

December 14, 1998

Board of Selectmen  
Town of Rochester  
1 Constitution Way  
Rochester, MA. 02770-2010

To The Honorable Board of Selectmen,

With the delivery of these volumes to the Town of Rochester we acknowledge the time and hard work of P.A.L., Inc. of Rhode Island. We also thank those interested townspeople who helped our committee in making corrections to the report and to our updating of work done in 1973. Our hope is for continued research to update, particularly with historical facts, those homes already listed and to research and list other properties within the town that we believe are important to the character of our town. Although it has been a long and challenging task, the members of the committee, have thoroughly enjoyed the research and preparation that has brought the project to completion. We hope it will be a lasting contribution to the recorded histories of our illustrious Town of Rochester.

Sincerely,

Barbara Besse - Chairman  
Betty E. Beaulieu - Secretary  
Susan M. LaFleur  
Allen C. Vieira  
Anna C. White  
Daniel Wright  
Martha R. Wright

Rochester Historical Commission

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These volumes contain not only the 1997-1998 Town Survey as done by The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. of Rhode Island with the help and co-operation of the Rochester Historical Commission but also Surveys done and submitted to the Massachusetts Historical Commission in Boston by the Rochester Historical Society in 1973.

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AREA A  
ROCHESTER CENTER

FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets

USGS Quad

Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

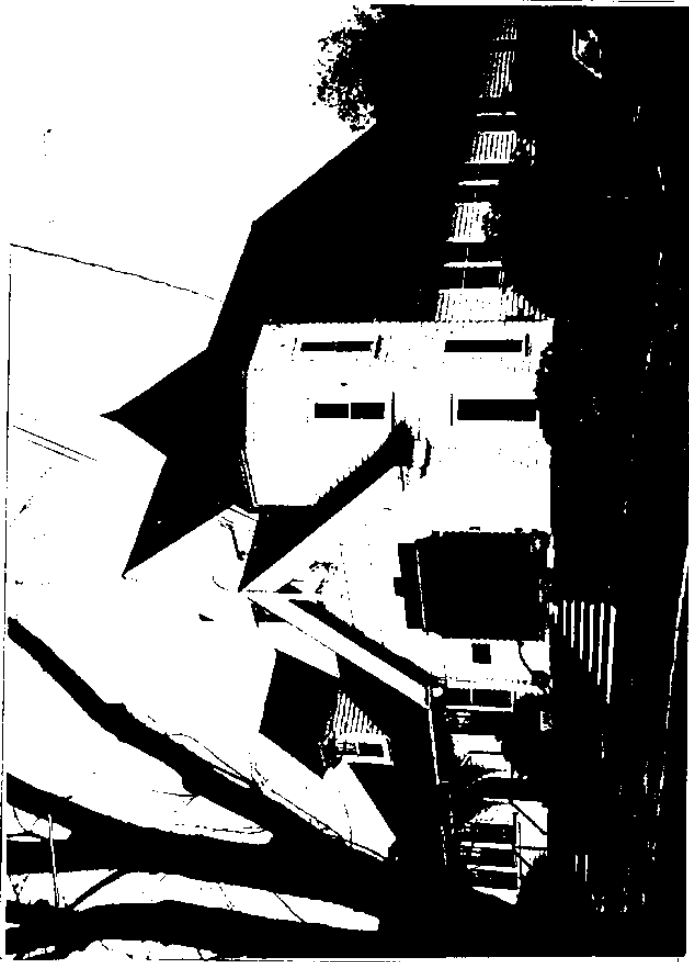
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125 921

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



Sketch Map                      ROCHESTER TOWN HALL

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (*neighborhood or village*)                     

Rochester Center

Name of Area Rochester Center

Present Use civic; residential; recreation/culture

Construction Dates or Period                     

ca.1690 through early-mid-20th century

Overall Condition good

Major Intrusions and Alterations                     

addition of commercial strip and library; loss of several older residences

Acreage approx. 70 acres

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:**

Rochester Center Area

**Massachusetts Historical Commission**

**Massachusetts Archives Facility**

**220 Morrissey Boulevard**

**Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

**Area(s)**

A

**Form No.**

920 921

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**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

