again the mind reverts to my original question, and I ask, Is this then really the Old First church of Rochester? Surely if any church has a right to this distinction it is this one. All the other churches on the soil of Old Rochester have at some time made a beginning in some new locality within these 200 years. Most of the others have performed some special acts of new organization within that time. Even the Marion church, though sensible of no act of church organization, has passed into a new precinct, and has experienced a definite process of parish incorporation and organization. But at Rochester Centre, locality, church and parish organizations have all been unchanged.

Yet, after all, another phase of the question presents itself. The old town of Rochester, covering three and a half towns today, had, almost at its first beginnings, five distinct villages that were destined to be permanent. In these five villages there stand today five meeting houses of the typical New England type, successive generations have worshipped, of those whose fathers have lived and died upon this soil for 200 years. The first settlers in these villages were a religious people, and the religious influences have flowed downward in unbroken streams through all these generations. What did it matter whether on Sunday the goodman of the house saddled his horse to ride with his wife and baby on a pillion behind him to the meeting house at the Centre, or whether with wife and children he walked reverently to the newer house of worship built more conveniently near the home? The change that came with such separation from the old church was a step of progress, but never a revolution. The rhetorical figure that seems best to express the family relations of these churches is that of a group of sisters of nearly equal age and dignity that have lived in close fraternal proximity on the soil of Old Rochester through two centuries of New England life.

We have just stepped over the threshold into the third century of church activity in the old town of Rochester. At the very moment when we did so the papers were filled with echoes of the Jonathan Edwards bi-centennial, reminding us that in spite of the stability of our institutions the doctrines and the methods of the Congregational churches have really made great strides of progress, or at least of variation, in these two hundred years. The impulse of the new era is not division, but re-unification. The great evangelical denominations are realizing today how much they have in common, rather than emphasizing the few points in which they differ.

On the Marion platform the other day it was suggested that the Marion and Rochester churches ought to be "re-married," not formally, of course, but the meaning seemed to be that this is a good time to recall together the associations that have been shared in common from the beginnings of our local history. But these two churches

have no monopoly of these common memories and associations. They shared by all the other churches in local territory, and especially by group of five ancient Congregational churches that represent today evolution and growth of the church that was begun in Rochester 200 years ago.

Among the common interests these churches have shared, together, none is more conspicuous and interesting than that of the combined effort of the early citizens of Rochester to build and equip the town's meeting-house erected in 1699, on Rochester Green. The first and only meeting house was ever built by the town's vote, a public taxation of all the town's zens. In this little building for at one generation the people from all of old Rochester came together for both worship. And after some of the old villages had meeting houses, local church interests of their own, after the First precinct had rein its religious worship into another meeting-house, the same little built though in a much altered form, still the town house, where for 50 years longer the tax-paying citizens of Sippican and Sippican and Rochester and the Centre gathered their civic duties and debates.

It has been suggested that at an era when all our minds have returned to these associations of the past it would be a fitting thing to mark some tablet or monument to mark site of this primitive little building which played such a significant part in local history. We wish it might be done, and that there might be in these villages patriotic citizens would gladly unite and bear a part in erecting some suitable monument upon the spot where under the turday is lying the old stone doorstone of the ancient building in which for many years were centred both the and the church interests of Rochester."

Valuable Information Found in Records of Rochester.

Where Was the First Church Organized?

In the old church book

No locality is given, but perhaps it can be determined by a careful study of the following extracts from the old records. Those that refer to the laying out of new lands are from the records of the Rochester Proprietary, which began in 1679. Those referring to the building of a meeting house and the laying out of highways are from the First Town Book, which was begun in 1694.

Where Did Mr. Arnold Live?

April 15, 1680.—"At a meeting of the

the 1st and 2nd home lots with 20 twenty acre lots that are laid out the Great Neck & at the Sippican Neck the first lot shall be for the minister the second lot shall be for the minister's wife.

April 17, 1683.—"Voted, that a committee be appointed to treat with some person to preach the word of God to them at Sippican."

Mr. Samuel Shiverick was called a held religious services in Rochester from 1683 to 1687; but was not ordained or settled.

March 18, 1684.—"Granted to Mr. Samuel Shiverick ten acres of upland, joyning and about the house or farm of the late Mr. Arnold."

The following paragraphs on religion were copied from the memoirs of Abraham Holmes who was born June 9, 1754 as written by him in the early 1800s.

From page 7 -8

"Congregationalism was the prevailing and almost universal religion of this part of the country. To be a Baptist or a Quaker was considered to be a mark of disgrace, and operated as a perscription to public office: and in 1769 when Walter Spooner, who attended the Quaker Meeting, was chosen a Committee and Dr. Stillman not long after was chosen to preach the election sermon, they were considered as wonderful events. It was with great difficulty a Baptist or a Quaker, especially a Baptist, could get exonerated from paying taxes to the Parish Minister to support the Worship from which he conscientiously dissented. As to Methodists, tho so numerous now, they were then unknown. The great body of the Congregationalists at that time were generally the disciples of Arminius; the Baptists then were universally of the Calvinistic faith. A Mr. Martin, a member of Swanzy, was the first Baptist Minister who publicly avouched the Arminian system. As to Unitarians, there were none, and if anyone had denied the Trinitarian Code (creed) he would not have been considered as fit for human society. The same may be said with regard to the Universalists and Restorationists.

Samuel Arnold was the first Minister in Rochester. His meeting house stood in what is called *Little Neck, near the water where still remains the first white burying place in town where all the progenitors of my wife, by her father's side are buried. The Meeting House was small and cost, I think, 26 pounds. It was sold afterwards and made two corn houses. The records of Mr. Arnolds settlement or death are lost. A Meeting House was built afterwards at the SE of **Dr. Haskell's barn, at what time I know not. Mr. Timothy Ruggles in 1720 was settled the second Minister, and a meeting house built about 6 or 8 rods in front of Dr. Haskell's house. The town was then an entire parish. Whether the Meeting House was built before or after Mr. Ruggles was settled I know no - 1760 or 61. I think the former. I think the present Meeting House was built and the old one cut down and made into a Town House. When the new Town House was buuilt in 1811, the old one was taken down and the part on the west side of my Great Gate was made of one of the posts of that old Town House which probably built 120 years ago and the post is oak and still sound. I shall keep it as long as I can, probably it will now outlast me.

* Little Neck being in Marion

** Dr. Haskell's in Rochester Center

The followin taken from page 105 - the section called - Memoirs of the Holmes Family
Designed for Bathsheba Holmes (Abraham's daughter)

Notes on one Isaac Holmes. A blacksmith,

"He was one that joined with Esq. Noah Sprague and your Great Grandfather * Blackwell in forming the **Parish at the northwest part of the town. At the time he died, the Meeting House stood on what was still called Meeting House Hill, just in the edge of

Rochester, between where the Tripps live and where John Nye formerly lived and died. There he was buried, but a promise was made to him, that if ever the Meeting House was moved as was thought probable, that he should be moved also. This promise never performed and there are yet two solitary graves."

"This man (Isaac) died about the year 1747, when a minister by the name of Pell preached there, tho' he never was settled there."

FROM PAGE 111 on North Rochester Parish

In 1762 the parish began to deteriorate. "The Ashleys, one and all, John Arnold, Joseph Samson, Elnathan Hathaway, Deacon Macomber and my ***father left the Parish and embraced the Baptist principles, and finally one went off after the other till the Parish became a mere skeleton and in order to prevent it's total annihilation, the remainder petitioned the legislature to incorporate a territorial precinct by meter and band (it was before a poll parish X which was done) The territory taken together would be a respectable precinct, but a large majority of the inhabitants are of different religious opinions and it is doubtful if it ever settles another Congregational Minister."

*Caleb Blackwell

**North Rochester Congregational

***Experience Holmes

March 2, 1835.—"Voted, that he that supplies the place of the minister at Sippican shall have the use and benefit of the upland and meadows of the minister's lots and the lots for the ministry until otherwise ordered."

March 31, 1835.—New lots were laid out at Sippican, and in the woods. Of the lots in the woods the minister's lot was number 33. The lot for the ministry was number 31.

Nov. 2, 1837.—"Granted to Mr. Samuel Arnold (a proprietor's share of land, see also p. 26) if he settle there and takes upon him the profession of preaching the word of God unto them & Lives & dies in that service & dies not voluntary desert the same."

In a letter, some time ago, Hon. Charles S. Randall wrote:

"My impression from what I have heard from the Sturtevant's is that Samuel Arnold about 1830 owned what was so many years after called the Sturtevant farm. Richard Bourne went to Rochester from Sandwich. He married Elizabeth Arnold, and she inherited the farm. Then Charles Sturtevant by marriage to Bourne's daughter came into possession."

July 14, 1837.—"Voted, as a farther and full confirmation of that whole sheaf of upland and meadow ground which was allowed unto the minister

(see p. 18) be and is hereby given to Mr. Samuel Arnold by the said purchasers to him, his heirs, and executors, administrators & assigns forever, upon condition that he continue in the work of the ministry among them until hindered or prevented by death or other unavoidable Providence. The sheaf of lands and meadows given as aforesaid is allowed by the purchasers is that share of Number 30, in the woods whereon sd Arnold's dwelling-house now standeth (see p. 15), therewith all other uplands, meadows and meadow grounds, swamps, profits, privileges & appurtenances whatsoever inarant to belonging even a whole, three and Thirtieth Part of the whole Continent or Township of Rochester, as by the sd Purchasers given, granted, Ratified and confirmed unto and upon sd Mr. Samuel Arnold, his heirs, assigns, forever, upon the conditions above mentioned.

"Voted and ordered by the sd purchasers to be committed to record.

Samuel Prince, clerk of the records.

"July 14, 1837."

After the words "Number 30" in the above record, these words have been inserted, perhaps at a later date: "is all given to the minister to which is laid out a Lott of 45 acres in the woods."

July 14, 1837.—"Voted, that Mr. Arnold shall Remove any of his lands as shall best suit his own convenience."

That it did "suit his convenience" to remove some of his lands we are informed by a later record which begins as follows:

July 26, 1835.—"Mr. Samuel Arnold having by deeds exchanged that 49 acres sea-lott belonging to his own sheaf with Savory Clifton, and hath instead thereof taken up 40 acres in the undivided, being left half of the 80 acres granted to each whole sheaf at a meeting of the purchasers held July 26, 1835."

Jan. 11, 1838.—"Laid out unto Mr. Samuel Arnold one hundred akres of land, four score of these being allowed to each whole sheaf by the purchasers in the year 1697, & the other twenty akres is the second addition, allowed to each whole sheaf in the year 1834. This lands above said belongeth to sd Arnold's own proper share and is taken up near to his whom lott."

One later reference to Mr. Arnold's land is made in the First Town Book, about four months after the church was organized by Mr. Arnold:

Feb. 15, 1701.—"Then on the day above written we went and began again at a white oke tree with 2 Hs standing by the County Rhodd by Mr. Arnold's and Mr. Lochrop's land, thence Ranged 40 ft. wide between third 2 lots n. by w. to a crooked tree marked, thence westerly upon the edge of Mr. Arnold's land & John Clarke's land and the swamp, till we come to the brow of the hill, &c, &c."

When and Where Did the Town Build Its Meeting House?

At the same meeting of the proprietors when Mr. Arnold's lands were confirmed several other important records were made.

July 14, 1837.—"Voted, that the surveyors shall take care to lay out the lands or any part thereof which belongeth to the sheaf called the ministry & near & to lay them in any place where they may be taken up at their best discretion for the good of those concerned, and the town to be at the cost thereof."

July 14, 1837.—"Also voted, that whereas Samuel Briggs hath allowed a highway through his lands down to the Town's general landingplace at the northern side of the harbor, where it best suits the town's convenience, around the town hall, given sd Briggs liberty to take up the forty acres which belongeth to the ministry & minister if he so choose there to lay out so much of his land in that place."

July 14, 1837.—"Then Mr. Ichabod Wiswell & John Rouse, being allowed by the Purchasers to Lay down their whole sheaf of uplands with HOUSE Lott & all which they have originally from William Paybody, being the 30th sheaf in number, have thrown all up in the several places where they Lye, and instead thereof have taken up in the undivided the like number of acres, viz. 165 acres."

A few months later the following very important record was made on p. 28 of the Proprietor's Book:

May 12, 1698.—"The surveyors, according to Power given them from the purchasers (see p. 18), have surveyed and layed out a shaded place convenient for the setting of a meetinghouse for the publick worship of god, it being the southerly part of that wood lott which first belonged to Mr. Wm. Paybody, and being thrown up by Mr. Ichabod Wiswell & John Rouse (see p. 14) & the aforesaid surveyors having taken up the westerly half of sd wood lott to lye and remaine the ministry & a competent part not less than ten

remaine unimproved by any manere of village for a burying place & a training field, & to sett a meetinghouse upon as aforesaid."

But while the proprietors were "laying out anew the ministry lands and selecting a place to sett a meetinghouse," the town was also taking steps looking in the same direction, as appears from these records in the First Town Book:

May 10, 1698.—"Voted, to build a meetinghouse at east of sd town." Other votes of this meeting follow, giving the dimensions, general style, and estimated cost of the building; and a building committee was appointed.

Feb. 2, 1699.—"Voted, that the meetinghouse should be sit on the westerly sid of the long Bridg."

July 12, 1699.—"Voted, to pay for the meetinghouse by a freewill offering if that would amount to the sum of fifty pounds."

June 4, 1700.—"Chose Mary Hascoll to sweep the meetinghouse once in 15 days, or so often as shall be ocation for sweeping or it to keep it Deasent."

On the same date the following very suggestive record was written in very minute handwriting in the First Town Book:

June 4, 1700.—"At the same town-meeting the inhabitants preasant having had before them the accounts of some of the charge that necessarily is arising, and hath been in sd town of Rochester, and being sensible of the necessity of money to be Raised for a town stock or Treasury out of which the town's taxes shall be paid, as the Law directs by order of the Selectmen of sd town, the inhabitants then preasant voted that a Rate of thirty shillings shall forthwith be raised to Defray the necessary charge arising in sd town of Rochester in the year 1700."

About two and a half years after Mr. Arnold had organized a church, a large highway was laid out in Rochester, the following description of which gives some evidence bearing upon the location of the building:

March 9, 1703.—"Then laid out a highway two rods wide as followeth: Beginning at the east side of the minister's land where the Countrey Road crosses it nigh the meetinghouse ranging from said road south by east 2 rods wide by west side of Joseph Doty's land till it cometh to the way left between the lower and middle tear of wood lots, then to slant across that to the east side of a clump of pine trees No. 17 on the east side, thence ranging south-east (?) to a flow of water, thence by the lead of said flow, and so about two rods wide on the bank on firm upland till it comes to the old bridge near James Steward's new dwelling house, and so over easterly to the bank on the east side of the brook and wet land, thence on the bank 2 rods wide ranging S. S. E. (passing various marked trees), and thence as the ways leads southerly to Matapoist, and also another way leadeth towards Charles Neck, being branched out from the aforesaid black oak tree, easterly to the partway and so as it leadeth, thence to the meadows upon and near Charles Neck and what land is to the south side of the bridge by

Stewards', and between the brook and No. 19 lot of land is by the said Stewards' and William Griffiths', so allowed to lie as a common for use and benefit of the neighborhood, and such as the way hath out of their land as witness their hands:

James Stewart (his (X) mark), William Griffith, Benjamin Dexter, Peter Blackmer, Selectmen.

The vote of the town, Feb. 2, 1699, that the meetinghouse "should be sit on the westerly sid of the long Bridg" has been the occasion of much discussion and comment. Perhaps some light may be thrown upon it by certain town actions taken many years later, and recorded on p. 150 of the Third Town Book. The First Parish of Rochester had in 1760 built a new meetinghouse, which stood for 17 years on the Common, and which was referred to in the town records as "Mr. Moore's meetinghouse."

March 7, 1755.—"A committee was appointed to lay out a road or to view the land between the two roads, one leading from Handy's mill to Mr. Moore's meetinghouse; the other leading from the Friends' meetinghouse to sd Mr. Moore's meetinghouse, and to determine where sd road shall be laid."

The report of this committee, which was accepted by the town, runs as follows:

March 25, 1755.—"We the subscribers, being appointed by the town of Rochester to view the Lands of Mr. Elisha Ruggles, to see whether it is practicable to Lay a road between the Two roads now Trod, the one leading from Mr. Moore's meetinghouse to Handy's mill, and the other leading from sd meetinghouse to Sippican Landing, after viewing the premises think it best that there be but one bridge maintained over the Muddy brook, so-called, within the limits of sd Ruggles's land, and that the road over sd brook be as follows: Beginning at a large, white oak tree standing near the dwelling-house of Mr. Elisha Burrows, thence east 23 rods to sd Ruggles's shop, thence east by north 117 rods, crossing sd brook; at the end of the 117 rods the road is to fork. That road that Leads to Handy's mill from the end of sd 117 rods runs north by east till it comes into the road now Trod. The other road Leading to Sippican Landing from the end of sd 117 rods runs a direct course to the Double white oaks, so-called, the southwest corner of Elisha West's land. Said roads all Lye to the right hand of sd bounds, or to the southeast and eastward, & is laid 40 ft. wide, & the sd Elisha Ruggles and Elisha Barrows assign all the Land where Roads are laid to the Town's use for roads."

March 25, 1755."

May 8, 1792.—"Voted, the persons that repaired the bridge over the Muddy brook, so-called, last winter, be paid for their labour and Timber by having credit in the future Taxes, &c."

Returning to the earlier records, we read that on May 14, 1714, the town of Rochester voted to build a new meetinghouse, (of considerably larger dimensions than those given in 1698.)

July 13, 1714.—"Voted, to rescind the vote to build a meetinghouse and to build an addition to the house at

...the building is described as follows:

Feb. 2, 1717.—"Voted, to meet at the old meetinghouse to agree how to put the remaining part of the new meetinghouse which is not yet seated."

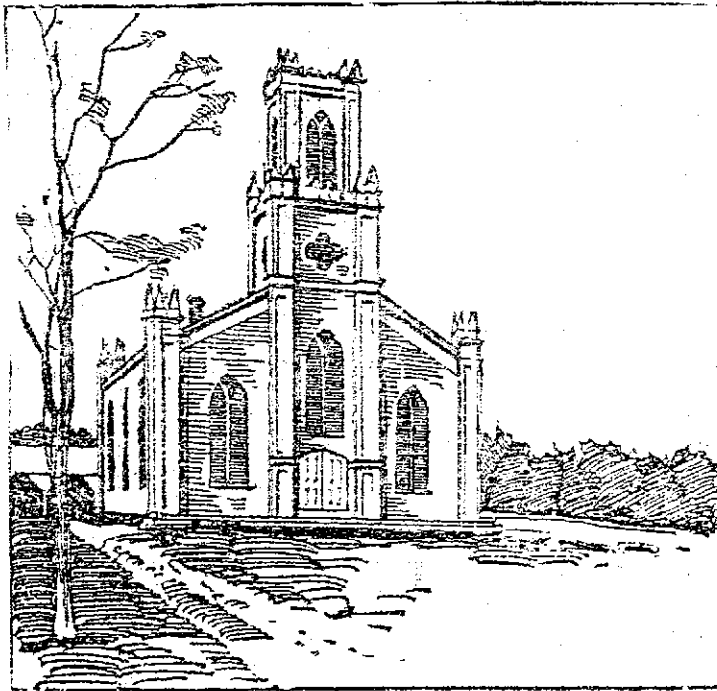
After this time of enlargement (1714-1717) no votes "to build a meetinghouse" occur in the town books. In 1735 Mattapoisett precinct was set off, and in 1738 that of North Rochester. So that when a new meetinghouse was decided upon in 1760 it was built by the First Parish, and not by the town of Rochester.

May 27, 1773, the town accepted the report of a committee respecting a townhouse and workhouse as follows: "Recommended, To choose an agent to employ workmen to cut the old meetinghouse down to one story, & with the materials that belong to the said house petition off one end, which will serve for a workhouse, with building

a Chimney therein, & the other end will serve for a Townhouse to hold Town meetings in."

May 7, 1792.—"Voted, the chimney & partition in the Town house be Pulled Down & that Major Elisha Ruggies have all the materials be seating the westerly part of said house, as the other part is seated; & making the floor & ruff good."

October, 1811, the town voted \$1,000 for building a town house. With this transaction the old town house was finally taken down. Persons are now living who heard their elders speak of seeing an old town house that had been a workhouse, and that was originally a meetinghouse, standing opposite the west gate of the cemetery at Rochester Centre, and within a few years brick and stones from this ancient building have been turned up by those who were grading the earth in that locality.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH AT ROCHESTER CENTRE.

The following taken from the Abraham Holmes papers - written in the early 1800s.

75

At what time Mattapoisett was made a precinct I know not, probably before 1740 and 1750 nearest the latter part I should suppose. Ivory Hovey was the first minister. He was there in 1762 and probably about 30 years. He continued there til 1768 and then was dismissed. I do not know the nature of the controversy. He afterwards settled in the South Parish in Plymouth where he continued to preach and died at an advanced age, upward of 90 years.

Somewhere about the year 1750 an unhappy controversy arose between Mr. Ruggles and Noah Sprague, Esc. It began about some had and there was not much of a Christian disposition discovered on either side; both being men of great talents and influence; both gathered parties. But at that time, ministers had an advantage they do not now possess and after Council and a reconciliation becoming more and more impracticable, Sprague and his party seceded and formed a full parish in the N.W. part of the town, a part of Middleboro and a part of Rreetown.

A Meeting House was built on what is still called Meeting House Hill near the line of what is now Fairhaven and a Mr. Pell preached there a while, but was not settled. The Meeting House was then moved into the Ashley neighborhood near James Swift's and Thomas West was settled their minister, but his preaching after a while was not satisfactory to a part of his people, especially to Elder Washell, and a considerable number of his people embraces the Baptist principles and some difficulties of a political nature arose, and the connection between him and the people was mutually dissolved.

After the death of Mr. Ruggles, Mr. Moore, Sept. 6, 1767, was settled in the old Precinct. Mr. Moore was an impudent man, but things went on tolerably peaceably till about the year 1789 or 90 when some people had drawn off from the precinct. A Committee was appointed to inquire into the cause of the Diminution of the Parish, who in their report attached the cause to Mr. Moore's misconduct. This brot on a violent discussion in the meeting. From this time bad matters grew worse, and after church meeting after church meeting, precinct meeting after precinct meeting, the church, pursuant to advice of an expert Council, dismissed him. The precinct concurred. Mr. Moore, not satisfied, sued for his salary; they carried into court the money they supposed due; a long trial ensued. The court seemen inclined to Mr. Moore, but the Jury returned a verdict for the Precinct. A motion was made for a new trial which did not obtain. A new Precinct was formed in the S.E. part of the Town and Oliver Cobb was settled for both precincts. Things went on well about 25 years when each parish thot it best for each Parish to have a minister and it was agreed for the new Parish to take Mr. Cobb. The old Parish gave Mr. Bigelow a call to settle, which he accepted and the time was set for the installation. When the Council met, of which Mr. Cobb was one, Mr. Cobb objected to the church being called the First Church. The church here was the first church in the town and had ever retained without interruption this visibility and their original records, and the other church had been formed but a short time, and how it should inter into Mr. Cobb's head that it was the first church is hard to conceive, but he was so sanguine that he proposed to withdraw from the council unless it was so allowed. Mr. Bigelow's feelings were

injured and said he would take himself off if such a schism took place. and it is probable that the whole business would be broken up at this, if a person, not belonging to the church who interposed and proposed to have it called the Center Church, which was agreed to by all parties and the business went on and was concluded. How to account for Mr. Cobb's conduct on this occasion is beyond my abilities even to imagine. I do not pretend to call Mr. Cobb's piety in question, but his conduct on this occasion appears to me to be in direct opposition to every dictate of conscience and every principle of common honesty.