Rochester Center (MHC Area A) is comprised of a variety of resources associated with the development of the town center, from its earliest period of settlement through the mid-20th century. It includes the town's civic buildings centered around the Town Green (MHC 815) as well as several of the oldest extant residences in Rochester. The area is roughly L-shaped and bordered by Constitution Way, Dexter Lane, Marion Road, Mary's Pond Road, New Bedford Road, and Rounseville Road. The area is comprised of three civic buildings, eight residential buildings, one cemetery, two parks, two objects, and three monuments.

The Rochester Town Hall at 1 Constitution Way (MHC 1, 1892), 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. A 1-story, front-gable rear ell extends along the south and west elevation and a 1-story, hip-roof side ell (currently the assessor's office) is located along the south and east elevations (early-mid-20th c.). The building is accessed by a paved drive and lot to the north and landscape elements consist of foundation plantings and small shrubs with woods to the west. The property is in good condition and retains a high degree of integrity.

The Rochester Academy at 7 Constitution Way (MHC 2, 1838) 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 an irregular 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 molded hood. 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 is open with a classical entablature supported by 3 square posts at each corner. Other notable exterior architectural features include a double classical entablature that runs underneath 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 (19th c.) and outbuildings include a small, gable roof shed (late

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19th c.) that features exposed rafters and novelty siding. 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.

The First Congregational Church at 11 Constitution Way (MHC 3, 1837) 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 early 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 windows in arched 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 patterns on the bell tower as well as pointed finials and corner posts with recessed panels. A large, 1-story, front-gable rear addition (1993) is attached to 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 maintains a high degree of integrity.

These 3 civic buildings line the west perimeter of the Town Green (MHC 815), a triangularly-shaped parcel of land bound by Constitution Street to the west and south and Rounseville Road to the east. A relatively flat piece of land, it is dotted with mature trees and manicured shrubs that do not obscure the buildings. On the Town Green (MHC 815) stand several objects including the Civil War Monument (MHC 911, 1927) and the First Meeting House Rock (MHC 905, 1906).

The Civil War Monument (MHC 911, 1927) stands at the west end of the Town Green (MHC 815) in front of the Town Hall (MHC 1, 1892). The entire monument forms a slight arch that extends over 20 feet. The focal point of the monument is a slab of uncut stone that stands approximately 4 feet high and weighs 11 tons. A large, rectangular bronze tablet is set into the stone and is inscribed with the names of 81 townsmen below the inscription: "THESE MEN OF ROCHESTER FOUGHT TO SAVE THE UNION."

The First Meetinghouse Rock (MHC 905, 1906) is a large piece of uncut stone located at the east end of the Town Green (MHC 815). It stands approximately 4½ feet tall and has a wide base that narrows near the top. Set into the stone is a small, rectangular bronze tablet inscribed with low relief lettering that reads: "NEAR THIS SPOT/THE TOWN OF/ROCHESTER/BUILT ITS FIRST/MEETING HOUSE/IN 1699 HERE/WAS ORGANIZED/THE FIRST CHURCH/OF ROCHESTER/IN 1703".

The Pump and Trough (MHC 909, mid-19th c.) are located at the east end of the Town Green (MHC 815) at the intersection of Marion Road and New Bedford Road. The narrow, wrought iron pump stands approximately 2½ feet tall and sits on a wooden plank. The neck of the pump extends over a cut granite trough. The pump is one of the few of its kind remaining in Rochester, and is similar to the pump that stands on the grounds of the Sherman Cemetery (MHC 812). The trough extends approximately 3 feet in length and is 1 foot in height. Both the pump and the trough stand in front of an arched top iron highway sign. These 3 objects stand in front of a tall, mature pine tree on a flat and open landscape.