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number	USGS Quad	Area(s)	Form Number
31/36	Marion	N	

Town Rochester
 Place (neighborhood or village) Rochester
Center Historic District

Address _____

Historic Name Joseph H. Plumb

Uses: Present Memorial Library

Original _____

Date of Construction 1976

Source History of the Library
in Rochester

Style/Form Cape style

Architect/Builder Robert Sherman

Exterior Material:

Foundation Concrete

Wall/Trim Wood

Roof Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Gazebo

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition excellent

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 1.46

Setting rural

Photograph



Recorded by Betty Beaulieu

Organization Rochester Historical Commission town common

Date (month/year) June 2001

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 Joseph H Plumb Memorial Library, on the Common was constructed in 1976, adjacent to the civic buildings on the Common. It is an attractive Cape -style building sitting of the south side of the common fits well into the setting of the common. Local builder, Robert Sherman built the library. The main block is three bays by two with a gable end, steep roof and a three bay ell on the west end. There is a large cupola with a 16-pane window on each face at the ridge of the asphalt roof of the main block and a brick chimney on the ell. The entrance is centered on the north facing façade with a wood door with a shallow portico, which is one small bay deep with three sidelights and an arched roof. The door has three sidelights on each side and a six-pane fanlight. The walls are clad with clapboard. Fenestration consists of two 16-pane bow windows on both sides of the front door and three 8/8 windows on the ell with two 8/8 double sash windows on the ends of the building. The front yard is defined by a white rail fence.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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 Joseph H. Plump Memorial Library, an attractive Cape style building, was built by local builder Robert Sherman. Although less than 50 years old, it blends harmoniously and is a significant property in the Rochester Center Historic District and meets criteria A in that the library has always been located in one of the buildings on the common. In 1876 the Library was first established with books and funding given by Mrs. Charles H. Leonard and was located in the Congregational Church Vestry. Then in 1891 the Library found a new home in the Town hall Building, again thanks to Mrs. Charles H. Leonard. The library circulated an average of 1,900 items annually, appropriated \$200 each year for library materials and housed a collection of around 1,000 volumes. The present building was a gift to the town from Mrs. Dorothy Plumb in memory of her husband, Joseph H. Plumb, a published author and dedicated scholar. He was known to read over 500 books a month, and felt that there was a need for larger library facilities in town. It sits on property that was part of the original Joseph H. Haskell Estate. The Joseph H. Plumb Memorial Library was dedicated August 18, 1976 exactly 100 years from the opening of the first library, and has since grown a place of prominence in the Rochester center community, sponsoring many community oriented projects and continually rising circulation and usage, which includes free e-mail and Internet access. During the past century, there were seven Librarian, or Library Directors: Sara Haskell (1901-1908), Amy Wilbur (1909-1941), Olive Winslow (1941-1983), Debbie Gillig (1984), Sheila Flaherty (1985-1991), Susan Pizzolato (1992-1993), and Lucy Loomis (1993).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Lucy Loomis, *A History of the Library in Rochester*. Rochester Journal 2- Memories at the Turn of the Century 2000.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

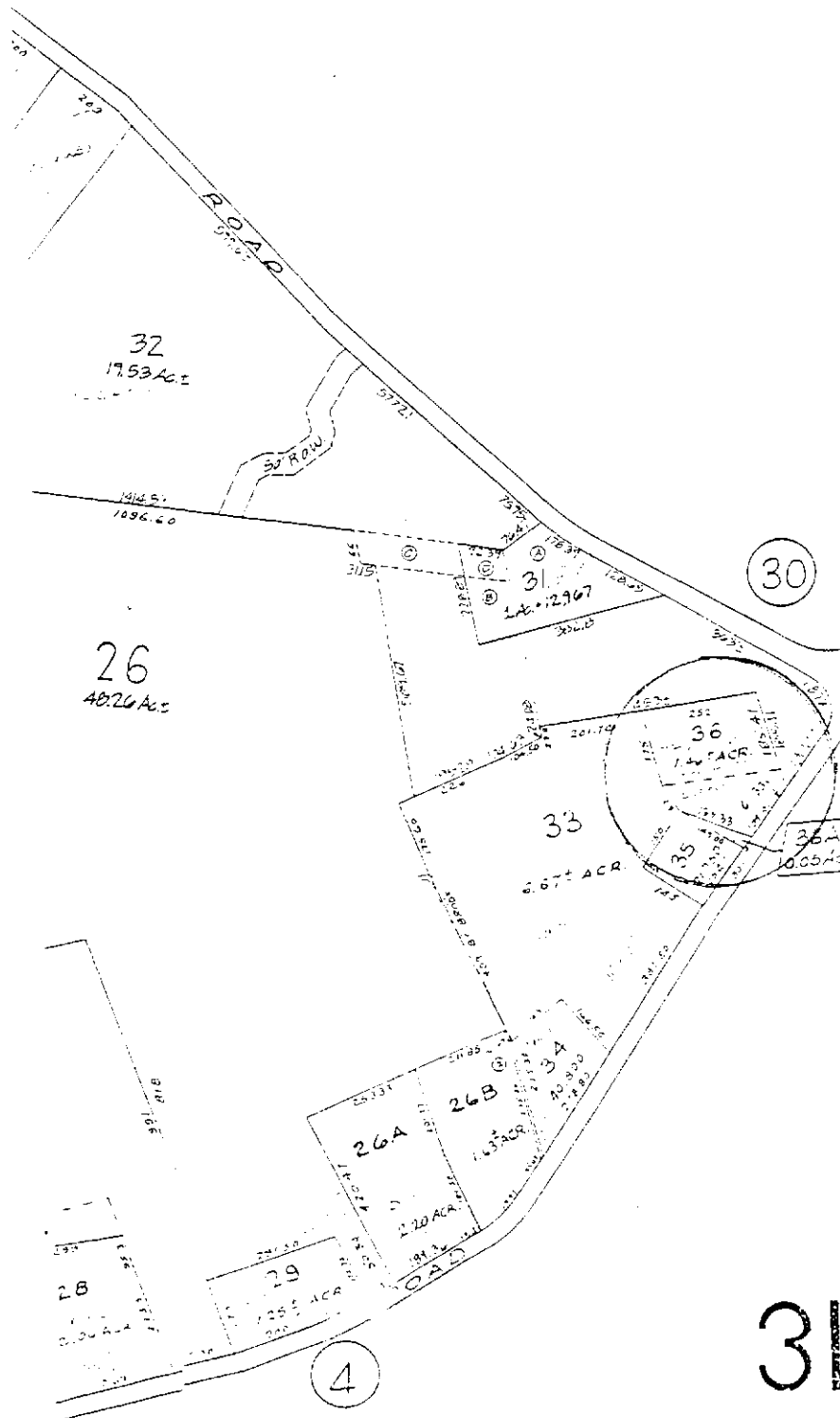
INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Rochester Joseph H. Plumb
Memorial Library
Area(s) Form No.
N



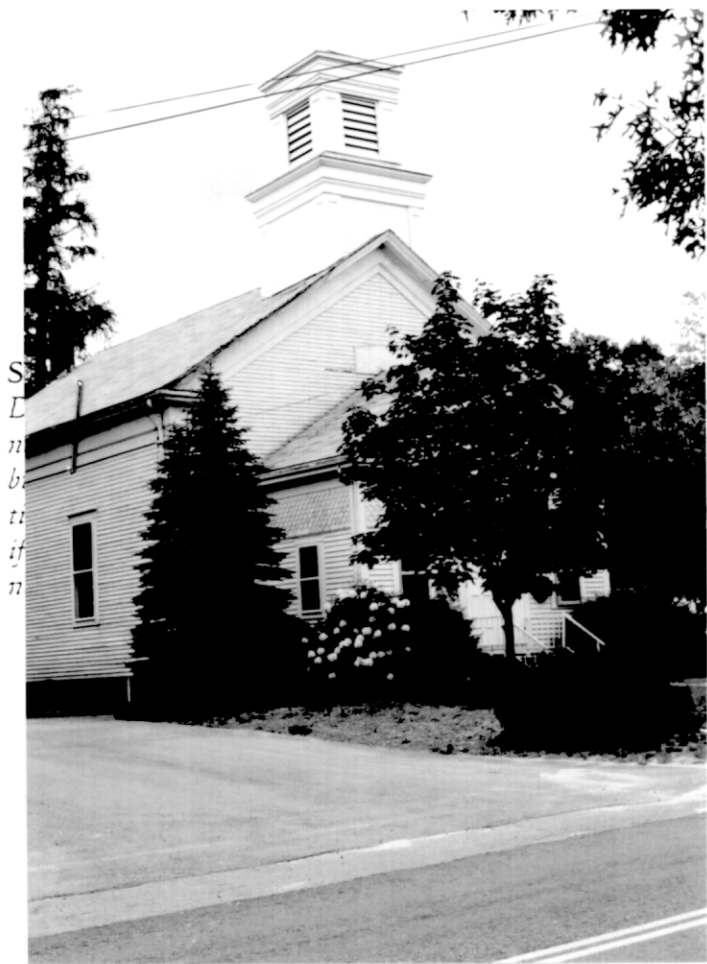
5 - COUNTY ROAD

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph

(3" x 3" or 3-1/2" x 5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.



Assessor's Number	USGS Quad	Area(s)	Form Number
19/12	Snipatuit	L	48

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____
East Rochester

Address 355 County Road

Historic Name East Rochester Congregational Church

Uses: Present Religion
 Original Church

Date of Construction 1857

Source Church Records

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder Jacob Look

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim Wood

Roof Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____
Wood shed

Major Alterations (with dates) 1892 galley removed
portico added to front

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage .22

Setting Rural

Recorded by Betty Beaulieu

Organization Rochester Historical Comm.

Date (month/year) June 2001

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 East Rochester Congregational Church (MHC 48, 1857) is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style as applied to ecclesiastical architecture. The building is notable for its recessed panel cornerboards, cornice returns, and wide cornice below the eaves. The building is rectangular in plan and has an end-gable roof. A 1-story, end-gable projection with decorative wood shingles, cornice returns, and cornerboards is attached to the façade (east). This block houses the main entrance, which is centered on the three-bay façade and comprised of paired wood-panel doors with simple wood surround. A square tiled bell tower with recessed panel cornerboards sits on the ridge at the front of the building. Fenestration consists of 12/12 and 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with slightly projecting lintels and simple wood sills. Wall surfaces are clad with clapboard and decorative wood shingles. The building has a high brick foundation with 6-light windows illuminating the basement. Attached to the west end of the north elevation is a small, 1-story, gable roof, enclosed basement entrance (mid-20th century) which provides access to the basement. A brick chimney rises from the exterior end of the west elevation.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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 East Rochester Congregational Church at 355 County Road (MHC 48, 1857) served the growing community as several houses had been constructed along County Road by the mid-19th century. Rev. Hall organized the church in 1854 as a Methodist church. Through the labors of Rev. J. Madison Mayall the building became a reality. The building was paid for by George Pierce Esq. Jacob Look, master workman, assisted by Benjamin Morton, David Morse, Milton Raymond and Joseph Look erected the building in 1857. George Pierce, a carpenter and part-time preacher was the first leader in 1856. Benjamin Morton and Thomas Raymond were also active leaders. At that time the congregation was comprised of 50 members. In 1857 original pew owners included: Sophia E. Davis, H.C. Stevens, Elya Morse, David S. Morse, John T. Pierce, Seneis L. Nickerson, Salem Jefferson, S.H. Leonard Heirs, Seth Morse, John L.A. Morse, Savery Morse, William W. Pierce, C.C. Gurney, John Gault, Benjamin W. Morton, and John T. Galt. After about twenty-five years, the church became weakened through the formation of an Advent Church in Wareham by some of the members.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc., June 1998, *Town Wide Survey*, East Rochester Area I.
Church Records, East Rochester Congregational Church.

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**Community:** Rochester
Property Address: 355 County RoadMassachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**Area(s)** L **Form No.** 48**Architectural Description (cont)**

The property is in good condition and also includes a small, 1-story, vertical wood outhouse (late 19th c.) to the southwest of the building. Asphalt driveways are located at the north and the south side of the church. In 1892 the building was repaired costing \$500.00. The galley was taken down, a portico put on the front, the platform was enlarged, and new pews and pulpit furniture was put in. In 1934 and again in the 1940's, there were fires at the church, one of which burnt a ten-foot hole in the church floor. An organ, which looks like an ornate pipe organ sits in one front corner, but is actually an electric organ.

Historical Narrative (cont)

In May of 1880, those interested in sustaining religious services invited Rev. William R. Joslyn of the Congregational Church of Rochester to supply the pulpit, which he did for four years. In January 1886, Rev. Stipen M. Andrews was engaged. Having no church organization at the time, it was decided to form a Congregational Church on October 15, 1887 with the following six members: S.M.Andrews, J.H. Clapp, Mrs. J.H.Clapp, George P. Morse, Julia R. Morse, and Madison W. Morey. Soon there were sixteen members. The first deacons were John T. Gallt, J.H.Clapp and Simon L. Nickerson. George P. Morse was chosen clerk. On April 26, 1887 the Young Peoples Christian Endeavor was begun. Their purpose was "to promote earnest Christian life among its members to increase their mutual acquaintance and make them more useful in the service of God". Officers were memory, pres., John Hammond, VP, Curtis Starbuck, treas., and E.C. Hathaway, sec. The East Rochester Congregational Church, 1857, (MHC 48) was part of a larger parish which included North Rochester Congregational Church, Grove Chapel (now the Middleboro Historical Society Museum), and Precinct Church which was moved in Lakeville to the corner of Routes 18 and 105. On October 18, 1889 Rev. R.L.Rae became pastor. During the first winter of his work about fifty people were converted adding fifty-five new members to the church. Membership reached 65 and the church was flourishing in 1892. The Ladies Sewing Society of Pierceville organized in 1901, was active until 1921. More recent ministers have been: Rev. Herbert Wilbur, Rev. Solandt, Rev. Belmont, Rev. Nyman, Rev., Hammey, Rev. Findley, Rev. Burn, Mrs. Burn, George Robinson, and George Robinson III. Since the 1990s, the church has experienced a decrease in membership. Presently, Sunday services are not held in the winter months.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town: Rochester

Property Address:
East Rochester
Congregational Church
County Road

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

Area(s) **Form No.**
L 48



MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town Property Address
Rochester 355 County Road
Area Form No
L 48

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
Criteria Statement Form

4

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible 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 Rochester Historical Commission
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The East Rochester Congregational Church is locally significant as an excellent example of the Greek Revival style as applied to ecclesiastical architecture. It is historically significant for its long association with the development of religious and social life in the East Rochester area. The East Rochester Congregational Church possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association and meets criteria A and C of the NRHP.

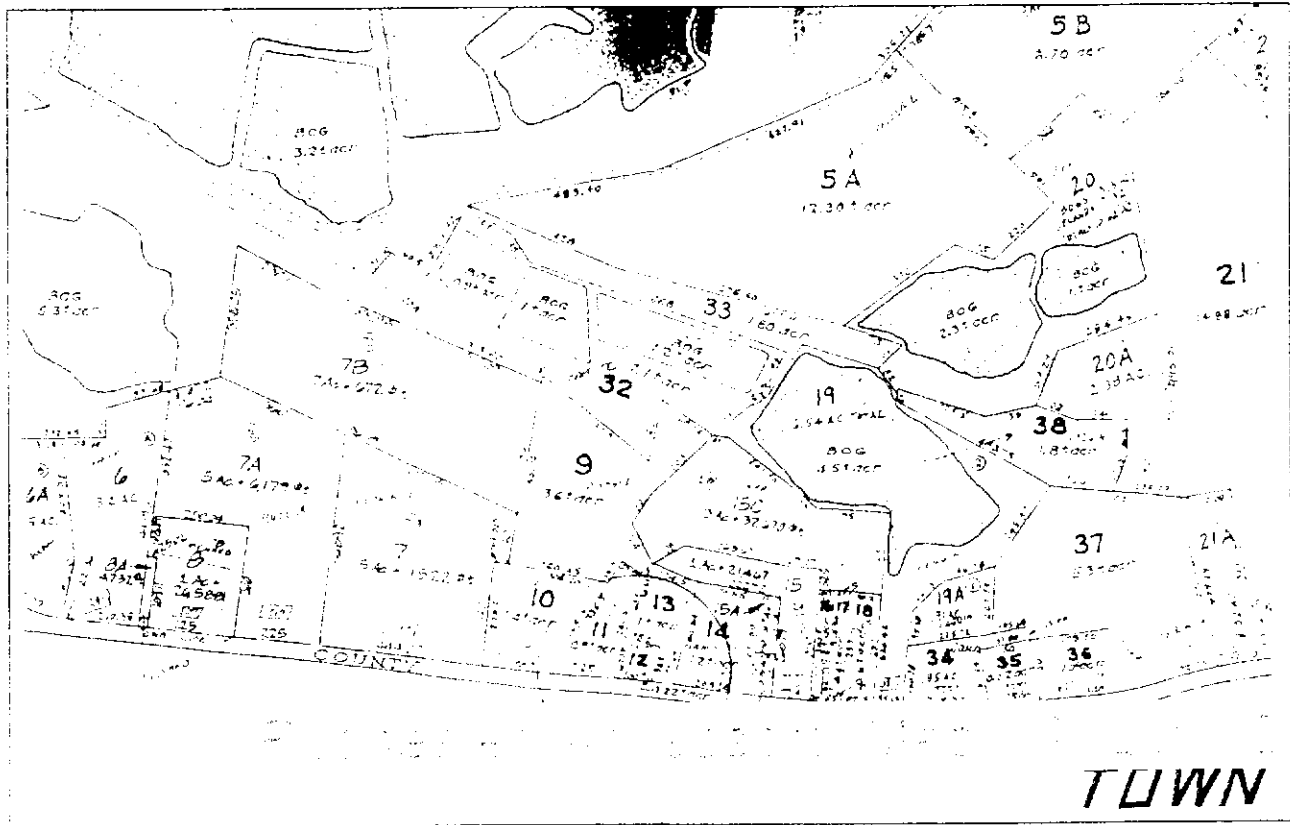
INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town: Rochester

Property Address:
East Rochester
Congregational Church
County Road

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

Area(s)	Form No.
L	48



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

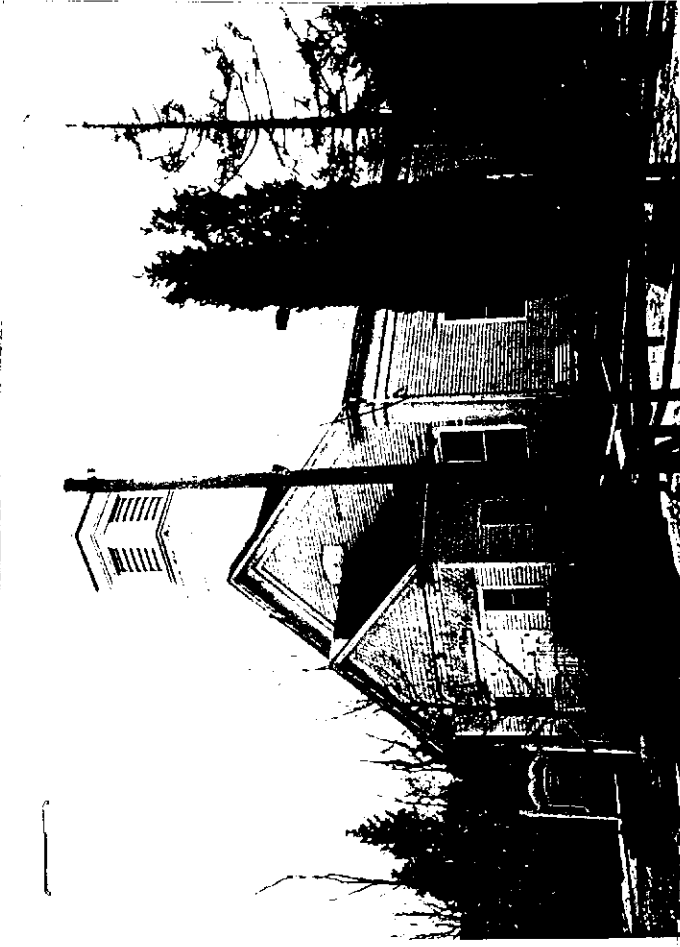
19/12

Snipatuit Pond

L

48

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

East Rochester

Address 355 County Road

Historic Name East Rochester Congregational Church

Uses: Present church

Original church

Date of Construction 1857

Source Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation brick

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

small, 1-story outhouse

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 0.22 acres

Setting set back about 40 feet from road; accessed by paved drive to south; cemetery to west

Recorded by M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
355 County Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)
L

Form No.
48

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

The East Rochester Congregational Church stands to the north of 351 County Road (MHC 154, mid-19th c./before 1856) and is bounded to the north and west by Woodside Cemetery (MHC 805). It is an excellent example of the Greek Revival style as applied to ecclesiastical architecture. The building is similar in form and architectural detail to the North Congregational Church (MHC 24, 1841) in North Rochester. The building is notable for its recessed panel cornerboards, cornice returns, and wide cornice below the eaves. The building is rectangular in plan and has an end-gable roof. A 1-story, end-gable projection with decorative wood shingles, cornice returns, and cornerboards is attached to the facade (east). This block houses the main entrance, which is centered on the three-bay facade and comprised of paired wood-panel doors with a simple wood surround. A square, tiered bell tower with recessed panel cornerboards sits on the ridge at the front of the building. Fenestration consists of 12/12 and 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with slightly projecting lintels and simple wood sills. Wall surfaces are clad with clapboard and decorative wood shingles. The building has a high brick foundation with 6-light windows illuminating the basement. Attached to the west end of the north elevation is a small, 1-story, side-gable, enclosed basement entrance (mid-20th c.) which provides access to the basement. A brick chimney rises from the exterior end of the west elevation. The property is in good condition and also includes a small, 1-story, vertical wood outhouse (late 19th c.) to the southwest of the building.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

East Rochester developed at a later date than Rochester Center. The 1704 map shows no development in the entire East Rochester Area and its immediate surroundings. By the mid-19th century, several houses had been constructed along County Road and to the west of the area, north of High Street. County Road was originally known as Division Street since it served as the dividing line between Rochester and Wareham to the east. [The road was re-named County during the 1920s (Foss 1926).] The Cape Cod Railroad was in place by mid-century, cutting across the northeast corner of town. Early families in the area included the Gurneys, Leonards, Morses, Mortons, and Raymonds. The Pierces settled in the nearby Douglas Corner Area (MHC Area K), originally known as Pierceville. Industrial development in East Rochester was limited to a single saw mill to the northwest of the East Rochester Area (MHC Area L) (Walling 1856).

Development increased in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, when numerous houses along County Street were constructed, two mills were in operation, and the East Rochester Congregational Church was built. Many of the same families continued to reside in East Rochester, with the addition of members of the Davis and Pierce families along County Road, and the Jeffersons and Nickersons at Pierceville (1879 map). Many of these same names can be found on the stones at the Hillside (MHC 807) and Woodside cemeteries (MHC 805). Development continued throughout the early-to-mid-20th century, creating a dense cluster of houses, many of which are extant along County Road.

The history of the Congregational order of churches began in Rochester in 1703 when the First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) was organized at Rochester Center (MHC Area A). Between 1837 and 1845, four other new churches were formed out of the First Congregational Church. These sister churches, that stand in Mattapoisett, Wareham, North Rochester, and Marion were designed by Solomon K. Eaton, who was hired as architect and builder to erect the churches in the same style as the one at Rochester Center (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:90).