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The Calvin R. Daggett Square (MHC 814) is located at the junction of Marion Road and Mary's Pond Road. It is a V-shaped parcel of land that includes mature trees and small shrubs. The focal point of the square are two memorial stones and a sign. The Calvin Daggett (1924-1980) memorial is a small uncut stone that stands approximately 2½ feet high and 1½ feet in diameter. Facing west, the center of the stone contains a rectangular bronze tablet (MHC 908, ca.1980) with a low relief portrait of Calvin Daggett set within a medallion. Below the medallion is the inscription: "IN MEMORY OF/CALVIN R. DAGGETT/1924-1980/RESPECTED AND LOVED/AN INSPIRATION TO MANY." The stone is marked by a tall wood sign to the east that marks the area as The Calvin R. Daggett Square.

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Also within The Calvin R. Daggett Square (MHC 814) is the WWI Monument (MHC 907, ca.1918) which stands just to the southwest of the Calvin Daggett stone. The WWI Monument (MHC 907, ca.1918) is a large piece of uncut stone that rises approximately 4 feet high and is approximately 1½ feet deep. The front of the stone faces south and contains an rectangular bronze tablet with an eyebrow shaped top. A low relief star contains the letters "US" in the center and is set upon a circular swag of garland. Below the star is the inscription: "ROCHESTER REMEMBERS/1917 WORLD WAR 1919/ARMY." Below the inscription are the names of thirty Rochester men who fought in World War I, including members of the Hartley, Rounseville, Ryder, Sherman, and Coggeshall families.

The Rochester Honor Roll Sign (MHC 910, early-mid-20th c.) at the junction of Marion and Mary's Pond roads is a large, rectangular sign covered with glass and bordered by a decorative wood frame. The frame features an arched top with an entablature that bears the name "ROCHESTER HONOR ROLL." The sign is flanked by recessed panel pilasters and sits on short wood posts.

The George Bonney House at 7 Marion Road (MHC 4, 1826) stands to the east of the Town Green (MHC 815) and directly west of the Stephen Winslow House at 1 Mary's Pond Road (MHC 5, pre 1750) on the north side of Marion Road. This 2½-story, Federal-style building, constructed in 1826, has a rectangular plan and is an excellent example of a late Federal period building. The building is comprised of a moderately pitched hip-roof main block, several rear ells, and outbuildings. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade that faces south and is three bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and consists of a wood panel door with single light sidelights set below a blind elliptical fanlight. Fenestration consists of single and paired 6/6 double-hung-sash windows set in rectangular openings with splayed wood lintels and simple wood sills. The windows are flanked by louvered shutters and the window above the primary entrance has 2-light sidelights. The structural system is timber frame on a granite foundation. The exterior wall fabric is clapboard and the roof sheathing is asphalt. Four chimneys painted white with black caps dominate the structure, two rise from the east and west ends of the main block, one from the center ridge of the rear ell, and one from the end of the far rear ell. A secondary entrance is located on the east elevation of the far rear ell and is set within an open entrance porch that is accessed by a ramp. The side ell that connects to this far ell contains a large arched door. Alterations include the removal of a porch around 1920 (MHC Form, 7 Marion Road, 1973). The property is accessed by a gravel drive that runs to the east of the house and leads to the outbuildings. Landscape elements include a low stone wall with foundation plantings that line the entrance as well as a white post and rail fence that lines the east perimeter of the property.

Outbuildings include a small, wood shingle shed that sits to the northwest of the house and a garage that connects to a large barn (MHC 173, early 20th c.). The 1-story garage has a side-gable roof that features a decorative cupola. The three-bay



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garage rests on a concrete foundation and is clad in wood shingles with an asphalt roof. A front-gable hyphen connects the garage to the barn at its northeast corner. The 1½-story barn (MHC 173, early 20th c.) features a side-gable roof with chevron doors. The structure is clad in wood shingles with an asphalt roof and a brick chimney that pierces the north slope.