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
355 County Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)**
L**Form No.**
48

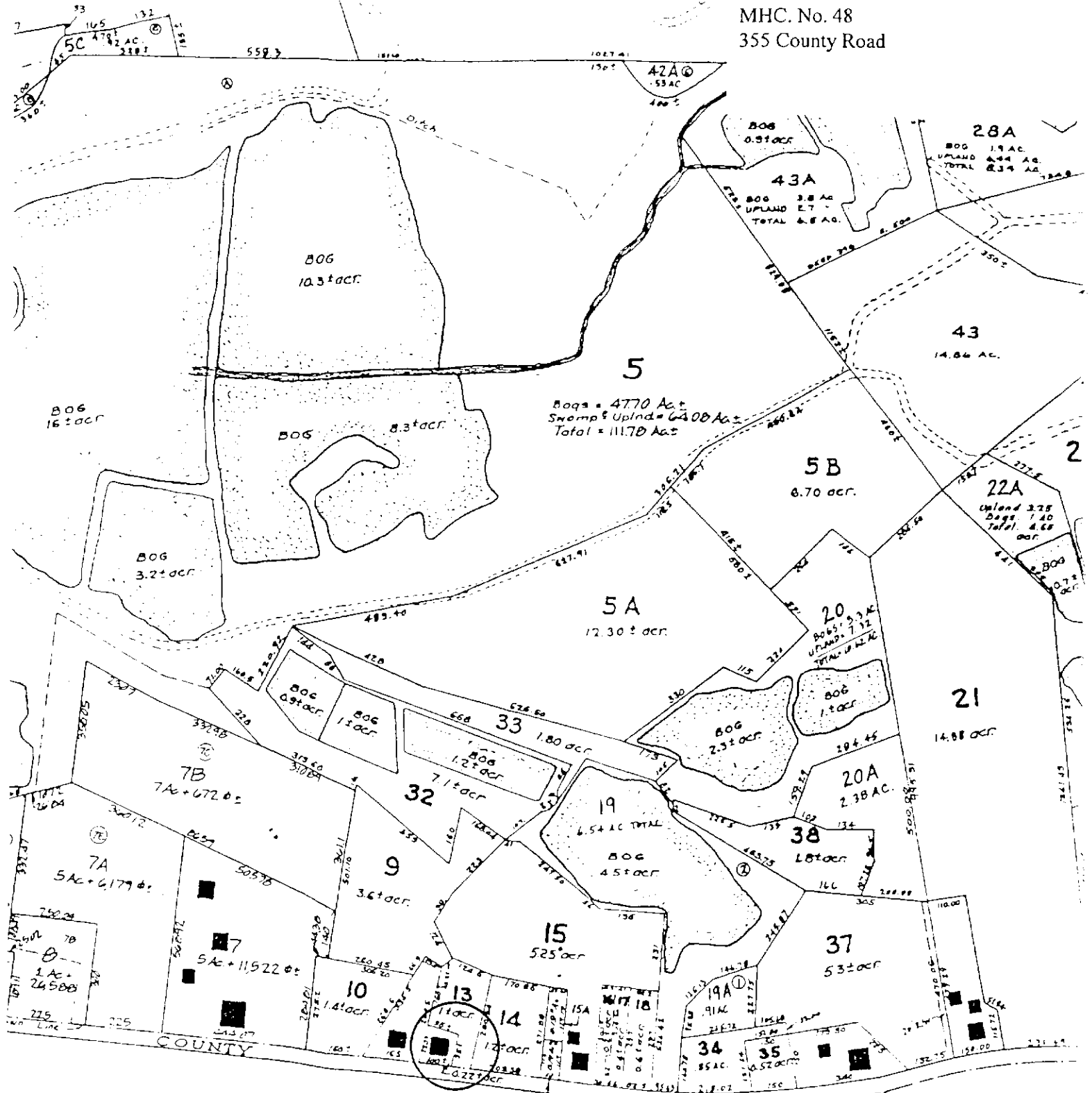
The East Rochester Congregational Church at 355 County Road was constructed in 1857. The church was organized in 1854 and 1856 by Reverends Hall and Brett. George Pierce, Esq. served as the first leader in 1856. At that time the congregation consisted of about 50 members. The congregation was able to construct this church the following year. Initially organized as a Methodist congregation, the church was weakened when some of its members left to form the Advent Church in Wareham around 1887. Following this split, the East Rochester church was reorganized as a Congregational Church (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:96).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
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- Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.
- Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.
- Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
- Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

- 1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.
- 1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.
- 1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.
- 1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
- 1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.
- 1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.
- 1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.
- 1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.



Town of Wareham

Lot 15B Town Line

Rochester Aug 22 1857

To the members of the Methodist church of the Boston District Annual Conference,
Pierceville Station.

Dear Bretheren and Sisters,

This edifice was erected by George Pierce Esq as a place of worship for the Methodist Protestant Church.

At this age of supreme selfishness, when sinister motives govern in almost every act, that may appear philanthropic or benevolent, how very commendable is that spirit of self sacrifice, which a noble few exhibit in their earnest endeavors to promote the welfare of others, and to advance the cause of truth. We learn that self-love does not rule all hearts; such spirits are practical commentaries of the Golden Rule " Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and thy neighbor as thyself."

In the erection of this temple, no worldly remuneration can be even hoped for by Mr Pierce. May great be his reward in heaven. Ere he shall cease to worship in earthly temples, may he see many gathered at this altar that shall prove as pillars in the church of Christ, and when called from labor to reward having faithfully performed life's mission, may his mantle fall upon someone, who shall possess a zeal for the honor of this house where God has promised to record his name, to hear the prayer of his people, and when he heareth to answer and forgive. May it be said when the Lord righteth up his this, and that man, was born here.

This church was organized by Rev Timothy M Hall in 1854; Br H...died the following year in the state of Maine. Father P. Brett ? was the second pastor: during his faithful labors some were hopefully converted.

In 1856 Rev J. Madison Mayall entered upon his labors with this church, and this house was erected during his pastoral charge, in the summer of 1857.

Mr. Jacob Look was the Master Workman, assisted by Benj. Marton, David Morse, Milton Rayme, and Joseph Look.

George Pierce Esq was the first class leader. In 1856 a new class was formed, and Benjamin Morton and Thomas W Raymond were appointed leaders and hold that office at the present time. The church numbers at this time nearly 50 and is in a flourishing condition.

Yours,

J. Madison Mayall

East Rochester Aug. 5 1892

While repairing this building, the enclosed books, papers, etc. were found near, or in the pulpit, placed there by J. Madison Mayall, the first Pastor in this building. It being his desire that they should be replaced as near as possible to the place taken from. When found, the East Rochester Congregational Church now occupying this building voted to have their clerk replace them with a letter giving brief history of church and other things which might be of interest.

The following is a brief history of this church as recorded in church book ...

This field was formerly cared for by the Methodist Protestant Church which was organized in 1854. After twenty five years or more, the church became weakened through the formation of an Advent Church by a part of the members. As a result no regular pastor was appointed. In May 1880 ? at a meeting of those interested in sustaining religious services, it was voted to invite Rev. Wm. R. Joslyn of the Congregational Church at Rochester to supply the pulpit which he did for about four years after which J. L. Litch of the Cong'l Church of Marion supplied for a year or more.

In Jan. 1886, Rev. Stipen M. Andrews was engaged to supply the pulpit.

As there was no church organization at this time, it was decided after due consideration to form a Congregational Church. Accordingly, steps were taken for that purpose. A council was called and met October 15th 1887 and advised the forming of such church at 2:30 pm. This church was formed consisting of but six members as follows viz S. M. Andrews, J. H. Clapp, Mrs. J. H. Clapp, George P. Morse, Julia R. Morse, Madison W. Morey. Others joined at once or as soon as possible, and there were found to be sixteen members. Officers were chosen. The first Deacons were John T. Gallt ?, J. H. Clapp and Simion L. Nickerson.

George P. Morse was chosen Clerk.

In 1889 Rev. S. M. Andrews the first pastor resigned to take effect in April of same year after which the Cong'l Home Missionary Society sent Rev. Hortshorne to supply the pulpit which he continued to do until Oct 18th either coming himself or sending someone... among whom were Rev. Geo. W. Shaw, and D. S. Surrey of Middleboro, Rev. S. M. Andrews, Rev. F. E. Hortihorne and others

In September a call was sent to R. L. Rae of Herrickville Pa. to be pastor for one year. He accepted and commenced labors Oct. 18 1889. At the expiration of the year he was engaged for an indefinite period which he holds at this time. During the first winter of his work there was about fifty converted and quite a number since. About fifty-five were added to the Church. At the present time there are 65 members and in a flourishing condition.

The building is being repaired to the expense of \$500.00 or more. The gallery was taken down, a portico put on front, platform enlarged. new pews and pulpit furniture put in and other improvements made.

It is to be dedicated on Sunday Aug. 7 1892. Rev Joshua Coit Sec'y Home Missionary Society is to preach the sermon.

Geo. P. Morse Church Clerk

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archive Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community
Rochester

Property Address:
355 County Road

Area(s)	Form No.
L	48

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible 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: M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

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

The East Rochester Congregational Church is locally significant as an excellent example of the Greek Revival style and for its historical associations with the religious and architectural development of East Rochester. This building stands as one of four sister churches erected throughout Rochester between 1837 and 1845. The East Rochester Congregational Church possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criterion C and criteria consideration A of the NRHP. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

17/16A

Snipatuit Pond

49, 50

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

East Rochester

Address 489 County Road

Historic Name Savery A. Morse House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction 1885

Source RHS files

Style/Form Greek Revival/No Style

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim clapboard

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

large, 1 1/2-story barn (MHC 50, mid-19th c.); 2 small playhouses

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

1 1/2-story, end-gable rear ell (late 19th c.); 1-story rear ell

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 5.96 acres

Setting set back about 35 feet from road; row of mature trees at street line

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
489 County Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
49, 50

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

The Savery A. Morse House at 489 County Road is a 1½-story, Greek Revival-style, residential building. It is a typical, although late, example of its type within the survey area and is notable for its central entrance with entablature surround. The building has a rectangular plan with a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (east elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade below a simple entablature. Fenestration consists of 2/2 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is wood frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. An interior, brick chimney is located at the ridge of the main roof and another is located on the south slope of the rear ell. Other notable exterior architectural features include cornice returns and a 1-story, hip-roof porch with a single square support located on the south elevation of the building. A 1½-story, gable-roof, rear ell (late 19th century) with cornice returns and a stone foundation is attached to the southwest corner of the house. A smaller, 1-story ell on a brick foundation is attached to the rear of the house, north of the larger ell. The property is in good condition and also includes a large, 1½-story, side-gable barn (MHC 50, mid-19th c.) set on a fieldstone foundation with a 1-story, gable-roof ell on its south elevation that functions as a garage. Two small playhouses are also located on the property, to the rear (west) of the barn.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

County Road was originally known as Division Street, since it served as the dividing line between Rochester and Wareham to the east. The road was re-named County during the 1920s (Foss 1926). Many houses along County Road in East Rochester were built ca. 1900, when at least two mills, which supplied much of the employment for the area, were in operation. In addition to the mills, this once thriving neighborhood had its own church, the East Rochester Congregational Church (MHC 48, 1857), and cemetery, Woodside Cemetery (MHC 805).

Members of the Morse family were responsible for the construction of at least three extant houses in East Rochester, including the Nahum Morse House, at 577 County Road (MHC 51, 1885), the Savery A. Morse House, at 489 County Road (MHC 49, 50, 1885), and 531 County Road (not surveyed, ca. 1900), which was built by Nahum and Savery's father for their sister. This house was constructed in 1885 by Savery Morse, who had originally lived across the street, on the Wareham side (RHS files). The house was built on the site of an earlier house owned by G.P. Leonard (Walling 1856). The site stood empty in 1879, although there was a house to the south owned by D.S. Morse (1879 map). The building's appearance seems to date it to earlier in the century, suggesting that the present-day building may incorporate elements of the Leonard house. Savery resided at this address from the time of its construction through to at least 1907 (Foss 1907:134). The Morse family ran a mill to the south of this house in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Sometime in the early 20th century, probably around 1910, Louis C. LeBaron moved into the house. Louis, a machinist, along with his wife Lucinda S., continued to reside at the house until at least 1969 (1836, 1941, 1969c maps; Foss 1910-1933).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.

Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
489 County Road

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

Area(s)

Form No.
49, 50

Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.

Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.

Hurd, Duane Hamilton, ed. *History of Plymouth County*. J.W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, PA, 1884.

Leonard, Mary Hall. "Old Rochester and Her Daughter Towns". *New England Magazine*, vol. 20, p. 613-635, n.d.

Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.

Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.

1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.

1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.

1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.

1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.

1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
489 County Road

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

Area(s)

Form No.
49, 50

PHOTOGRAPHS



In 1885 brothers Savery and Nahum Morse were busy building their homes, within a quarter mile of each other on County Road. Nahum built his, ~~tall and formal and sound-it still stands today~~ at 577 County Rd. He also built a parsonage for the Advent Church soon afterwards. - (# 611 22)

489
County Rd

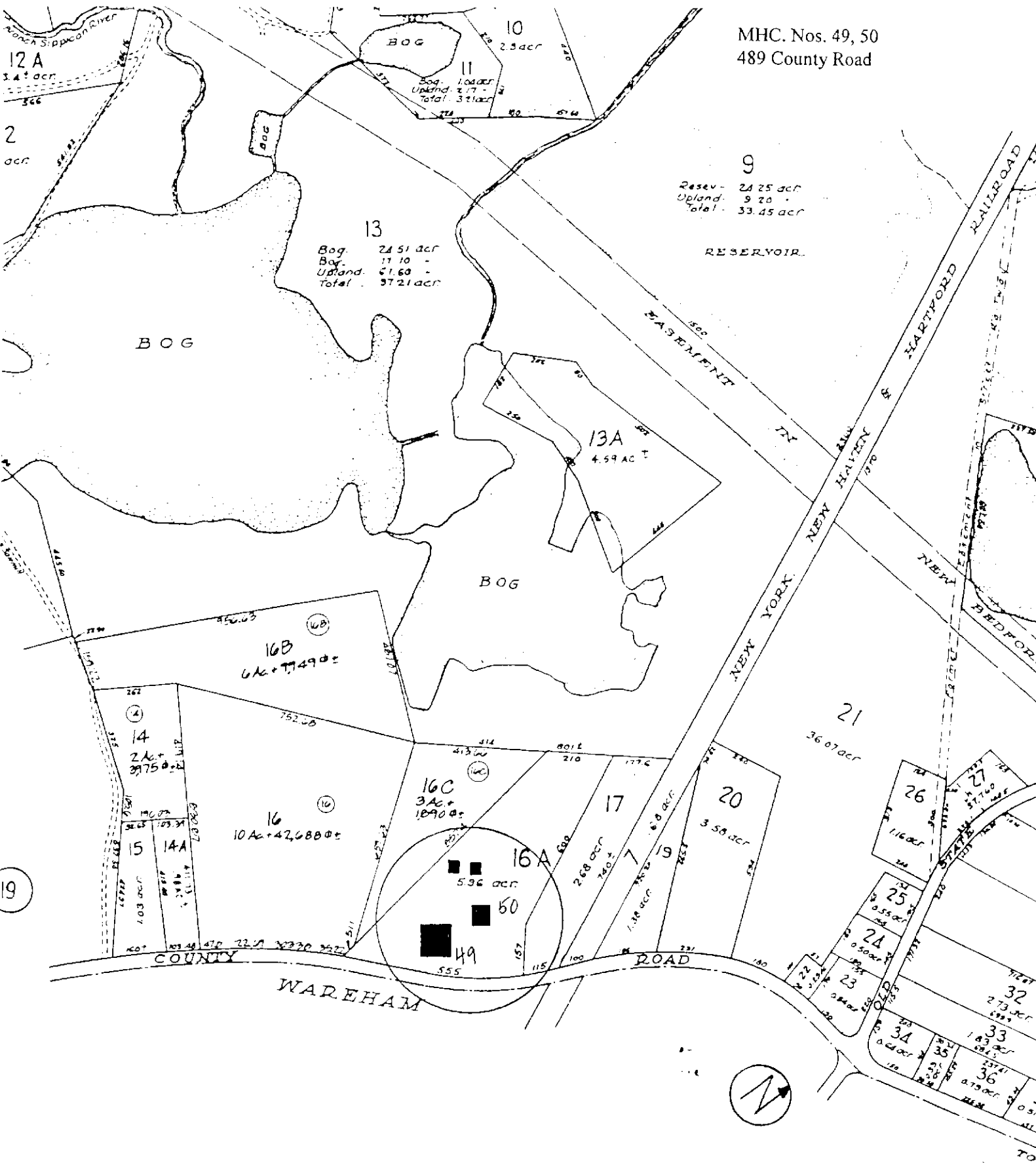
Savery built his across from an old house in which he lived at first (on the Wareham side of the street.) His new house, built on the Old Leonard house site, ^{489 County Rd} has a stone in the front yard which tradition tells to be a grinding stone of the Indians, used only when the Indians were traveling from their inland hunting areas to Narragansett. The house has been carefully remodeled, keeping the charm and style of its original, but adding sunlight, space and warmth. (Number 489 County Rd.) - Elizabeth Munn to Tom Roach

Most of the other houses in the once thriving neighborhood came along in 1900, when the mill was in full swing. 4571 was built by Savery and Nahum Morse's father, for their sister, so that she could always be near her brothers
Katherine Sweeney 1900

Savery Morse
To Elizabeth Munn A K 84
Katherine Morse 85
Dora Deborah Jones 86

find church info.

MHC. Nos. 49, 50
489 County Road



TOWN OF ROCHESTER

ASSESSORS' PLANS

SCALE - 1" = 200'
1957.

THUR C THOMPSON INC
SUR - MARION, MASS.
REVISIONS & ADDITIONS
1956
1957
1958
1959
1960
1961
1962

ALTERAT
Sept

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

17/28

Snipatuit Pond

51

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

East Rochester

Address 577 County Road

Historic Name Nahum Morse House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction 1885

Source RHS files

Style/Form Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder Nahum Morse

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation cobblestone

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

none

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

none

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 5.93 acres

Setting set back about 50 feet; dirt drive to south; stone retaining wall lines front of property

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
577 County Road**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
51**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION** *(continued)*

The Nahum Morse House at 577 County Road is a 1½-story, Victorian Eclectic-style, residential building. It is a modest and unaltered example of its type and period within the survey area and is notable for its hip-roof entrance porch with Victorian Eclectic detailing. The main block of the building has a rectangular plan with an end-gable roof. Attached to the south elevation is a 1½-story, side-gable block which intersects the building at its mid-point. The main block has an asymmetrical, three-bay facade (east elevation) and is four bays in depth. The primary entrance is set in the north bay of facade beneath a hip-roof porch with slender, turned supports, decorative brackets, and a spindled porch frieze. Fenestration consists of 1/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is wood frame on a cobblestone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Brick chimneys are located on the south and north slopes of the main roof. Other notable exterior architectural features include decorative brackets below the eaves and slightly projecting skirts below the gables. The property is in good condition. There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

County Road was originally known as Division Street, since it served as the dividing line between Rochester and Wareham to the east. The road was re-named County during the 1920s (Foss 1926). Many houses along County Road in East Rochester were built ca. 1900, when at least two mills, which supplied much of the employment for the area, were in operation. In addition to the mills, this once thriving neighborhood had its own church, the East Rochester Congregational Church (MHC 48, 1857), and cemetery, Woodside Cemetery (MHIC 805).

Members of the Morse family were responsible for the construction of at least three extant houses in East Rochester, including the Nahum Morse House, at 577 County Road (MHC 51, 1885), the Savery Morse House, at 489 County Road (MHC 49, 50, 1885), and 531 County Road (not surveyed, ca. 1900), which was built by Nahum and Savery's father for their sister. This house was constructed in 1885 by Nahum Morse, who also built the parsonage (611 County Road) for the Advent Church in Wareham soon afterwards. The Morse family ran a box board and shingle mill to the south of this house in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The property stood vacant in the mid-19th century, although several houses in the immediate area were occupied by members of the Morse family (Walling 1856, 1879 map). Nahum, a Justice of the Peace, resided at this address from the time of its construction to ca. 1911. Following his death, the house was occupied by his widow, Almeda, until at least 1933 (Foss 1933:183). During the mid-20th century, the property may have been occupied by a member of the Westgate family, although maps from that period are unclear (1936, 1941 maps). By 1969, the property was occupied by A. Pierce (1969c map).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
- Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
577 County Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
51

Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.
Hurd, Duane Hamilton, ed. *History of Plymouth County*. J.W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, PA, 1884.
Leonard, Mary Hall. "Old Rochester and Her Daughter Towns." *New England Magazine*, vol. 20, p. 613-635, n.d.
Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA. 1976.
Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.
Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

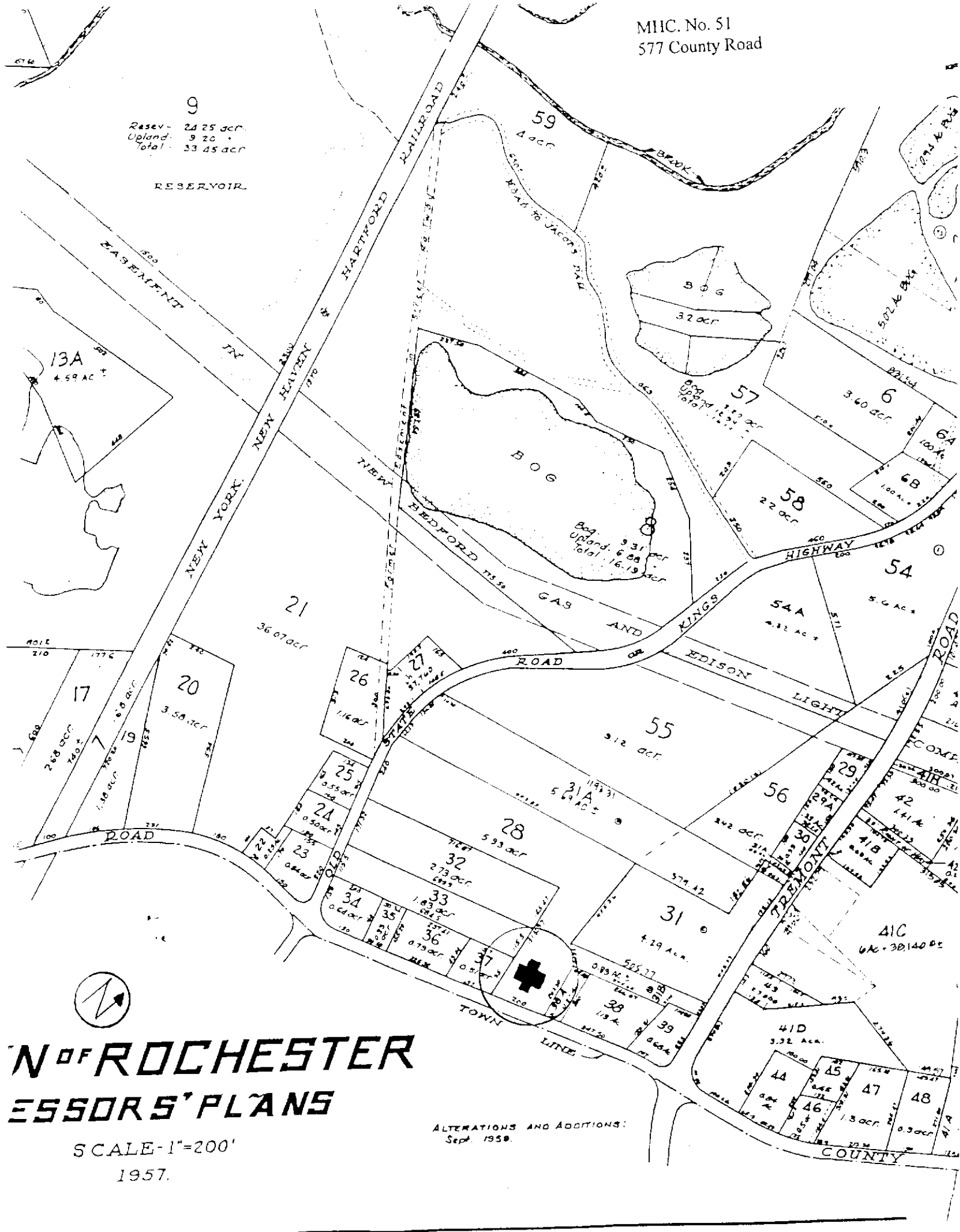
Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.
1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.
1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.
1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.
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1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.
1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.
1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.
1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
----- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans*. Various surveyors and dates.