The Charles J. Holmes House at 10 Marion Road (MHC 6, 1814) is located on the south side of Marion Road and stands just east of the First Parish Cemetery (MHC 800) and directly south of the Stephen Winslow House at 1 Mary's Pond Road (MHC 5, pre 1750). This 2½-story, Federal-style building was constructed in 1814 and has a rectangular plan with a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (north) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and set within a projecting entrance vestibule. The vestibule features a hip-roof and 5-light sidelights set below a blind fanlight set into a wood panel frieze. Fenestration consists of single and paired 12/12 double-hung-sash windows set in rectangular openings with splayed wood lintels and simple wood sills. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior wall fabric is wood shingle and the roof sheathing is asphalt. One massive brick chimney with a flared cap rises from the center ridge. Alterations to the original appearance of the structure include a 1½-story, side-gable ell (mid-19th c.) with a tall, slender chimney offset at its center ridge as well as a 1-story, shed-roof porch on the west elevation. The building was also slightly renovated in 1960 (MHC Form, 10 Marion Road, 1973). Outbuildings include a 1½-story, wood shingle barn (MHC 174, late 19th c.) that sits to the southeast of the house and a 1-story, hip-roof, cobblestone garage (early 20th c.).

The Stephen Winslow House at 1 Mary's Pond Road (MHC 5, pre 1750) is located northwest of the intersection at Marion Road and Mary's Pond Road and stands directly east of the George Bonney House at 7 Marion Road (MHC 4, 1826). Moved from its original site, this 2½-story, Georgian-style building was constructed prior to 1750 and is comprised of a side-gable main block and a rear ell/garage that connects to a large barn (late 20th c.). The main block has a rectangular plan with a symmetrical, five-bay facade that faces south and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and is set within a projecting, one-bay, gable-roof entrance vestibule. This classical vestibule features fluted pilasters supporting an entablature with a pediment. Fenestration consists of single 9/9 and 2/2 double-hung-sash windows set in rectangular openings with molded lintels and simple wood sills. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior wall fabric is wood shingle and the roof sheathing is asphalt. One massive brick chimney rises from the center ridge of the roof. The rear ell/garage is 1½ stories with a gable roof and a brick chimney at the center ridge. Attached to its east elevation is a projecting five-bay, hip-roof porch that is open on its first three bays and features simple wood posts. The last two bays of the projection function as a garage and contain two roll top doors. A 2½-story, gambrel-roof barn is connected to the rear ell and features wood shingle cladding and two chevron doors on its east elevation. The property is accessed by a gravel drive to the east that leads to the garage and barn.

Located near the corner of New Bedford Road & Dexter Lane, First Parish Cemetery (MHC 800) is set back slightly from Dexter Lane and New Bedford Road and occupies approximately 8 acres just southeast of the town green. The east side of the grounds is bordered by a hedge of arborvitae, which sits above a wall of granite blocks. Native arborvitae, white pine, and lilac bushes run along the northern edge. The east and west sides are bordered by native white spruce trees that vary from 60 to 80 feet in height. The property containing the Captain John Dexter House at 50 Dexter Lane (MHC 7, 1860) is located directly south of the cemetery grounds. The main entrance to the cemetery consists of a simple, Gothic, 19th-century iron gate supported by granite posts on the south side of New Bedford Road and overgrown by arborvitae trees. The Dexter Lane

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entrance, on the eastern side of the cemetery, has a Gothic, 19th-century iron gate supported by granite gate posts. An 1875 granite crypt, approximately 20 feet wide, is located along the east elevation. Another entrance is situated at the south end with open terrain bordered with arborvitae to the north and white spruce to the south. Access within the cemetery consists of compacted dirt surfaces surrounding and intersecting the central half of the grounds. The terrain of the cemetery is relatively flat, with just a few slight slopes in the northeastern corner. Vegetation consists generally of grass cover, assorted weeds, white spruce, white pine, arborvitae, and various yew and juniper bushes which serve as head stone plantings.

Heading south on Dexter Lane, the northernmost property is the Captain John Dexter House at 50 Dexter Lane (MHC 7, 1860), one of the most distinctive and well-preserved residential buildings in Rochester. This 1½-story, Gothic Revival-style building has a rectangular plan with a cross-gable roof on the main block and a side-gable roof on the side ell. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (east) and is three bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and consists of a wood and glass door set in an arched opening with molded surrounds. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in arched and rectangular openings with molded lintels and simple wood sills. The structural system is timber frame on a cut granite foundation. The exterior wall fabric is clapboard with pine trim and the roof sheathing is asphalt shingle. Two gable dormers (1989) run along the west elevation and two brick chimneys are located on the center ridge of the main block at the south end and the center ridge of the side ell at the south end. A 1-story, hip-roof, open, full facade porch with lattice underpinning runs along the east elevation of the main block and the side ell and features decorative braced, arch posts. Other notable features include drip molded lintels on the second story windows, a broad frieze, cornerboards, and cornice returns.

Attached to the south elevation of the main block of the house is a 1½-story, side-gable ell set on a stone foundation. Attached to the south of this is a small, 1-story, side-gable hyphen that leads to a 1½-story, front-gable barn (late 19th c.). Alterations to the building include the addition of the two dormers (1989), the curving of the interior stairs (1900), the addition of an interior wall (1900), and the remodeling of the kitchen (1996). The interior retains many original elements and features built-in cabinets, hardwood floors, etched glass from the nearby Pairpoint Glass Factory of New Bedford, interior and exterior louvered Venetian blinds, and a handsome staircase with decoratively carved posts and a distinctive newel post that winds down to the first floor front parlor. Landscape elements include mature trees and small foundation plantings. The property is set back about 50 feet from the road and accessed by a dirt drive to the south that leads to the barn. The Captain John Dexter House (MHC 7, 1860) retains a high degree of integrity and is an excellent example of a large, Gothic Revival-style farmhouse.

The James Winslow House at 79 Dexter Lane (MHC 8, pre 1720) stands just northeast of "Bonney Doone" (MHC 10, pre 1750) on the east side of Dexter Lane. This 1½-story, Full Cape-type building is an early and fine example of the typical, Cape Cod cottage found in Southern Massachusetts. The building is rectangular in plan with a side-gable roof. The symmetrical, five-bay facade faces west and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and flanked by three light sidelights. The entrance is accessed by a small, wood entrance platform with turned posts (1990s). Fenestration consists of single 6/6 double-hung-sash windows set in rectangular openings and surrounded by simple wood lintels and sills. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior wall fabric is wood shingle and the roof sheathing is asphalt. One massive, brick chimney rises from the roof at the center ridge. Alterations include a 1½-story rear ell connected to the house by a hyphen and outbuildings consist of a barn (20th c.) that features a side-gable roof, 6/6 double-

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hung-sash windows, and wood shingle sheathing. Landscape elements include cranberry bogs and open fields to the north, south, and east.

Bonney Doone at 86 Dexter Lane (MHC 10, pre 1750) stands southwest of the James Winslow House at 79 Dexter Lane (MHC 8, pre 1720) on the west side of Dexter Lane. This 1½-story, Full Cape-type building was constructed prior to 1750 and displays the typical characteristics of an early Cape Cod house. The building has a rectangular plan with a side-gable roof and a symmetrical, 5-by-3 bay configuration. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and features wood panel surrounds. Fenestration consists of single and paired 2/1 double-hung-sash windows set in rectangular openings with wood panel surrounds. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior wall fabric is wood shingle and the roof sheathing is asphalt. One brick chimney pierces the south slope of the roof. Landscape elements include mature shrubs that obscure the facade and woods to the west. Although currently the only outbuilding associated with this property is a small, vertical wood shed (late 19th c.), research indicates there was at least one other shed on the property as early as the 1770s (MHC Form, 86 Dexter Lane, 1973).