MHC. No. 51
577 County Road

9
Reserv - 24.25 ac.
Upland - 9.20 "
Total - 33.45 ac.

RESERVOIR.



N OF ROCHESTER ESSORS' PLANS

SCALE - 1" = 200'
1957.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS:
Sept. 1959.

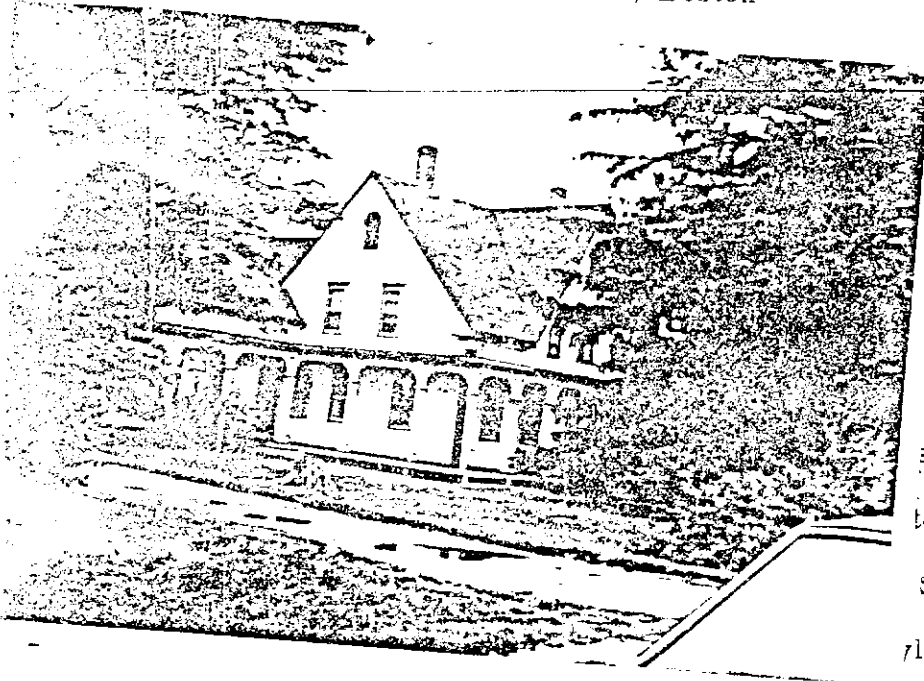
COUNTY

6 - DEXTER LANE

FORM B - BUILDING

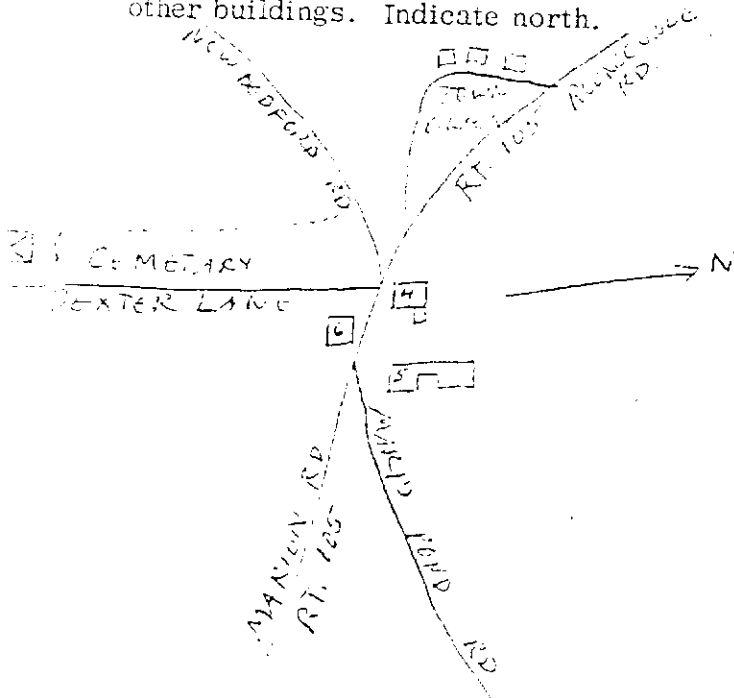
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. A	Form no. B-7
------------------	-----------------



City Rochester
 Address Dexter Lane
 Name Capt. John Dexter house
 Present use home
 Present owner Clifton L. Vaughan
 Description:
 Date 1860
 Source Registry of Deeds
 Style Victorian

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Architect designed by owner
 Exterior wall fabric wood
 Outbuildings (describe) carriage shed, connected
 Other features _____

 Altered 1 wall, stairs Date 1900
 Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:
 Less than one acre _____ Over one acre
 Approximate frontage 200'
 Approximate distance of building from street 30'

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant N 76
 MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Martha J. Gifford
 Organization Rochester Historical Comm
 Date 6/14/73

(over)

JUN 30 1973

7. Original owner (if known) Captain John Dexter
 Original use home
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates home

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Original	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Humanitarian	<u> x </u>
Communication	_____	Political	_____	Transportation	_____
Community development	_____				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Typical Victorian farmhouse, built by a retired whaling Captain, its location in this area makes it significant and worth keeping.

Several efforts by developers to convert this building to a "Road house" and later apartments, have been fought fervently (and successfully, so far) by the townspeople.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Deeds, Plymouth County Registry

memories of people who knew Capt. Dexter

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number	USGS Quad	Area(s)	Form Number
			Roc 7

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) Rochester Center

Photograph

(5" x 3" or 3-1/2" x 5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Address 50 Dexter Lane

Historic Name Capt. J. G. Dexter House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1859-1860

Source Registry of Deeds, Plymouth

Style/Form American Gothic Revival

Architect/Builder John G. Dexter

Exterior Material:

Foundation Cut Granite & Uncut Stone

Wall/Trim Clapboard/Pine Moulding

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Attached

Shed With Connecting Barn

Major Alterations (with dates) One Wall & Stairs

(1900), Dormer On West Side 3/4 Style In Keeping With Original Ornamentation (1989), Kitchen Remodeled (1996)

Condition Very Good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 2.25 Acres

Setting Rural/Residential

Abutting First Parish Cemetery

Roll Negative(s)

--	--

Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.

Recorded by Daniel & Martha Wright

Organization Rochester Historical Comm.

Date (month/year) April, 1998

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

Fifty Dexter Lane is an exceptionally fine, well preserved example of a large gothic revival style farmhouse, reminiscent of the best styles for country cottages promoted by architect A. J. Downing of the mid to late 19th century designs. Set on a level pastoral tract, the house rises 40+ feet to its gabled peaks facing east and west. An east and south facing wrap around porch extending along the front (east) elevation is a note worthy example of palladian influence. The facade is 8 bays wide (east), 3 bays deep forming an ell to the (south) and 3 bays wide on the south and east face, possessing good flow and balance of form. Sash work is original six over six on first floor with aluminum and glass storm windows added. Second floor sash has rounded or hooded trim and top sash on the east and west facade with central hall sash flanked by smaller sash of the same ornamentation below the main entrance door and surround are also notable with it's compound architrave moulding and domed door with etched glass from the nearby Pairpoint Glass Factory of New Bedford. Etching of the glass on the front door depicts clusters of grapes and vine meander with grape leaves, possibly representing the blood of Christ (Eucharist) or perhaps the families love of wine. Never the less it's beautiful and well done. All sash work

(See Continuation Sheet)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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 Captain Dexter house was occupied by John Gibbs Dexter, his wife and daughter into the early twentieth century carrying on the families deep rooted history in the Rochester area and throughout southeastern Massachusetts where the Dexters inhabited and excelled from as early as the 1630's. The Captain Dexter house has been a private residence since it was built, despite several efforts to convert it into commercial ventures. A much loved building by townspeople with considerable importance as to the location and history of Rochester.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds

Oral history of people who knew Capt. Dexter and his family

Genealogical & Personal Memoirs, Lewis Historical Publ. Co., New York, 1910

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)	Form No.
	Roc 7

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION, CONTINUED

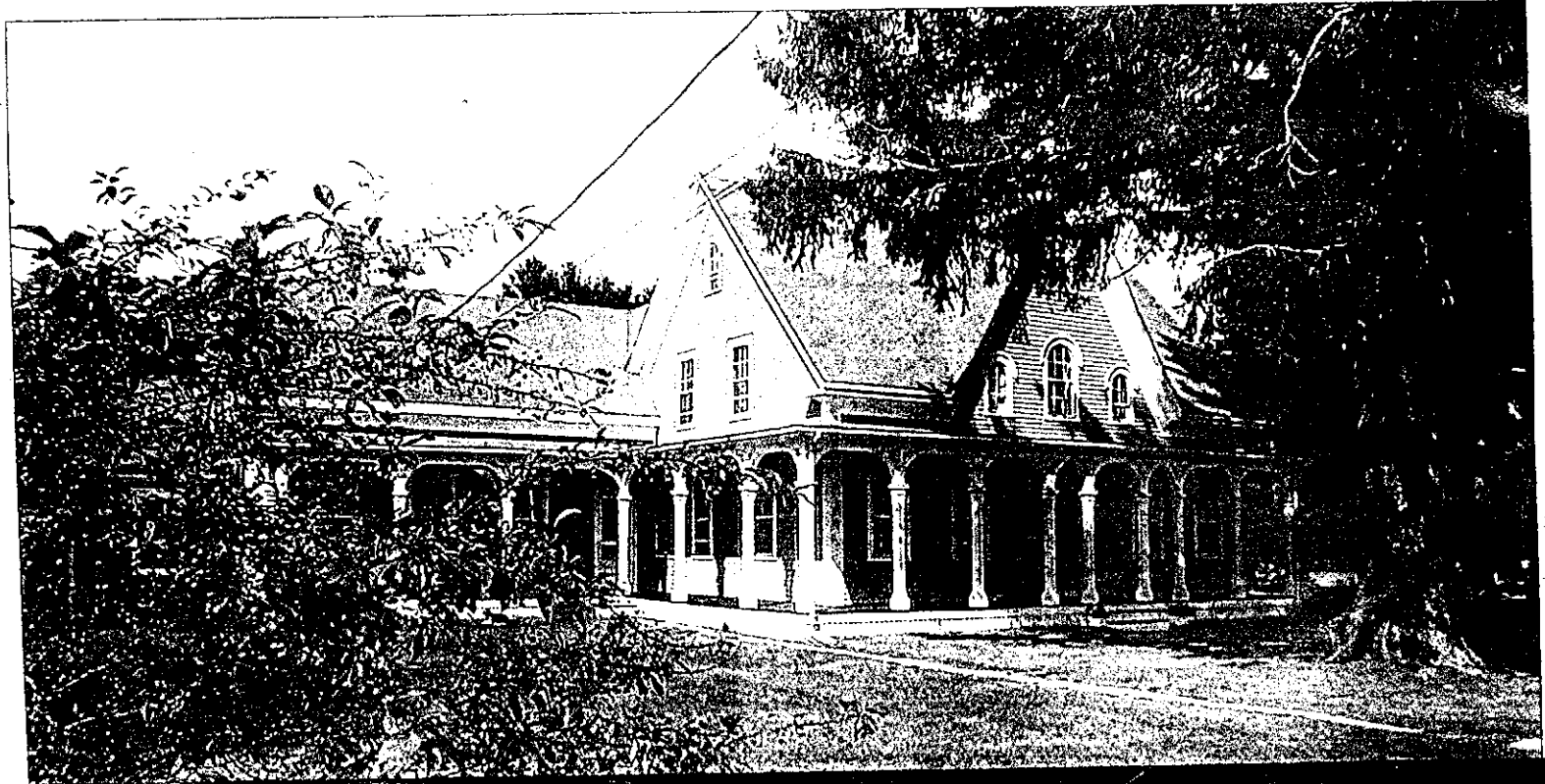
have original interior and exterior louvered venetian blinds (exterior blinds are in storage presently). The chimney work is off center flanking the eastern pointed gable wall in line with North and south facing gables. An additional chimney to the south atop the kitchen helps ell totaling three unobtrusive projections. Fifty Dexter Lane is one example of the fine craftsmanship found throughout Rochester and the greater New Bedford area of the period.

	6		8
CROWE, JOHN H. & DORA M.	11/2/39	BK1778	PG 307
GINGRAS, OSMOND Z.	10/22/69	BK3556	PG 180
VAUGHAN, CLIFTON L. & CAROL W.	4/14/70		
		BK3585	PG 655
DARLING, LESTER N.C., JR. & ELEANOR M.	3/23/78		
		BK4422	PG 465
LANGLOIS, PAUL A. & LILLIAN M.	11/17/48		
		BK5026	PG 468
SKOTCHDOPE, WALTER	3/30/88	BK8361	PG 167
WRIGHT, MARTHA R. & KENNETH W. RUST, JR.	7/17/96		
		BK14516	PG 281
<u>50 DEXTER LANE</u>			
	6		8
WRIGHT, MARTHA R. & DANIEL	12/13/96	BK14843	PG 326

REAL ESTATE *today*

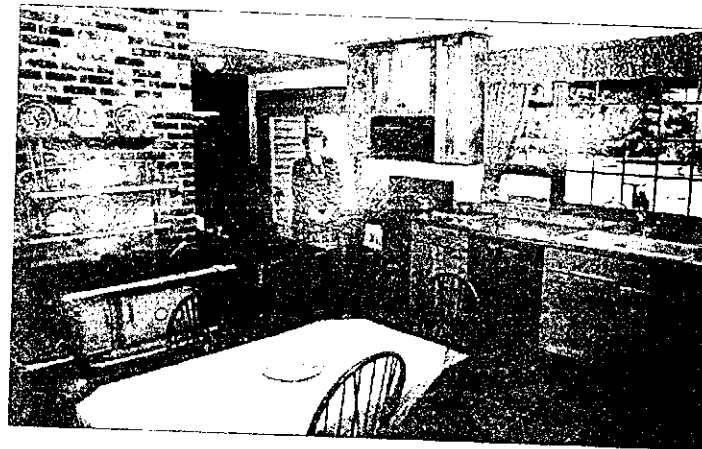
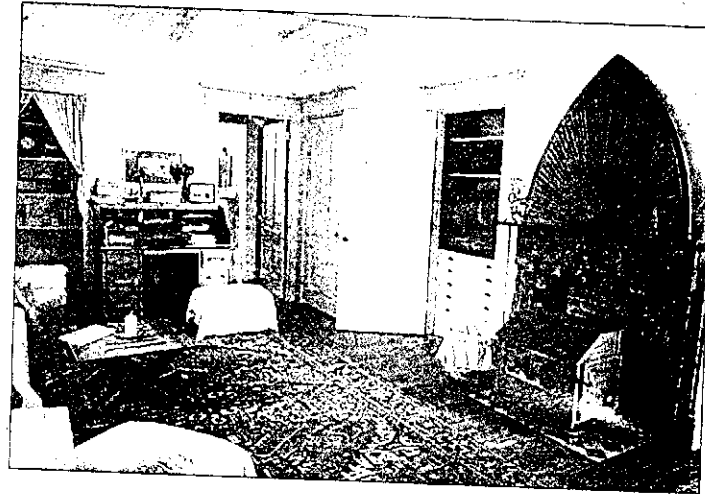
The Standard-Times

September 11, 1999



HOME of the WEEK

Gothic Revival
in Rochester
continues proud
tradition of family
into 21st century



Home of the Week's Spotlight: La Grange

HOMIE *of the* WEEK

Historic in the family tradition

By Sarah Corbitt
Standard-Times correspondent

If you're talking tri-town, Rochester is where it all began. The first folks to settle this area began building in Rochester; Marion, Mattapoisett and even Wareham are johnny-come-latelies when it comes to dates of incorporation. The ocean-oriented industries that begat the coastal villages were an outgrowth of the prosperous farming community that was Rochester, and it can be fairly said that this still-thriving town is the granddaddy of them all.

As Rochester booms into the 21st century, with multi-street developments blossoming off nearly every winding country road, the town is also striving to maintain a very present sense of its past. The newly-formed Rochester Historic District Commission has designated a historic district surrounding Rochester center, and encompassing such striking examples of New England village architecture as the town hall, the Congregational Church and several lovely old homes.

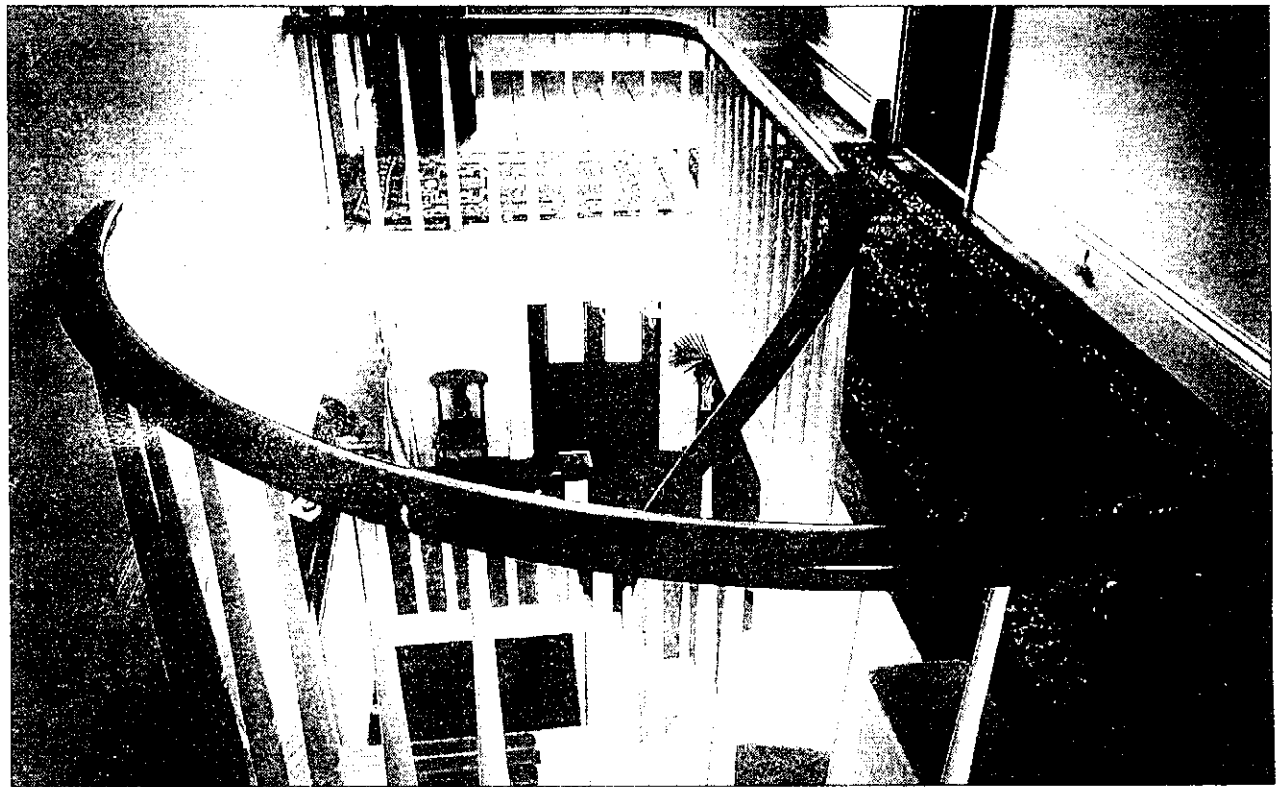


Photo by Bert Lane

The curved staircase at 50 Dexter Lane is one example of the fine craftsmanship in the home.

of descendants proud to call it theirs.

"It's a great place to raise a family," said Janice Crook of Coldwell Banker Hayes Associates.

way station for serving to the formal dining room.

The kitchen, remodeled in 1996, has Shaker-style Canadian red birch cabinets, an oversized ceramic sink topped

The Gothic Revival farmhouse at 50 Dexter Lane has been called "one of the most distinctive and well-preserved residential buildings in Rochester" by the Massachusetts Historical Commission, and is registered with the state. (Paperwork for registration with the National Historic Register is in the works.)

The charming cross-gabled, 5 bedroom/3 full bath, gray clapboard structure is not only part of the town historic district, but is owned and was renovated by Daniel and Martha Wright, founding members of the historic commission.

The house was built in 1860 by Captain John G. Dexter, who made his fortune in whaling.

"Dexter is a name that has been around here for centuries," said Mrs. Wright.

In fact, the Dexters first settled in Rochester in 1679. William Dexter, that founding Dexter, was named on the original grant for the town. John Dexter, the builder of the home, lived there until at least 1919.

The historic provenance aside, 50 Dexter Lane is more than ready to make it into the next century, with a new set

A front-facing gable with four arched windows tops a grand arcade porch with arched columns marching the length of the main portion of the house. (A side-gable ell connects the main house to a front-gable barn. All these gables are part of what mark this as Gothic Revival.) Centered on this inviting facade is an arched doorway with the original Painpoint glass insets etched with grape vines, an indication of the stately elegance preserved so well throughout this lovely home.

As you enter from the porch (whose blue painted roof recalls the colonial belief that such colors repelled wasps), you enter the double parlors on either side of the curving staircase.

The maple floors, inlaid with oak medallions, run the entire length of these rooms. When the house was built, Mrs. Wright has surmised, these two rooms were separated by a longer, straighter staircase; when the staircase was curved to the side in 1900, it effectively created one room. But the two sides have interesting differences that set them apart.

The Southeast Parlor (rooms are named in a house like this) has three graceful windows with original shutters, decorative casings, lintels on top and recessed panels underneath. The Northeast Parlor looks nearly identical, but for the slightly more impressive woodwork around the windows and a flue in an interior wall, perhaps the remains of an ancient fireplace.

"We think the Northeast Parlor was the gentlemen's parlor, because it was a little more formal," said Mrs. Wright.

The formal dining room, behind the "gentlemen's parlor," features a beautiful imported Italian marble fireplace, with cameos fired into the corner tiles. The hardwood floor here is tongue and groove fir. The three windows also have the original shutters, and there is a walk-in china closet with a window and built-in cabinets and shelves.

A door to the side leads down a hall to the guest bedroom, which has maple floors, plaster walls with the original skip-trowel application, two closets and a non-working marble fireplace.

Another door off the formal dining room leads to the butler's pantry, now a breakfast room. An intimate size for a room, but quite large for a pantry, the space serves its modern function exceptionally well, with two windows, a chair rail, maple floors, a closet and a built-in cabinet with drawers and shelves.

This room is directly off the kitchen, since it served as a

with recessed lighting and looking out through an elongated picture window to the vast back yard. There is also a built-in dishwasher and microwave, and what could be called the signature kitchen piece: a 1920 Wingcroft range backed by a wall of English ballast bricks from Tabor Academy.

The kitchen extends to an entrance area which includes a full bath and a six-foot Pella door to the back yard, plus a door to the breeze way and garage (a former barn with original plank flooring and stairs to the full second-floor hay loft, which has been wired for electricity).

The second floor of the main section of the house is anchored by a large sitting area, with a built-in window seat below the center gable window, and bedrooms opening off on each side.

The two rooms on the north side of the house have wide pine board floors, rounded gable windows with original shutters, large closets with built-ins and as much historic charm and modern convenience as any of the rooms in the house, thanks to the good taste and good sense of the current owners.

The master suite is on the other side of the landing, with the same wide pine floors, rounded gable windows and large closet, with the added benefit of a truly gorgeous master bath.

The bath is fully modern, with a nod to the original Victorian color scheme of the house in the jolly red, yellow and green paint the owners chose for the doors, trim and floor. The combination Jacuzzi/shower is surrounded in cedar, and there is a bidet, just to make sure every need is met.

A door from the master bath, as well as one from the central landing, leads to the east dormer, a fully finished space with a large living room, full bath and one bedroom.

A back hallway has doors to a back stair case, as well as stairs to a gigantic stand-up attic.

The basement is huge, as one would expect, with other expected elements like a laundry hook-up, as well as unexpected ones like a rain water cistern.

The grounds are bedecked with fruit trees, ancient perennials, lilac trees and other specimen trees, including a 200-year-old maple.

You can see all this, and more (we didn't tell you about the chicken coop, for instance), for yourself on Sunday, from 1-3 p.m.

QUICK FACTS

50 Dexter Lane, Rochester

Style: 1860 Historic Gothic Revival farmhouse

Price: \$399,900

Lot size: 2.25 acres

Living area: 3,546 square feet

Listing agent: Janice Crook, Coldwell Banker Hayes Associates

DETAILS:

- Registered historic home, beautifully preserved
- 5 bedrooms, 3 full baths
- Authentic, original details throughout
- Maple, oak, pine flooring throughout
- Pairpoint etched glass inset in front entrance
- Marble fireplaces
- Master suite with Jacuzzi
- Modern, gourmet kitchen with 1920 Wingcroft range
- Attached barn/garage
- Grounds include out-buildings, 200-year-old tree

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. <u>A</u>	Form no. <u>RC 8</u>
-------------------------	-------------------------

1. Town Rochester

Address Dexter Lane

Name: James Winslow House

Present use Home

Present owner Maurice M. Gifford

3. Description:

Date Pre 1720

Source Ely. Co. Registry of Deeds

Style 1 1/2 story cape

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric wood shingles

Outbuildings (describe) small barn

Other features _____

Altered stairs moved Date 1960
plumbing Date 1953

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre _____ Over one acre x

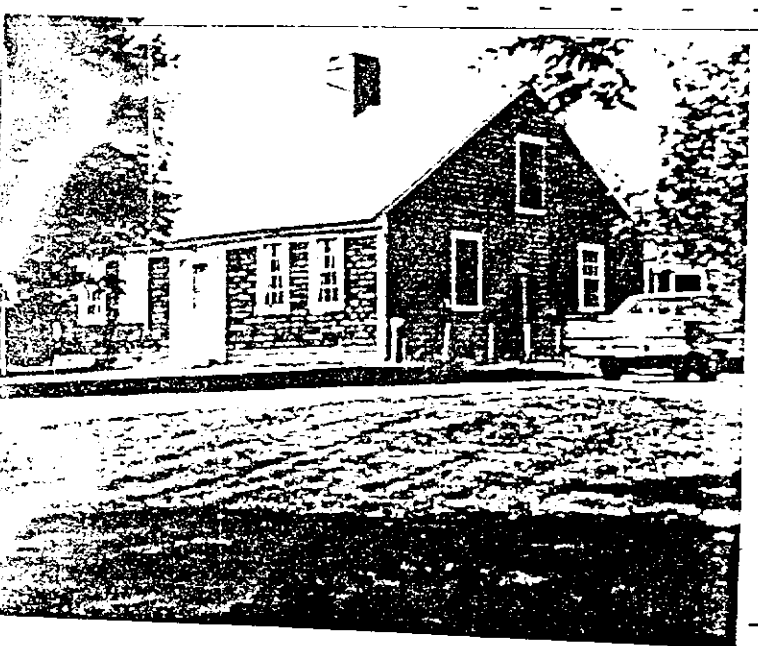
Approximate frontage 150'

Approximate distance of building from street
25'

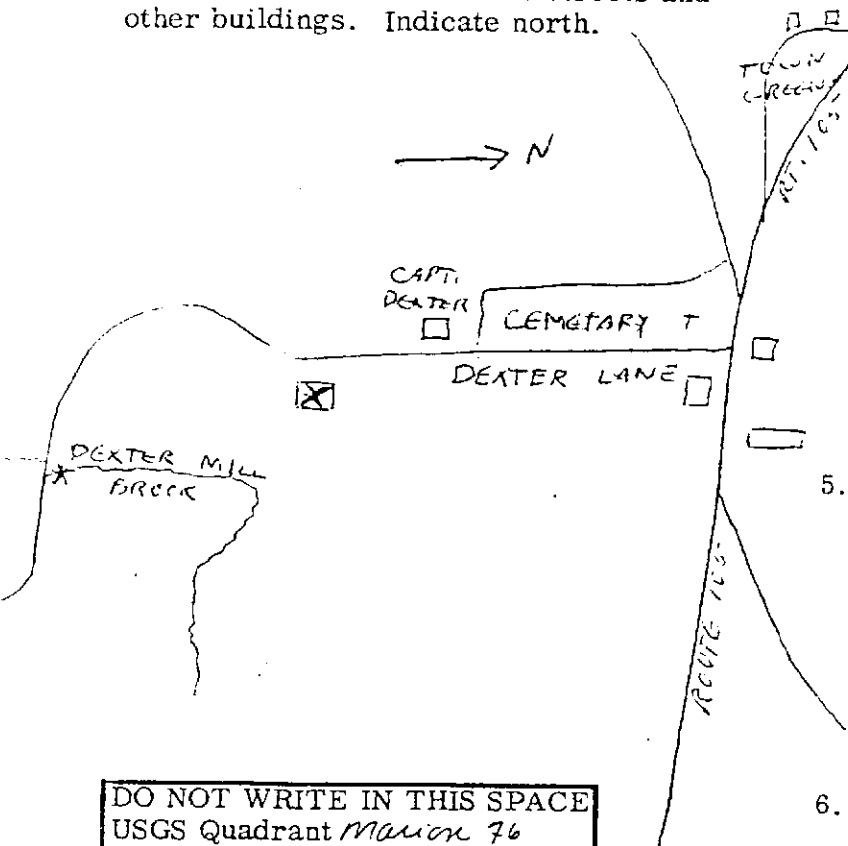
6. Recorded by Martha J. Gifford

Organization Rochester Hist. Comm.

Date 6/14/73



4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant MA 100 76
MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

JUN 30 1973

7. Original owner (if known) James Winslow-possibly 20 years earlier; William Griffet

Original use home

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates home

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ Humanitarian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Built at least by 1720 and possibly as early as 1700, research becomes nearly impossible at this date. This house was often lived in by those people who worked at the mill further down the street, marked with * at site of mill.

During prohibition bootleg whiskey was made here, and the house bears the scars. Peep-holes were drilled into the walls, and the doorways were carved out to accommodate the barrels.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds.

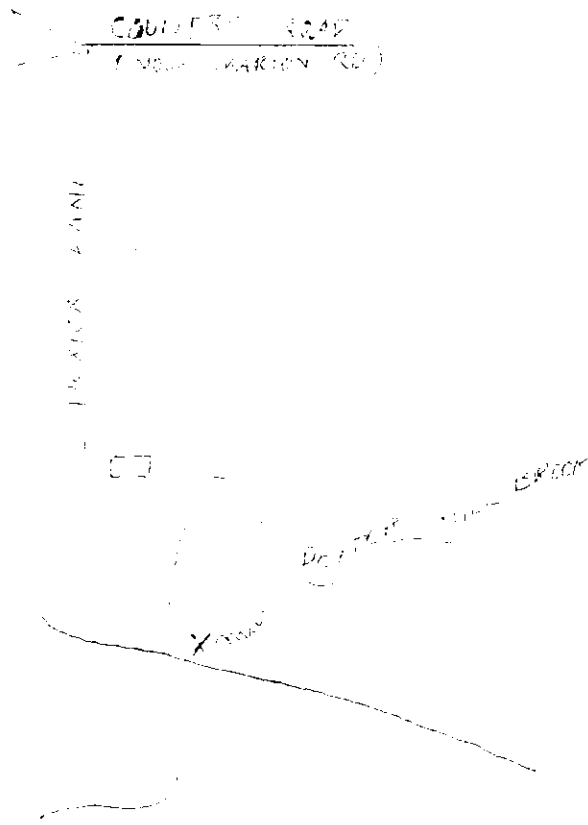
The James Winslow Homestead

Rochester records for 1721 show that James Winslow lived in this house, but there is some evidence that it may have been built as early as 14 years earlier by William Griffeth.

The house was often lived in by people owning or working at the mills down the street (marked X on map)

During prohibition, Bootleg liquor was made here, and the house shows the scars. There are peep holes in the walls, and door frames are carved out to let the barrels fit through.

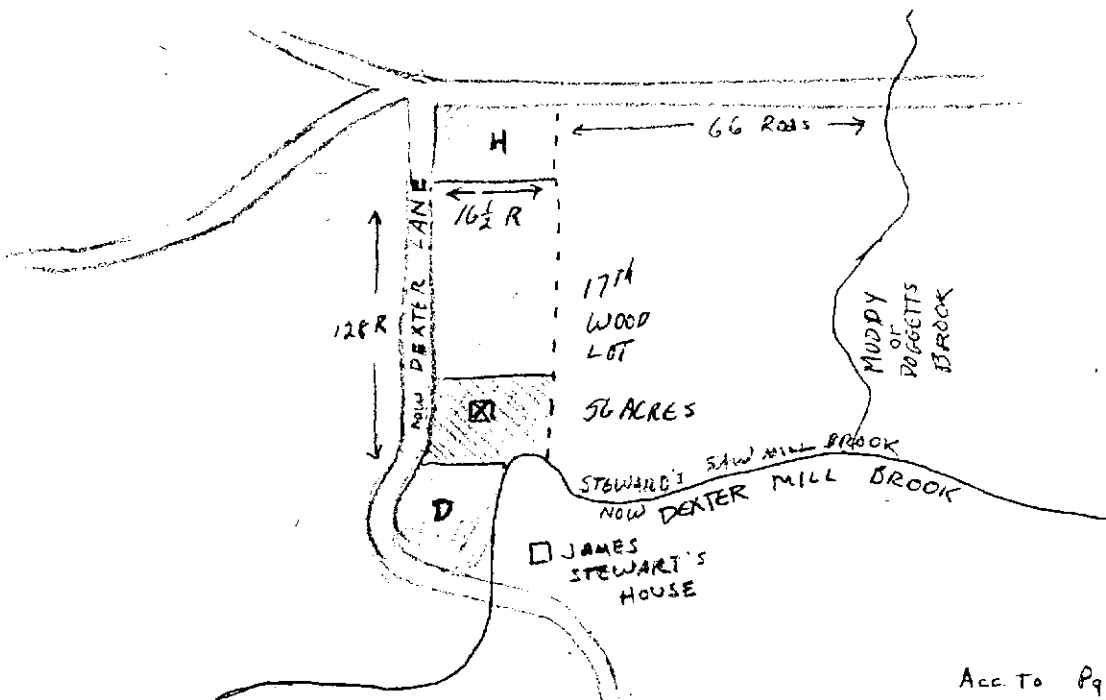
Owners after James Winslow were Isaac Baker, John Mumford, John Clapp, N. Nye, Blackwell, Barrow, Haskell, Tobey, Haskell & Bonney, Randall, Corse, Snell, Saelle, Bowen, and the present owners, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice M. Gifford.



Martha J. Gifford

The James Winslow House-Dexter Lane, Rochester, Mass.
 Property of Maurice and Martha Gifford

Wood Lot 17 distributed to	James Clark	in 1694	Vol. I, Prop. Records
Wood Lot 17 sold to	Lemuel Little	1709	" " page 102
Wood Lot 17 sold to	James Winslow	1718	bk. 14; pg. 90
" "; <u>message mentioned</u>	Isaac Baker	<u>1721/2</u>	16 106
area shown as shaded			
same as above	John Mumford	1723	17 28
same as above	John Clapp	1727	22 132
same as above, minus "D"	Clapp to Nye to Clapp	1733	28 17
same as above	John Blackwell	1733	28 71
same as above; by widow	Elisha Barrow	1743	35 213
same as above, minus "H"			
this consists of 9 acres	Jonathan Haskell	1786	67 95
nine acres	Joseph Haskell Jr.	1787	74 43
nine acres	Zebulan Haskell	1795	78 140
nine acres	Bedford Bank	1804	98 208
nine acres	Prince Burges; guardian for heirs of Prince Dexter: John G.; Mary H.; Sally.	1819	138 36
nine acres	Abisha Tobey	1835	180 166
" "; for benefit of the creditors"	S. Haskell & G. Bonney	1836	186 85
nine acres	Lydia Hammond, spinster. She later married J. Randall; left him the use, but not ownership, of the land.	1837	195 22
nine acres	to Lydia's brothers, David & Charles Hammond. Charles died before her, thus his dau., Mary Sylvia & Caroline Wheeler, took a share.	1887	refer to Probate
'Homestead of Lydia Hammond Randall"	Melissa Corse	1903	889 31&2
same as above	Isaiah Snell Jr.	1908	992 240
same as above	William Smellie	1920	1352 526
same as above	Edward Bowen	1921	1386 49
house, shop & 1.8 acres	Maurice & Martha Gifford	1960	2764 324



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

ROCHESTER - 79 DEXTER LANE

Area(s) Form No.

A 8

PRESENT OWNERS: GARY R. AND SAMANTHA GIFFORD SHERMAN
4/9/90 BK.9692, PAGE 200

THE ADDITION OF AN APARTMENT FOR MARTHA J. GIFFORD WAS COMPLETED IN 1990. THE ADDITION MEASURES 18X24 ATTACHED TO A 14X16 LIVING ROOM ATTACHING THE OLD WITH THE NEW PORTION. THE STYLE MATCHES THE CAPE STYLE OF THE ORIGINAL HOUSE WITH THE ROOF RUNNING THE SAME DIRECTION. ALONG WITH THE ADDITION THE FLOOR JOISTS, FOUNDATION WALLS, AND NORTH AND WEST WALL OF THE OLD HOUSE HAVE BEEN REPAIRED OR REPLACED. THE WIDE PINE PANELED WALLS AND THE ORIGINAL FIRE PLACE STILL EXIST IN ONE WESTERLY ROOM. THE REST OF THE ROOMS HAVE MORE CONTEMPORARY INTERIORS.

IN 1991 MARTHA GIFFORD, SAMANTHA'S MOTHER PASSED AWAY AND THE KITCHEN-LIVING ROOM COMBINATION ROOM WAS CONVERTED INTO A MASTER BEDROOM TO ACCOMODATE THE SHERMAN'S GROWING FAMILY.

*PAL Rec No
141
completed*

BETTY E. BEAULIEU
ROCHESTER HISTORICAL COMMISSION



• 5.11. 5.8



• 5.11. 5.8

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

A-9

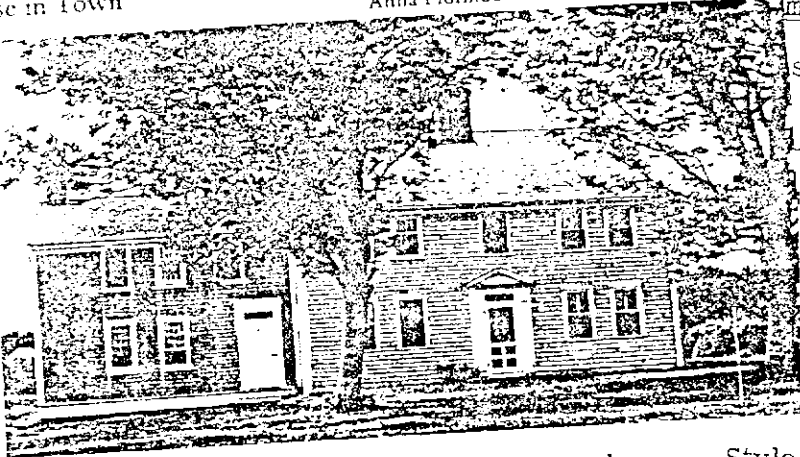
In Area no. <u>A</u>	Form no. <u>Rec. 9</u>
-------------------------	---------------------------

City Rochester

Address Dexter Lane

Oldest House in Town

Anna Florindo Home - "James Stewart House"



Name: James Stewart house

Present use private home

Present owner Mrs. Joseph Florindo

Description:

circa 1690

Source Proprietors Records

Town Vital Records

Style Plans of Proprietors lands 1/3/1

2 story colonial "mansion"

Architect --

Exterior wall fabric Wood shingles

Outbuildings (describe) Barn

Other features oldest house in area

beautiful old windows, hardware,

especially front door pull; paneling

Altered pump in kitchen Date 1900

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre _____ Over one acre

Approximate frontage 800'

Approximate distance of building from street

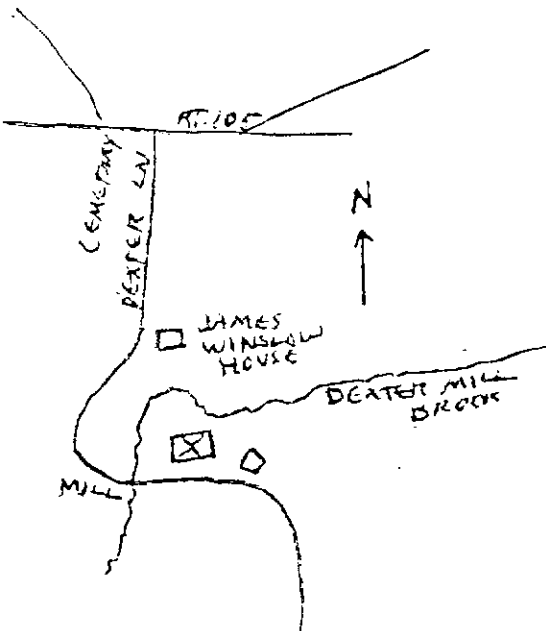
50'

6. Recorded by Martha J. Gifford

Organization Historical Comm., Rochester

Date 6/20/73

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

USGS Quadrant Manor 76

MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

JUN 30 1973

Original owner (if known) James Stewart

Original use home

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates home

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Humanitarian	<u> x </u>
Communication	_____	Political	_____	Transportation	_____
Community development	_____				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Built about the time King Philip's War ended, and thought to be the oldest house in the area. Very much in its original condition.

James Stewart recorded the birth of his first son, Jonathan, in Rochester in 1687, and there is no record of his having lived at any other place in town. We do have records of the house as early as 1697. Therefore we believe this house may have been built, at least partially, as early as 1686

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Plans of Proprietors Lands, Vol. 3, Part 3
Proprietors Records

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number _____ USGS Quad _____ Area(s) _____ Form Number 2

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) Close to Town Center

Photograph

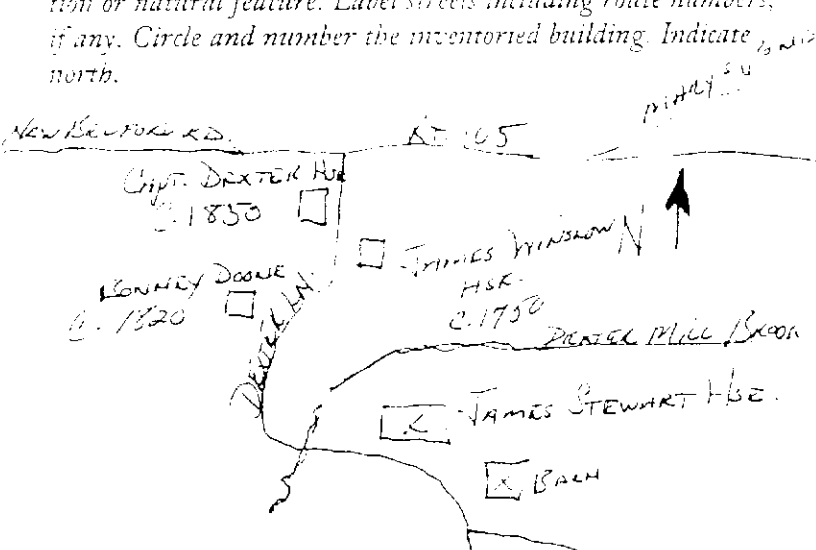
(3" x 3" or 3-1/2" x 5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of form over this space. Attach additional photos to continuation sheets.

Roll Negative(s)

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Sketch Map

Draw a map showing the building's location in relation to the nearest cross streets and/or major natural features. Show all buildings between inventoried building and nearest intersection or natural feature. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Circle and number the inventoried building. Indicate north.



Address 119 Dexter Lane

Historic Name James Stewart House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction Circa 1690

Source Proprietors Records

Style/Form Colonial, two story

Architect/Builder Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation Stone

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard/Shingles

Roof Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn

Major Alterations (with dates) Early 1980's: 2 bay garage added; kitchen remodeled; central heat, plumbing, electricity, aluminum & glass storm windows & doors installed.

Condition Good

Moved no Yes Date _____

Acreage Aprox. 14 acres

Setting Rural/Residential

Recorded by Daniel & Martha Wright

Organization Rochester Historical Commission

Date (month/year) April/1998

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

Two story colonial with many original features including twelve over twelve sash work, original door surrounds with transom lights over each front south facing door. The main entrance with pedimented entablature over door with pilasters. Door on ell plain in design with just the awning transom. Considered a colonial mansion, circa 1690. In the early 1980's a New England saltbox style two bay garage was added to the north west corner of the westerly ell. Around the same period, the kitchen was remodeled, as well as central heat being added, plumbing and electricity. By in large the house is original and thought to be the oldest house in Rochester.

⋮

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the roles, the owners/occupants played within the community.

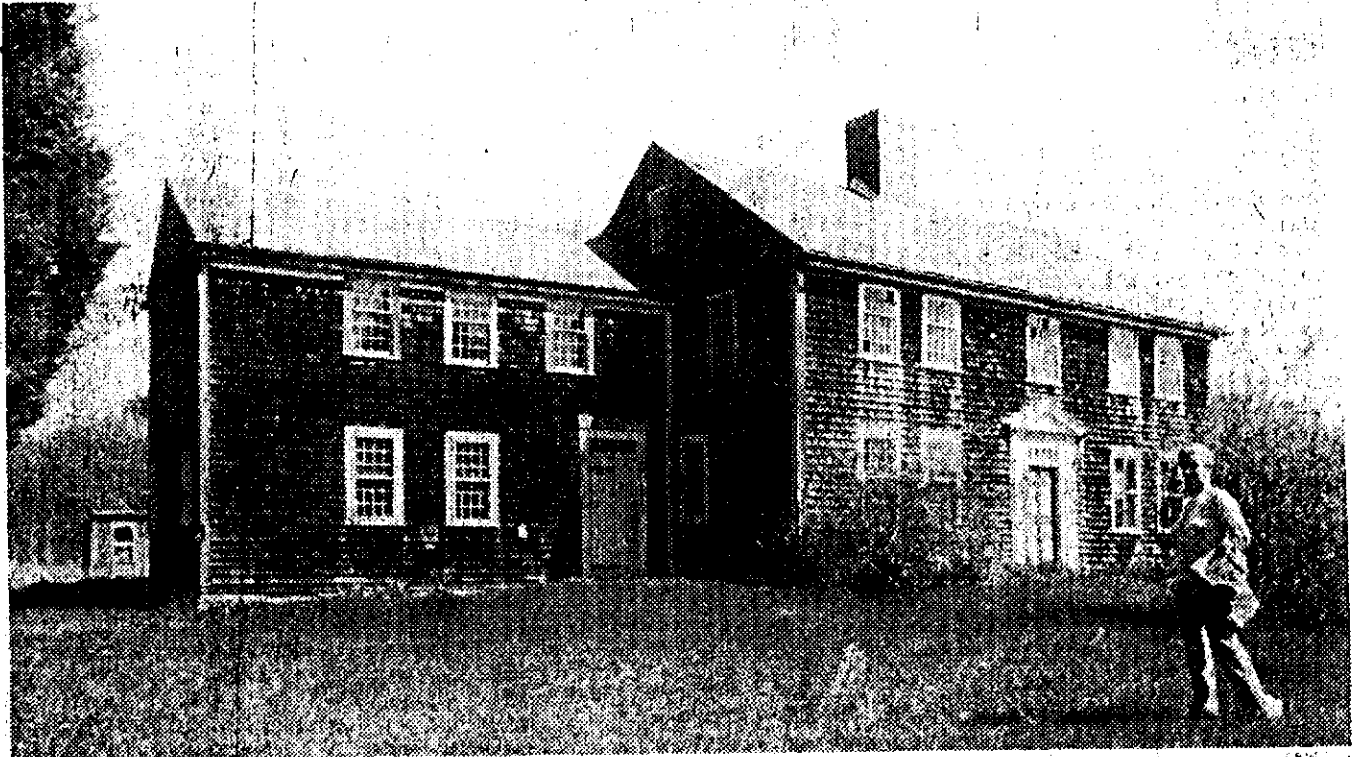
Built about the time King Philip's War ended, and thought to be the oldest house in the area.

James Stewart recorded the birth of his first son, Jonathan, in Rochester in 1687, and there is no record of his having lived at any other place in town. We do have records of the house as early as 1697. Therefore, we believe this house may have been built, at least partially, as early as 1686.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Plans of Proprietors Lands, Vol. 3, Part 3
Proprietors Records
Information from current owner

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.



OLDEST HOME? — Records indicate the home of Mrs. Joseph Florindo, Dexter Lane, circa 1685, is the oldest in old Rochester which in the 1600s included Wareham, Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester. It was the home of James Stewart, who operated

the Stewart mill adjacent to his home. Mrs. Edward Carr of Mary's Pond Road is admiring the structure. Much of the interior of the 291 year old house is still intact.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)	Form No.

119 DEXTER LANE	6	LOT # 10
HOFFLER, HERMAN & ANNA	8/9/21	BK1393 PG 465
FLORINDO, ANNA ET AL	Probate #54703	
FLORINDO, ANNA	11/18/69	BK3561 PG 465
HOFFLER, PAUL A. & ROBERT H.	12/6/78	
	Probate #126990	
FYRON, CHRIS & PRISCILLA C.	3/28/80	
	BK4808	PG 449

Plans of Proprietors' Lands
Book III, part III

James Stewart Feb. 15, 1748

Then we measured over the homestead land of James Stewart, to state the bounds thereof as it was given to him in his honored father's will and testament, as he shew it forth unto us, situate lying and being in Rochester and bounded as followeth:

Begin at a stone standing on the east side of the way about 4 rods. said stake is standing in ye line of land that was formerly Daniel Stewarts and now is of sd. James. and from that stone east 120 rods to a pine tree marked, and from there north 109 rods to ye Muddy Brook, then we began again and run from the stone first mentioned west 42 rods to a brook and from thence the land is bounded by sd brook as the brook runs until it comes to the extent of the line that runs from sd pine tree to Muddy brook.

Within sd Bounds is contained the 33rd Wood Lot and in sd lot is 79 acres 55 rods of land and on the west side of sd lot is contained part of two surveys adjoining to sd lot contained in sd survey is 31 acres 125 rods of land, the whole amounting to 105 acres 20 rods.

James Stewart House registered # A-A 9

James Stewart married 1687 Benit Briggs, dau. Samuel and Elizabeth
(Ellis) Briggs, gr. dau. Elizabeth Ellis, an original proprietor
and patriarch of Ellis Family, very early settler of Marion.

James Stewart married secondly Sarah Wait, 1694

children: by Benit: Jonathan Benit

by Sarah: Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah, James, Daniel, Eliner, Joseph

(James Jr married Hannah Dexter, dau. John and Sarah (Clark) Dexter

and had Ann, Eliner, Elizabeth, Hannah, Mary, James, Sary, Thankful

In 1694 James Stewart bought 60 acres from Moses Barlow BY HIS

HOUSELOT

in 1722 James Stewart killed 4 wildcats (Bliss "Colonial Times")

Jm mmmSSS^ossssso eEEEEeedD^o dddDDDddd

mmmSELOTS

Evidence to date the James Stewart House

Registered with the Massachusetts Historical Commission as A-A9

1721

James Stewart married 1687 Benit Briggs, dau. Samuel and Elizabeth (Ellis) Briggs, gr. dau. Elizabeth Ellis, original proprietor and Ellis family Matriarch, a very early proprietor and resident in Marion two children born to James and Benit, Jonathan, b. 1687, and Benit, 1693

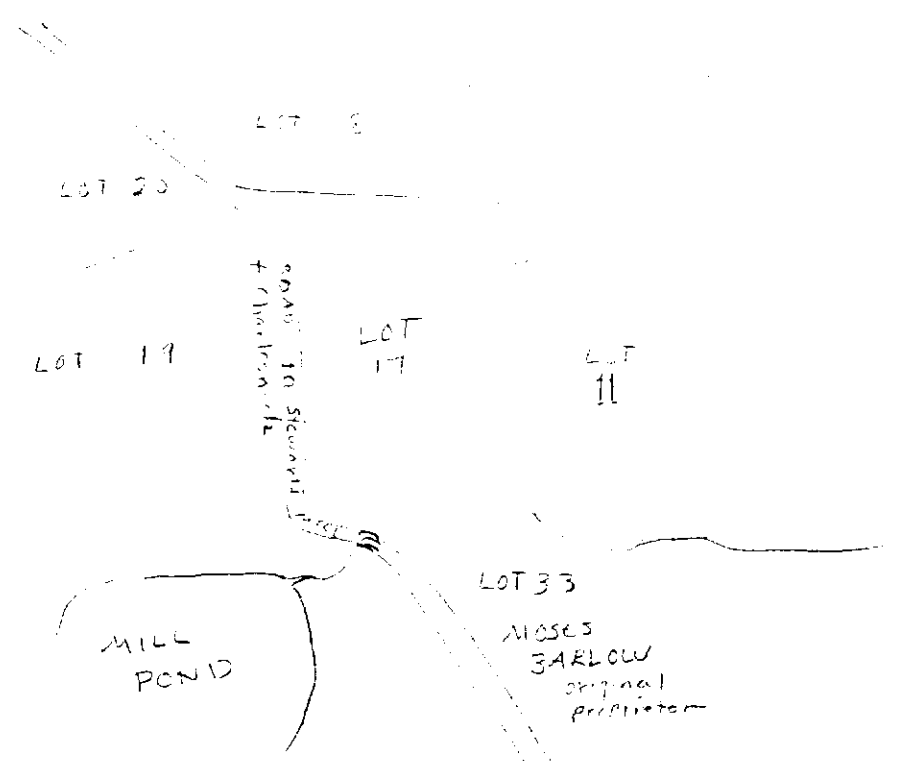
James Stewart married secondly (Benit apparently died when her dau.

Benit was born) Sarah Wait, 1694.

Their children : Elizabeth, Mary, Sarah, James, Daniel, Eliner, ~~Thankful~~ Joseph

(James Stewart J.r m. Hannah Dexter 1730, (dau of John and Sarah) Clark) Dexter, and had: Ann, Eliner, Elizabeth, Hannah, Mary, James, Sary and Thankful)

In 1694 James Stewart bought 60 acres from Moses Barlow --Next TO HIS HOUSELOT



James Stewart
Feb 14, 1748

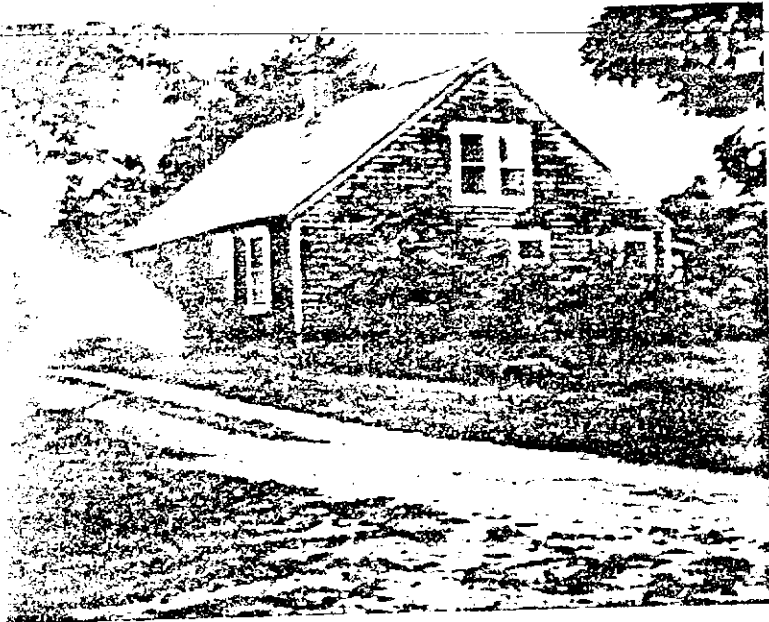


This is the plan of James Stewart's
 several land as it was given to him in his
 father's last will and testament
 as it is bounded on the plat above, and in all
 lots contained 73, four 55 rods and part of 2
 surveys lying on west side of sd. lot contain 31 acres
 125 rods of land

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no. A	Form no. <i>Roc. 10</i>
-------------------------	----------------------------



1. Town Rochester

Address Dexter Lane

Name: "Bonney Doone"

Present use home

Present owner Melissa Bowen

3. Description:

Date pre 1750

Source Walling Map; construction

Style 1 1/2 story cape

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Wood shingles

Outbuildings (describe) long carriage shed and wood sheds

Other features _____

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre _____ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 1200'

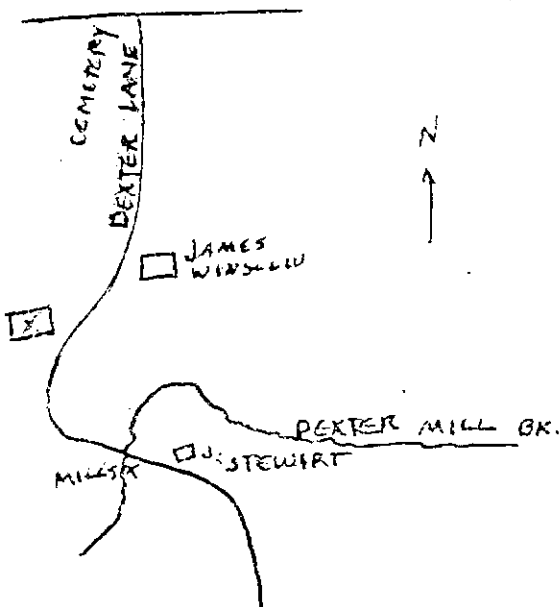
Approximate distance of building from street 50'

6. Recorded by Martha J. Gifford

Organization Historical Comm., Rochester

Date 6/20/73

2. map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant Maion 76
MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

JUN 30 1973

7. Original owner (if known) not known-possibly Joseph Doty

Original use home

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates home

uses (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<input type="checkbox"/>	Conservation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agricultural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	Religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
Architectural	<input type="checkbox"/>	Exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/>	Science/ invention	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Arts	<input type="checkbox"/>	Industry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social/ Humanitarian	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	Military	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Communication	<input type="checkbox"/>	Political	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Community development	<input type="checkbox"/>				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Age and area make it attractive and worth preserving.

During the revolution a small group of British soldiers begged refuge for the night in the sheds. They were gone in the morning, leaving a brooch as a gift to the lady of the house in lieu of payment and thanks.

The name Bonney Doone was given this house during the era when George Bonney Jr. lived here (See area A, form 4)

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Plymouth County Registry of Deeds
Proprietors Records
Local Memoirs

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town ROCHESTER

Property Address

86 DEXTER LANE

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Area(s) Form No.

A MHC/ROC 10

Massachusetts Archives Building

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

This property, known as the BONNEY DOONE HOUSE, had been standing empty for some time and was in a state of disrepair. It was put up for sale this past spring and sold. The new owner dismantled the home and moved it to Mattapoisett with the idea of rebuilding it using as much of the original material as is useable.

Where the home stood is now an empty lot.

Written by Susan M. LaFleur
Rochester Historical Commission

Aug. 24, 1999

Bibliography

The Florindo Family - former owners

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)	Form No.
A	ROC 10

PRESENT OWNER 1997 - ELIZABETH FLORINDO

CONDITION - GARAGE AND SHED REMOVED 1997

HOUSE IS BADLY DETERIORATED, PERHAPS BEYOND REPAIR.



7 - FEATHERBED LANE
HARTLEY ROAD

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

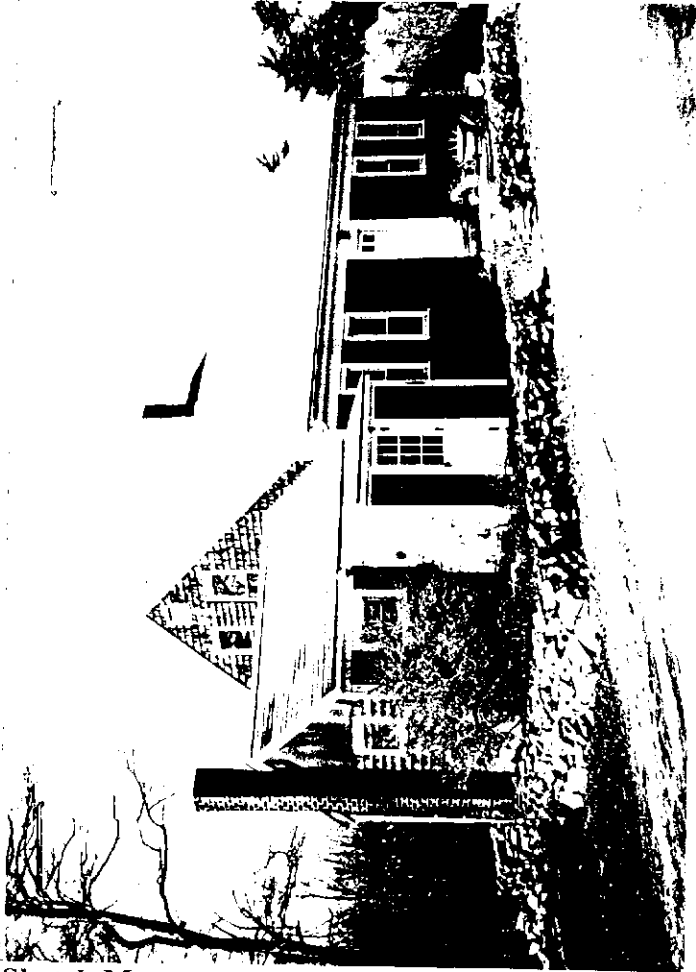
Form Number

46/17, 23

Assawompset Pond

52

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address 71 Featherbed Lane

Historic Name _____

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction ca. 1800

Source visual inspection

Style/Form No Style/ Full Cape

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation granite

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

detached garage (early 20th c.)

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

1-story, gable-roof ell (19th c.)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage approximately 40 acres

Setting set back from road about 10 feet; bordered by a low, stone perimeter wall with woods to W and S; horse pasture to north

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**

Rochester

Property Address:

71 Featherbed Lane

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**

52

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

71 Featherbed Lane is a 1½-story, Full Cape, residential building. It is a typical and well-preserved example of its type and period, the Cape form being very popular in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (east elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and has a simple wood surround. Fenestration consists of 1/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with molded wood surrounds. The structural system is timber frame on a granite foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. An interior, brick chimney is located on the east slope of the house near the ridge. Attached to the south elevation of the house is a 1-story, side-gable ell (19th c.) with a fieldstone foundation and an exterior, brick chimney on its south elevation. Attached to the east side of the ell is a 1-story, shed-roof entrance vestibule (foundation not visible). The property is in good condition and includes a random pile stone wall. A 1-story, wood shingle garage (early 20th c.) (poor condition) with a concrete foundation is located across the street, to the south of a horse pasture.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Featherbed Lane originally served as a stage route, and according to its present owner, 71 Featherbed Lane once served as a stage stop on this route. 71 Featherbed Lane was constructed ca. 1800, possibly for a member of the Braley Family. Numerous Braleys lived along this road and Braley Hill Road in the 19th and 20th centuries. The 1856 map shows four houses along Featherbed Lane, two of them were occupied by members of the Braley family. 71 Featherbed Lane is identified as belonging to J. Braley in 1856, and S. Braley in 1879 (Walling 1856, 1879 map). By 1907, Mrs. Charity Braley was residing at this address. She remained at this address until at least 1941 (1941 map). The current owner, Albert Riley, has lived at this house for 44 years.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

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- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
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- Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.
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- Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
- Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

- 1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

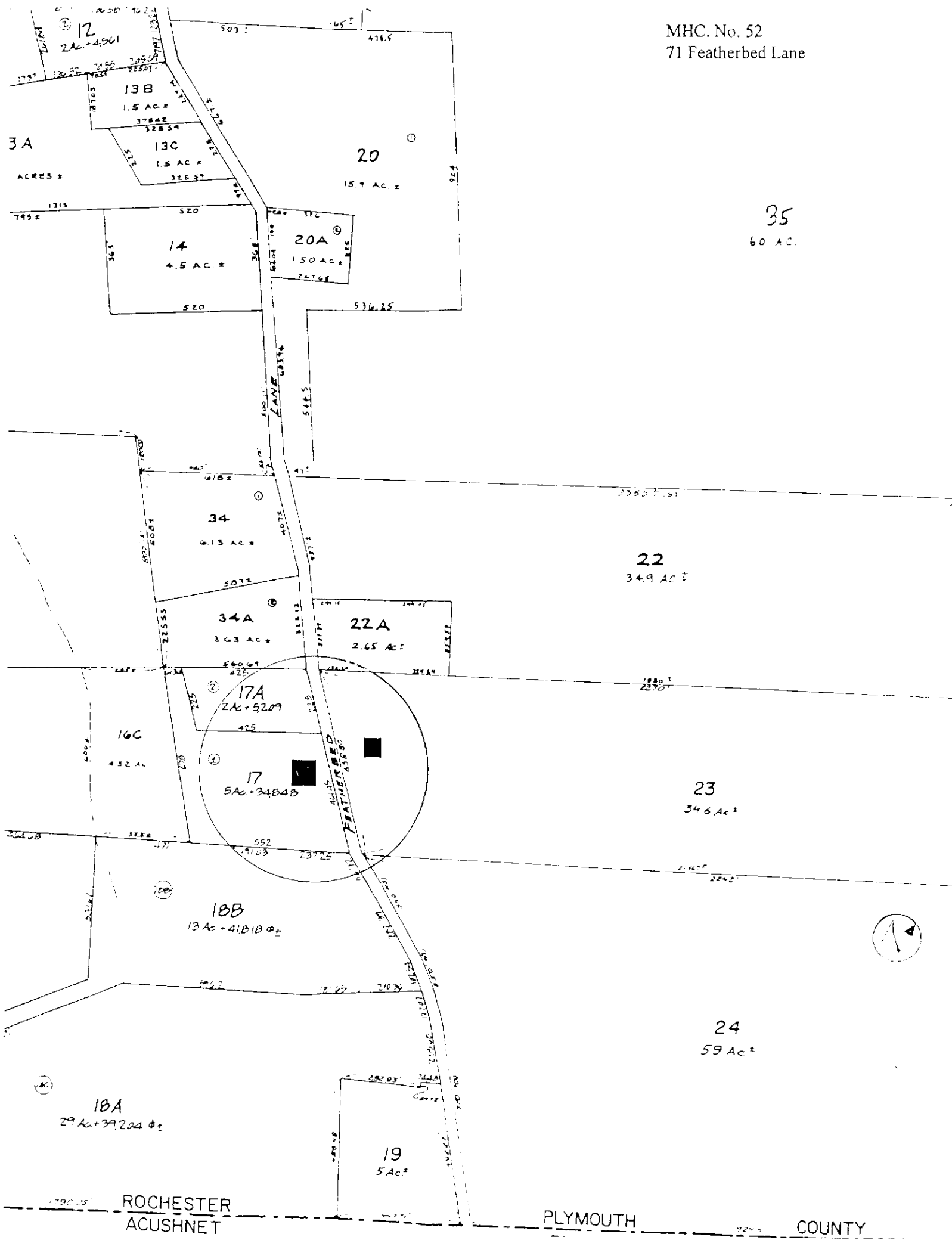
Property Address:
71 Featherbed Lane

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
52

- 1830 *Map of Rochester.* A. B. Hammond.
1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County.* Henry Francis Walling.
1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts.* Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.
1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903.*
1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.
1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.
1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704.* Rochester Historical Society.
1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854.* Rochester Historical Society.
1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map.* Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
----- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans.* Various surveyors and dates.



35
60 AC.

3A
ACRES ±

12
2 AC ± 4,561

13B
1.5 AC ±
37842
32854

13C
1.5 AC ±
37637

14
4.5 AC ±

16C
4.32 AC

17
5 AC ± 34848

17A
2 AC ± 5209

18A
29 AC ± 39,204 ±

18B
13 AC ± 41,010 ±

19
5 AC ±

20
15.9 AC ±

20A
150 AC ±
24748

22
34.9 AC ±

22A
2.65 AC ±

23
34.6 AC ±

24
59 AC ±

34
6.15 AC ±

34A
3.63 AC ±

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

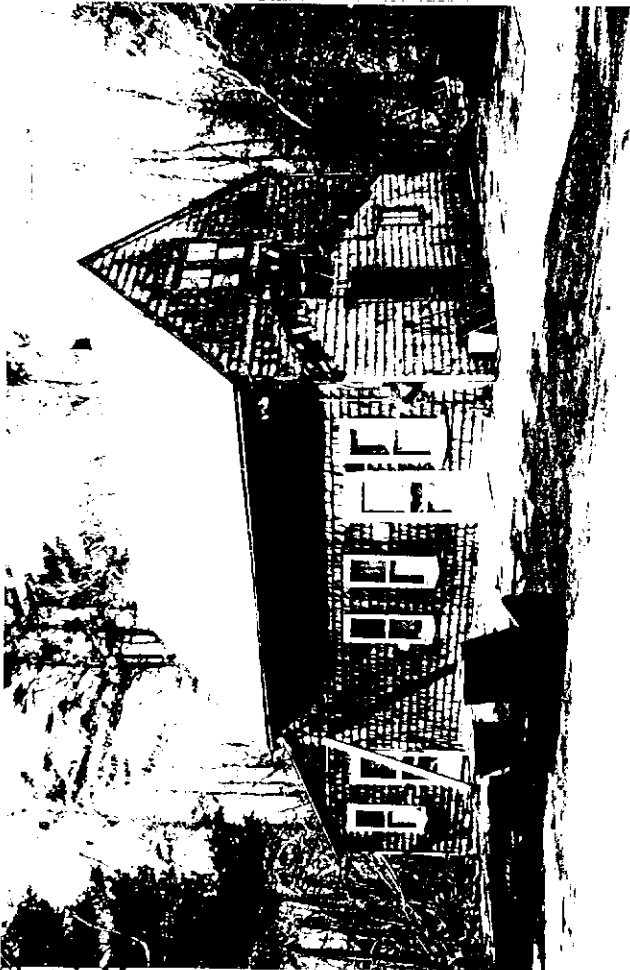
Form Number

46/34, 22

Assawompset Pond

53

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address 101 Featherbed Lane

Historic Name _____

Uses: Present residential

Original agriculture

Date of Construction 1789/late 18th c.

Source sign on house/ visual inspection

Style/Form No Style

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

detached barn (early 20th c.)

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

additional bay (early-mid-19th c.), 1-story, shed-roof ell (early 20th c.)

Condition fair

Moved X no _____ yes Date _____

Acreage approximately 41 acres

Setting set back from road about 20 feet; accessed by a gravel drive to north; land slopes drastically to rear; cleared for road/driveway

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**

Rochester

Property Address:

101 Featherbed Lane

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**

53

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

101 Featherbed Lane is a 1½-story, residential building. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has an asymmetrical, four-bay facade (east elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is offset on the facade and has a molded wood surround with a small wood sign above with the date "1789" on it. Fenestration consists of 1/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular and square openings with simple wood apron sills. The structural system is timber frame on a fieldstone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney is offset on the rear (west) roof slope. It appears as if a 1-story, saltbox-roof ell was once attached to the north elevation of the house, as evidenced by a concrete pad to the north of the house, the saltbox outline on the north elevation, and the change in shingles. Other alterations to the house include the addition of an extra bay on the south side of the house. Based on visual inspection, these additions most likely occurred in the early-to-mid-19th century. Attached to south elevation of the house is a 1-story, shed-roof ell (early 20th c.) set upon a concrete block foundation. The property is in fair condition and also includes a 1½-story, gambrel-roof, wood shingle barn with a concrete foundation (early 20th c.) across the street. This barn is in poor condition and the north portion of it has fallen in.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

According to a sign on the house, 101 Featherbed Lane was constructed in 1789, possibly for a member of the Taylor Family. The 1856 map shows four houses along Featherbed Lane, two of them were occupied by members of the Braley family. Numerous Braleys lived along this road and Braley Hill Road in the 19th and 20th centuries.

101 Featherbed Lane is identified as belonging to B. Taylor in 1856, and C.A. Taylor in 1879 (Walling 1856, 1879 map). According to the present owner of 71 Featherbed Lane (MHC 52, ca. 1800), 101 Featherbed Lane was originally a barn. The building may have been occupied by Charles M. Taylor in the late 19th and early 20th century since he is identified in directories as living along this road. It is unclear as to who occupied the house after 1907 since there are no Taylors listed along this road and the 1936 and 1941 maps do not identify the property with a name. By 1969, the property was occupied by M. Gifford (1969c map).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

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- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
- Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.
- Gurney, Judith Jenney. *Tales of Old Rochester*. Gateway Press, Inc., Baltimore, MD, 1990.
- Hurd, Duane Hamilton, ed. *History of Plymouth County*. J.W. Lewis & Co., Philadelphia, PA, 1884.
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- Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.
- Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
101 Featherbed Lane

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
53

Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

- 1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.
- 1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.
- 1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.
- 1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME. 1986.
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- 1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.
- 1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
101 Featherbed Lane

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

Area(s)

Form No.
53

PHOTOGRAPHS



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

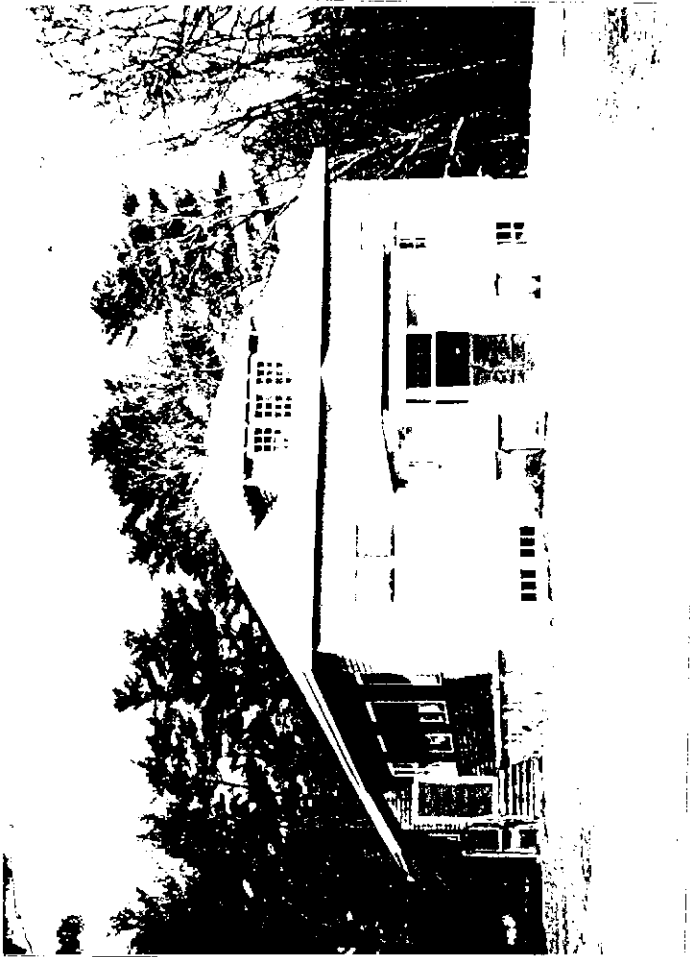
Form Number

39/26

Snipatuit Pond

54

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 205 Hartley Road

Historic Name Rochester Grange Hall #257

Uses: Present civic

Original civic

Date of Construction 1924

Source RHS files/ Building Inspection Cards

Style/Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder Brown & Poole

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation poured concrete

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

none

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

new clapboards (1994); façade resingled (1995); roof resingled (1996)

Condition fair

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 1 acre

Setting set back from road about 35 feet; woods to north and east; accessed by a gravel drive

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization PAL, Inc.; RHC; Susan LaFleur

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
205 Hartley Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
54

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

The Rochester Grange Hall at 205 Hartley Road is a 1½-story, Craftsman-style, civic building. It is notable for its low-pitched, hip-roof with exposed rafters and prominent hip dormer. The building has a rectangular plan with a symmetrical, three-bay facade (south elevation) and is five bays in depth. A 1-story, hip-roof, partially enclosed, entrance porch with tripled Doric columns is centrally located on the facade. The porch houses the primary entrance which consists of paired, wood doors set below a multi-light transom. Fenestration consists of paired, 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is wood frame on a poured concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A hip-roof dormer with a row of three, 6/6 windows and exposed rafters projects from the south slope of the roof. Secondary entrances are housed within 1-story, shed-roof ells on both the east and west elevations of the building. The property is in good condition. There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Hartley Road, originally named Rochester Avenue (Rochester Avenue ran from Neck Road at Cowen's Corner, southwest to the Acushnet line), was re-named for the Hartley family, several of which lived along this road in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (1879, 1936 maps). Hartleys Mill Pond, which had a saw mill along its edges, is also named for this family (1936 map).

The Rochester Grange Hall at 205 Hartley Road was constructed in 1924 to the designs of architects Brown and Poole of New Bedford, MA (Building Inspection Cards). Brown and Poole were responsible for the designs of several school buildings as well as the South Dartmouth Congregational Church (MHC DAR.58) in Dartmouth, MA, and the First Baptist Church in New Bedford (MHC NBE.208) (MHC Makers Index). The building was constructed as a permanent meeting place for the Rochester Grange #257. The Grange movement was part of a national fraternal organization movement which began in the 1870s to provide social, economic, and educational opportunities to farmers and their families. It reached the height of popularity in New England between the 1890s and the 1910s with many local chapters building or converting large buildings into grange halls (Visser 1997:54).

The Rochester Grange was founded February 12, 1906. The first meeting in the hall was held before the building was finished, on October 8, 1924. The hall was dedicated at the June 10, 1925 meeting with 280 people in attendance. Following grange custom, the keys to the hall were given by the State Grange Master to Maurice Fuller, Grange Master of Rochester, who in turn gave them to Grange Steward John Gayoski. The Grange has sponsored numerous local fairs at this site since its construction. Today the hall is home not just to the Rochester Grange, but also to local Boy Scouts for their winter meetings. The Rochester Lions Club has met there since 1986 and the K9 Club has held obedience training there since June 1989. The hall also serves the community by holding rabies clinics there several times a year. It is also available for use by private individuals and for local square dancing groups.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:

Rochester

Property Address:

205 Hartley Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Massachusetts Archives Facility

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

Form No.

54

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Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List.* Rochester, MA, 1997.

Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Visser, Thomas Durant. *Field Guide to New England Barns and Farm Buildings.* Hanover, NH., 1997.

Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts.* Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

1830 *Map of Rochester.* A. B. Hammond.

1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County.* Henry Francis Walling.

1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts.* Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.

1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903.*

1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.

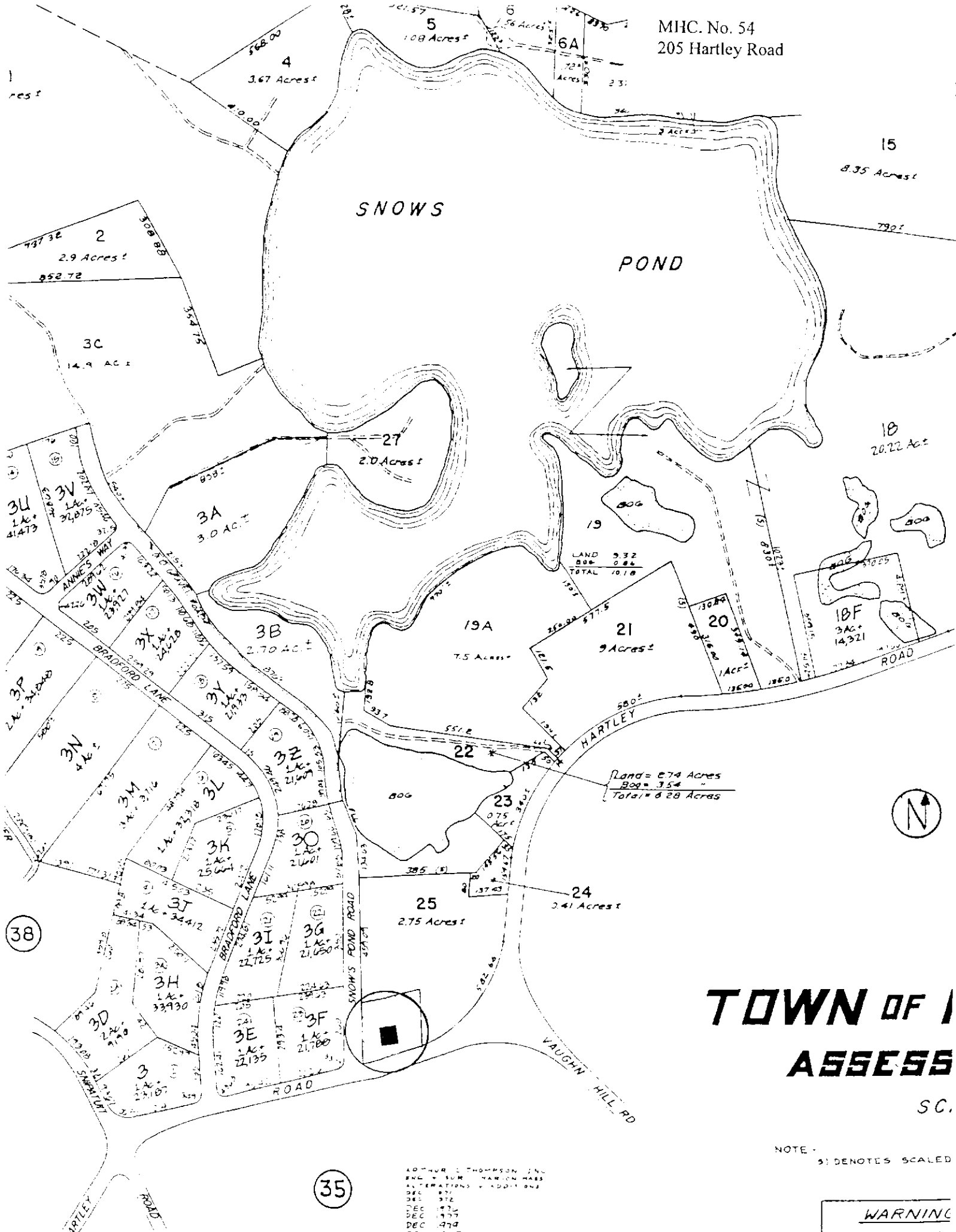
1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941.* (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.

1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704.* Rochester Historical Society.

1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854.* Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map.* Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.



TOWN OF HARTLEY ASSESS

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NOTE - S) DENOTES SCALED

WARNING
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ALL OPERATIONS & ADDIT. ENG.
DEC. 87
DEC. 92
DEC. 97
DEC. 97
DEC. 97
DEC. 97

38

35

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

39/23

Snipatuit Pond

55, 56

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*) _____

Address 245 Hartley Road

Historic Name _____

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction early 20th c./before 1933

Source Foss 1933/ 1936 map

Style/Form No Style

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation poured concrete

Wall/Trim vinyl siding

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

1-story shed (20th c.); 1 1/2-story shop/cottage (MHC 56, late 19th c.)

Major Alterations (*with dates*) _____

1-story, gable-roof ell (mid-20th c.); 1-story, shed-roof porch

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 0.75 acres

Setting set back from road about 15 feet; land slopes down toward cranberry bogs located to rear

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (*month/day/year*) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEETCommunity:
RochesterProperty Address:
245 Hartley RoadMassachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

Form No.
55, 56**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION** *(continued)*

The property at 245 Hartley Road is a 1½-story, residential building. It is a modest example within the survey area that has been altered by the addition of a side ell and synthetic siding. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, three-bay facade (east elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade within a 1-story, full-facade, shed-roof, enclosed porch. Fenestration consists of single and paired 1/1 and 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings. The structural system is wood frame on a poured concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with vinyl siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A shed-roof dormer projects from the east slope of the roof. A 1-story, gable-roof ell set upon a concrete foundation is attached to the south elevation of the house. Brick chimneys are located on the rear slope of the roof and at the center ridge of the side ell.

The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, wood shingle shed with a concrete foundation (20th c.) to the north and 1½-story, side-gable shop/cottage (MHC 56, late 19th c.) to the south. The shop/cottage is a rectangular, wood shingle building set upon a stone foundation. The main entrance is located in the north bay of the east elevation and is comprised of a vertical wood door with a plain wood surround. Windows are 2/2 double-hung sash with projecting wood lintels. Attached to the north elevation of the shop/cottage is a 1-story, shed-roof ell.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Hartley Road, originally named Rochester Avenue (Rochester Avenue ran from Neck Road at Cowen's Corner, southwest to the Acushnet line), was re-named in the early 20th century for the Hartley family, several of which lived along this road in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (1879, 1936 maps). Hartleys Mill Pond is also named for this family which had a saw mill along its edges (1936 map).

245 Hartley Road was constructed in the early 20th century, before 1933, when Mrs. Emily C. Snell lived there (1879 map; Foss 1933:187; 1936 map). Several other members of the Snell family lived along Rochester Avenue in the early 20th century, including Albert F., Albert R., Isaiah H., and Ralph W. (Foss 1903-1933). Emily continued to reside at this address until at least 1941 (1941 map). By 1969, the property was occupied by the Ouellette family, who continue to reside there to the present day (1969c map, List of Residents 1997).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.

Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

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Leonard, Mary Hall. "Old Rochester and Her Daughter Towns". *New England Magazine*, vol. 20, p. 613-635, n.d.

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
245 Hartley Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
55, 56

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

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Maps

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1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

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1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.

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1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.

1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
245 Hartley Road

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

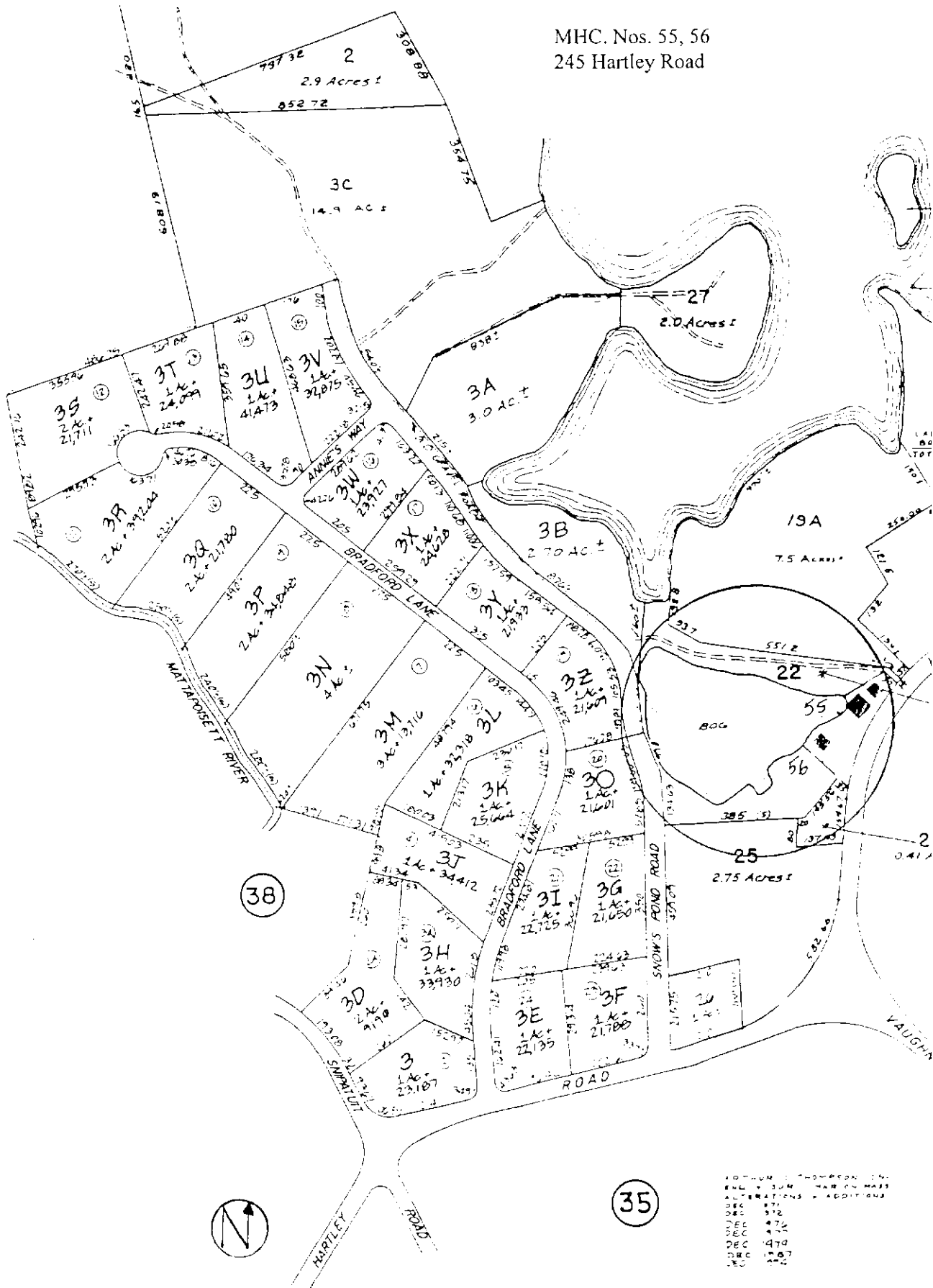
Area(s)

Form No.
55, 56

PHOTOGRAPHS



38



38



35

LOT NUMBER : THOMPSON INC.
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 ALTERATIONS & ADDITIONS
 DEC 871
 DEC 912
 DEC 976
 DEC 475
 DEC 479
 DEC 1787
 DEC 922

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

39/21

Snipatuit Pond

57, 58

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 265 Hartley Road

Historic Name Charles E. Bumpus House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction early 20th c.

Source visual inspection/ Foss 1907

Style/Form No Style/Full Cape

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation concrete block

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

1 1/2-story barn (MHC 58, late 19th c.); attached garage (mid-20th c.)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

1-story, shed-roof ell (mid-20th c.)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 9 acres

Setting set back about 20 feet; accessed by a gravel drive; 4 low, stone posts at front of property

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:

Rochester

Property Address:

265 Hartley Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Massachusetts Archives Facility

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)

Form No.

57, 58

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)*

The property at 265 Hartley Road is a 1½-story, residential building. It is a typical example of an early 20th century, Full Cape-type house. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (east elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and has a simple wood surrounds. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple lintels and sills. The structural system is wood frame on a concrete block foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. An interior, brick chimney is centrally located at the ridge. A 1-story, shed-roof, one-bay ell (mid-20th c.) has been added to the north bay of the east elevation. Attached to the northwest elevation of the house is a 1-story, side-gable garage (mid-20th century). The property is in good condition. A 1½-story, end-gable, wood shingle barn (MHC 58, late 19th c.) is located to the west of the house. The front of the property is marked by four low, stone posts, which are probably the remnants of an earlier property.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

Hartley Road, originally named Rochester Avenue (Rochester Avenue ran from Neck Road at Cowen's Corner, southwest to the Acushnet line), was re-named in the early 20th century for the Hartley family, several of which lived along this road in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (1879, 1936 maps). Hartleys Mill Pond is also named for this family, which had a saw mill along its edges (1936 map).

265 Hartley Road was constructed on land that was occupied by an earlier residence constructed in the mid-late 19th century, prior to 1856, when J. Pierce lived there (Walling 1856). By 1879, the house was occupied by another member of the Pierce family, S.B. Pierce (1879 map). Architectural evidence, based on comparisons with buildings of similar design and construction materials, indicates that the present building was constructed in the early 20th century. By 1907, the property was occupied by Charles E. Bumpus, a fisherman, and it was probably at this time that the building was constructed (Foss 1907:127). Also at this address were George W. Bumpus, of Church and Bumpus, box board manufacturers, and his wife Lillian (Foss 1919:200). Charles continued to reside at this address until at least 1941 (1941 map). The house had changed hands by 1969 when Albert Alderson lived there (1969c map). The Aldersons continue to reside there to the present day (List of Residents 1997).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

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Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.

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Marion Bicentennial Commission. *Sippican 76*. Marion Bicentennial Commission, Marion, MA, 1976.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
265 Hartley Road

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
57, 58

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.

Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.

1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.

1879 *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts*. Saco Valley Printing, Fryeburg, ME, 1986.

1903 *Plymouth County Atlas of 1903*.

1936 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1936*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made January 15, 1934.

1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.

1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.

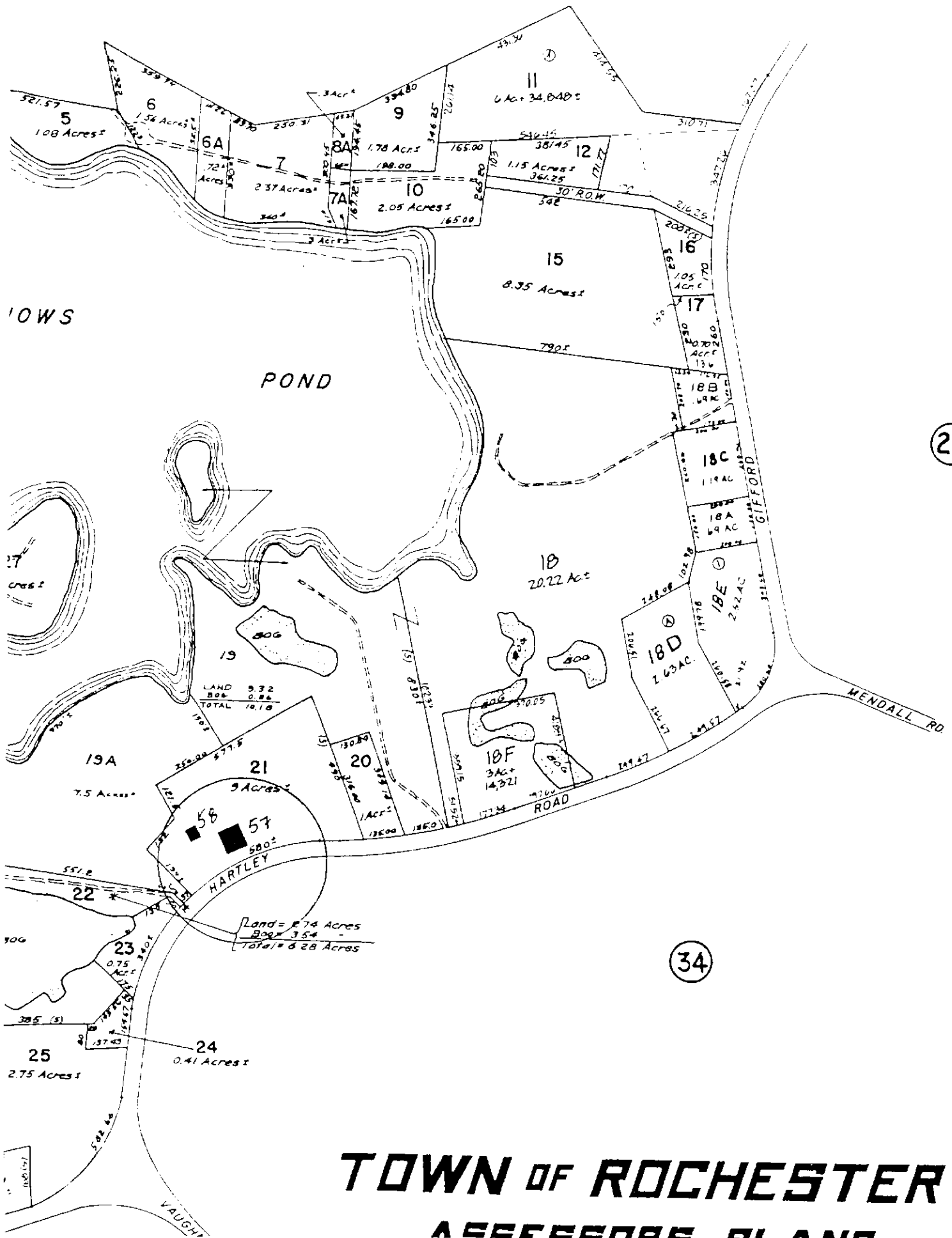
1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.

40

MHC. Nos. 57, 58
265 Hartley Road



TOWN OF ROCHESTER

ACCEPTANCE OF MAP

8 - HIGH STREET - HILLER ROAD
KINGS HIGHWAY

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

14/9

Snipatuit Pond

59

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 22 High Street

Historic Name Enos Bolton House

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction between 1856 and 1879

Source Walling 1856/ 1879 map

Style/Form No Style/ 3/4 Cape

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material: _____

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

1-story shed (20th c.)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

1-story, side-gable ell (mid-late 19th c.)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 6.58 acres

Setting set back about 15 feet from road; wood post and rail fence to north; circular gravel drive to south; cranberry bog across street to west

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
22 High Street**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
59**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

The property at 22 High Street is a 1½-story, 3/4 Cape-type, residential building. It is a typical and relatively unaltered example of its type and period, the Cape form being the predominant building type in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has an asymmetrical, four-bay facade (west elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is offset on the facade within a projecting, 1-story, pedimented vestibule. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Other notable exterior architectural features include cornerboards and cornice returns. Attached to the south elevation of the building is a 1-story, side-gable ell (mid-late 19th c.) set upon a stone foundation. Three brick chimneys are located at the center ridge of the main block, center ridge of the ell, and the exterior end of the south elevation. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, saltbox-roof shed (20th c.) to the east.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE *(continued)*

22 High Street was constructed between 1856 and 1879, when Enos Bolton, a farmer, lived there (Walling 1856, 1879 map). Enos remained at this address until at least 1907 (Foss 1970:126). Between 1910 and 1933, the building was occupied by Marcus S. Bumpus, a farmer (Foss 1910:127). Members of the Bumpus family remained at this address until at least 1941 (1936, 1941 maps). By 1969, the property was occupied by members of the Mendes family (1969c map). The Mendes family are descendants of Bernadino (1851-1920) and Christina (1853-1923) Varella, who immigrated from the Cape Verdean Islands around 1900 and settled nearby at 588 Walnut Plain Road (MHC 104, mid-19th c.). Bernadino planted and cultivated the cranberry bog (MHC 803) that sits directly east of 22 High Street. Bernadino worked as a foreman and builder of numerous cranberry bogs in the area and became a leader of the Cape Verdean community. The Varella family became well-known in Rochester and many descendants of Bernadino and Christina settled in this area along Walnut Plain Road, High Street, and Burgess Avenue (Mendes 1984:no page). In 1996 the junction of High Street and Walnut Plain Road was designated "Varella Corner" and marked by a small monument and sign. The current occupant, Nicholas Mendes, is the great-grandson of Bernadino and Christina Varella (List of Residents 1997).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
- Goodenough, Caroline Leonard. *Legends, Loves, and Loyalties of Old New England*. Published by the author, Rochester, MA, n.d.
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- Massachusetts Historical Commission. *MHC Reconnaissance Survey Report, Town of Rochester*. Massachusetts Historical

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
22 High Street

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
59

Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

Mendes, et al. *"The Long Journey"*, 1984.

Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.

Vertical files located at the Rochester Historical Society in Rochester, MA.

Maps

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1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

1856 *Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County*. Henry Francis Walling.

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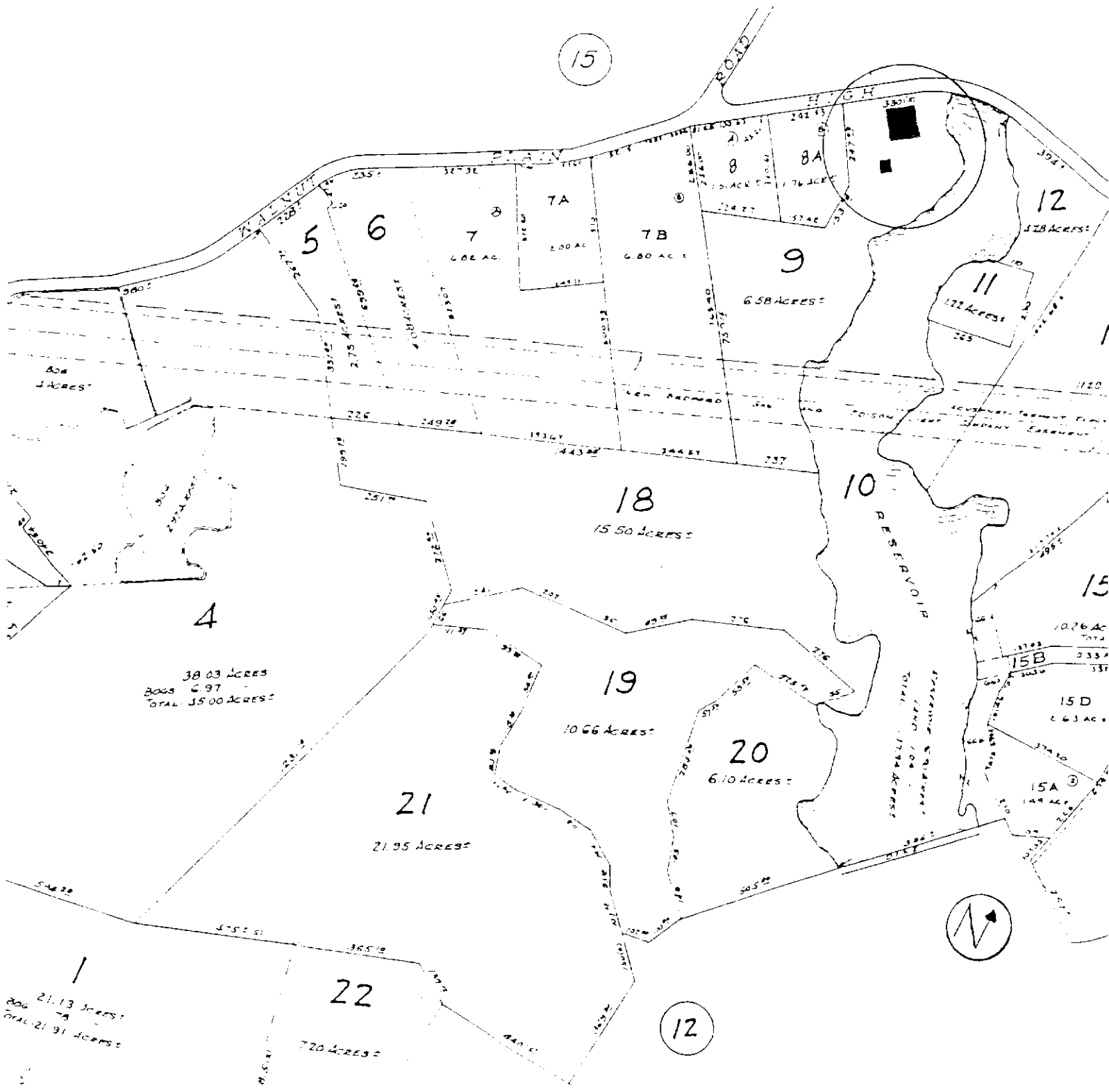
1941 *Plan of Town of Rochester, 1686-1941*. (Based on Plymouth County atlas of 1903). Additions and changes made August 1941.

1969a *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1704*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969b *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts, 1854*. Rochester Historical Society.

1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map*. Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.

----- Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans. Various surveyors and dates.



FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph

(3" x 3" or 3-1/2" x 5" black and white only) Label photo on back with town and property address. Record film roll and negative numbers here on the form. Staple photo to left side of



Recorded by Anna E. White
 Organization Rochester Historical Commission
 Date (month/year) June, 1999

Assessor's Number	USGS Quad	Area(s)	Form Number
33/41	Marion		

Town Rochester
 Place (neighborhood or village) Cushman Road Area

Address 87 Jason's Lane
 Historic Name Sherman Homestead

Use Residential/ 3 Apartments
 Original Single Family Dwelling

Construction Approx. 1774
 Coin found in Corner Post

Style Colonial
 Builder Unknown

Material:
 Foundation Stone
 Siding Wood/Clapboard
 Roofing Asphalt shingle
 Additions/Secondary Structures

Major Alterations (with dates) 1987
Completely renovated, Interior & Exterior

Condition Excellent
 Moved no yes Date

Acreage 100
 Setting Rural/Pastoral

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This 2½-story Colonial style rectangular house with side ell and its attached back ell sits at the end of Jason's Lane. When approaching the house, it is the back of the dwelling that comes into view. The side gable main block has a five-bay facade and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and consists of a vertical wood door with wood panel surrounds and a 4-light transom. The main body of the house is strikingly similar to the James Stewart House at 119 Dexter Lane in Rochester, but the difference in supposed building dates would indicate they could not have had the same builder. The timber frame sits on a fieldstone foundation. Exterior walls are now clapboard and roofing is asphalt shingles.

The house faces east. Originally the road continued on for several miles, crossing the Mattapoissett River and coming out on another traveled way. This may account for the positioning of the house. The front of the house now looks out on lush open meadow and a tranquil natural pond.

Although the fireplaces in the main body of the house were long ago made inoperable, the front ell contains a beautiful working fireplace with usable brick oven.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE see continuation sheet

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 early history of Rochester abounds with Sherman Families. This particular piece of property was part of an even bigger acreage which changed hands within various members of Sherman families, many, many times. A 1704 map shows a grist and sawmill on the south side of Rounseville Road, opposite the site of the later Rounseville Sawmill. This mill site is thought to have been on Sherman property. Also, the same map shows extensive area owned by John Sherman, Jr. Just which Sherman the house was built for is not known.

In 1872, Jason Braley, for whom the lane later was named, "bought at public auction for 2,800.30 being the highest bidder part of land of Dennis Sherman approximately 150 acres from Dennis Sherman Estate to Jason Braley By executor Issac C. Sherman." (Book 385 Page 274) It is interesting to note that Jason Braley's daughter married A Sherman, connecting it once again to the Shermans.

John Pike bought from Jason Braley in 1903 John Laycock bought from Pike in 1919. Then came several transfers between Louis Gaudette and others: Gaudette bought from Laycock in 1925, sold in 1925 to Napoleon Morin. In May of 1926, this went back from Morin to Gaudette. In 1928, Gaudette sold to Thomas and Emma Hebert.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Historical Society Map 1704
Plymouth County Registry Research done
by present owners, Robert and Harriett Sherman
Personal Contact with Robert and Harriett Sherman

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

Property Address

Rochester

87 Jason's Lane

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 20 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s)

Form No.

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Historical Narrative, cont.

Louis Gaudette of Acushnet bought from Laycock in 1925. Then came several transfers between Gaudette and others: Gaudette sold to Napoleon Morin, in 1925. In May of 1926, this went back to Gaudette. Gaudette sold to Thomas & Emma Hebert and at a later time, ownership was relinquished back to Gaudette.

Following this, Gaudette sold it to the Catholic Order of Forrester's (Book 2119, Page 150) This Catholic Order of Forrester's held the property for several years, but it again reverted to Gaudette for non payment of mortgage.

In 1950, Clifford L. Sherman, Sr. Purchased 130 acres including the farm house and small barn from Gaudette. (Book 2451 Page 461)

In the mid-fifties, this farm house was converted into three apartments. During this transformation period, a King George coin, dated 1774, was found embedded in a corner-post. Since this was a common custom in those days, it is assumed that the house was built about that date. The present owners have this coin in their possession.

In 1985, these owners, Robert (son of Clifford Sherman, Sr.) and his wife Harriett Sherman bought from the Estate of Clifford L. Sherman Sr., approximately 65 acres (containing the farm house and the small barn.) (Book 5921 Page 84) Previously, Clifford Sr. had sold 30 of the 130 acres to James & Audrey Reynolds of Acushnet. Clifford L. Sherman Jr. bought 35 acres of the Estate. In April, 1998, Robert and Harriett purchased the 35 acres from Clifford L. Jr. (Book 16065, Page 33)

There are nine other homes presently on Jason's Lane, all of them of much more recent vintage than the old farm-house. Many of the houses are on lots formerly owned by Clifford Sherman, Sr. outside of the farm-house acreage that was his. Two of the attractive homes on the lane are owned and occupied by his granddaughters and their families, thus continuing the Sherman connection to considerable land in the Jason's Lane area well into the next century.



FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

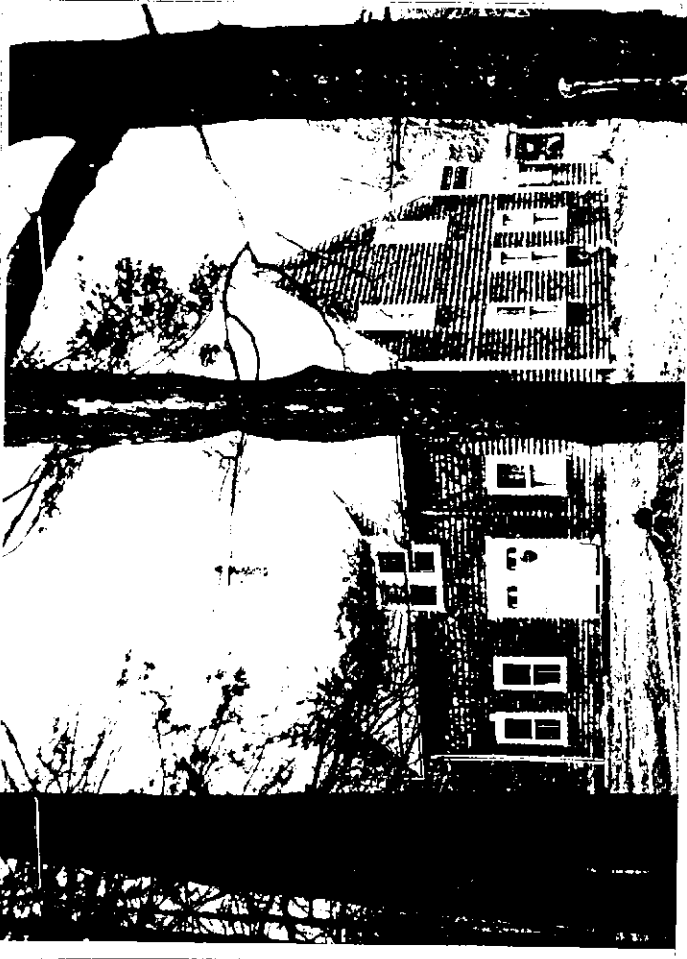
Form Number

17/32

Snipatuit Pond

60

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



Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Address 16 Kings Highway

Historic Name _____

Uses: Present multi-family dwelling

Original multi-family dwelling

Date of Construction late 19th c./after 1879

Source 1879 map

Style/Form No Style

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

none

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

1-story, gable-roof ell

Condition good

Moved no yes Date _____

Acreage 2.73 acres

Setting set back about 60-70 feet from road; accessed by

gravel drive to west; row of mature trees at front of

property

Recorded by M. K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:**
Rochester**Property Address:**
16 Kings Highway**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)****Form No.**
60**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION (continued)**

16 Kings Highway is a 1½-story, multi-family dwelling. It is an unusual local example of a double house. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (south elevation) and is three bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and consists of paired, wood doors with a single, simple wood surround. Fenestration consists of 2/2 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds and projecting sills. The structural system is wood frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Two interior, brick chimneys pierce the roofline, one at each end of the house at the ridge. A shed-roof wall dormer, which breaks the cornice line, is centrally located on the south roof slope. A 1-story, gable-roof, wood-shingled ell, flanked by 1-story, shed-roof side ells, is located on the rear elevation. The property is in good condition. There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued)

Although never densely populated, King's Highway was constructed prior to 1856 (Walling 1856). It is a short piece of road that runs through the northeast corner of Rochester, connecting the town with Middleborough to the north and Wareham to the east.

16 Kings Highway was constructed in the late 19th century, after 1879 (1879 map). The property was occupied by Donald Beaton, a carpenter, in 1907 (Foss 1907:126). By 1916, Donald is no longer listed, although his wife remains, along with Barbara M. Beaton (Foss 1916:237). The 1933 directory lists Mrs. Donald Beaton, Mrs. Sarah Beaton, Angus M. Beaton, a box maker, and his wife Jennie. The Beatons continued to reside at this address until at least 1941 (1941 map).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

- Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett. *Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Massachusetts*. The Grafton Press, New York, NY, 1907.
- Foss, A. E. & Company. *Resident and Business Directory of Rochester, Wareham, Marion, and Mattapoisett, Massachusetts*. Hopkinton, MA, various dates.
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- Town of Rochester. *List of Residents; Street List; Alphabetic List*. Rochester, MA, 1997.
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Maps

- 1795 *Rochester, Massachusetts*. Hand drawn map of town of Rochester.
- 1830 *Map of Rochester*. A. B. Hammond.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:
Rochester

Property Address:
16 Kings Highway

**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

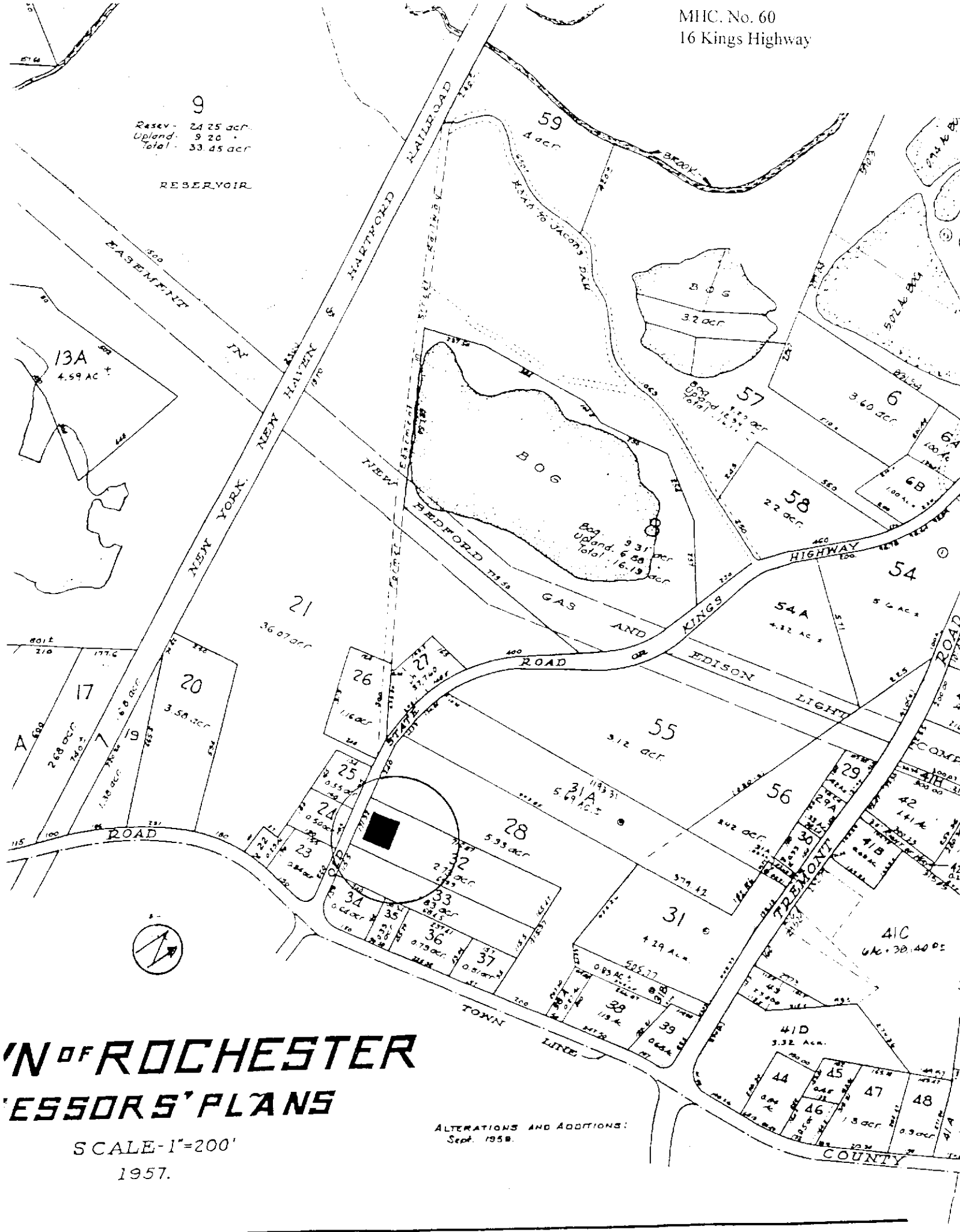
Area(s)

Form No.
60

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- 1969c *Town of Rochester, Massachusetts Town Map.* Prepared by Tibbetts Engineering Corp., New Bedford, MA.
- *Town of Rochester Assessor's Plans.* Various surveyors and dates.

9
Resev. 24.25 ac.
Upland. 9.20
Total. 33.45 ac.

RESERVOIR



'N OF ROCHESTER 'ESSORS' PLANS

SCALE - 1" = 200'
1957.

ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS:
Sept. 1958.

COUNTY