The house at 100 Dexter Lane (MHC 107, late 19th c.) stands west of the James Stewart House (MHC 9, ca. 1690) on the west side of Dexter Lane. This building is a 1½-story, Greek Revival-style, residential building. The main block is rectangular in plan and has a front-facing gable roof. The main block has an asymmetrical, three-bay facade (east elevation) and is one bay in depth. The primary entrance is offset on the facade and is topped by a gabled hood supported by wood braces. Fenestration consists of single 2/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular and square openings with simple wood lintels and sills and flanked by louvered shutters. 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. Two brick chimneys with concrete skim coating are located on the center ridge of the main roof and the north slope of the ell addition. Other notable exterior architectural features include cornice returns and deep eaves. A 1-story, gable-roof ell (late 19th c.) on a stone foundation is attached to the north elevation and a 1-story, gable-roof attached garage (late 19th c.) sits on a concrete foundation. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, front-gable shed (early 20th c.).

The James Stewart House at 119 Dexter Lane (MHC 9, ca. 1690) stands at the southern end of Dexter Lane and is bound on the north and east by cranberry bogs and Dexter Mill Brook. According to deed research done by the Rochester Historical Commission, the building was constructed about 1690, making it the earliest documented residence in Rochester. This 2½-story, Colonial-style building has a rectangular plan comprised of the house, a side ell, a connected barn/garage (early 1980s), and a detached barn (MHC 172, mid-19th c.). The side-gable main block has a five-bay facade that faces south 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, a 5-light transom, and an unornamented pediment. Fenestration consists of single 12/12 double-hung-sash windows set in rectangular openings. The first story windows include splayed wood lintels and wood panel sills and the second story windows are tucked under the eaves with wood panel surrounds. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior wall fabric is clapboard, which appear to narrow near the foundation, and the roof sheathing is wood shingle. A massive brick chimney, set slightly off-center, pierces the ridge of the main block. A photograph of the building from the 1960s shows a molded pediment above the primary entrance and wood paneling above the secondary entrance, indicating that the current pediments were added within the last thirty years (RHS1970:7).

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A 2½-story, side-gable ell (19th c.) projects from the main block at its northwest corner and sits on a stone foundation. This side ell is 3-by-2 bays and includes a secondary, offset entrance on its east bay. This entrance consists of a wood panel door with a 5-light transom, wood panel surrounds, and an unornamented pediment similar to that on the primary entrance. The windows are the same as the main block but the splayed lintels are absent. Two brick chimneys rise from the roof, one at the west end of the center ridge and the other on the north slope. Connected to the side ell is a 1½-story, saltbox-roof barn/garage with vertical wood siding and two large roll top doors on the west elevation. The building is accessed by a gravel drive to the west that leads to the barn/garage and landscape elements include grass, mature trees, shrubs, woods to the north and cranberry bogs to the south.

The detached barn (MHC 169, mid-19th c.) sits to the southeast of the James Stewart House (MHC 9, ca.1690) across from cranberry bogs. It is a 1½-story, side-gambrel barn with wood shingle sheathing on its exterior walls and roof. The barn has a massive, paired, vertical wood door on its south elevation that appears to be a recent replacement and is 2 bays in depth. A side ell projects from the east elevation and the entire structure rests on a stone foundation.

**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 the Joseph H. Plumb Memorial Library.

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Rochester's Town Green (MHC ~~815~~), also known as "Rochester Common," was established in 1697 by the first constables of the town. Although lots were laid out as early as 1685 and Rochester was incorporated as a town in 1686, the town was not yet ready to build a meetinghouse and therefore did not necessitate a town common. By 1697 the land that is now the common was chosen and in 1699 the town voted that the meetinghouse should be built (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:45). The meetinghouse stood within the limits of the First Parish Cemetery (MHC 800) and was laid out at the same time.

Rochester's First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) 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 girts 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 Mattapoisett 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

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Jacob Bumpus, Thomas Dexter, Samuel Winslow, Thomas Perry, Mary Haskell, Mercy Winslow, and Sarah Dexter (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 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 Mattapoisett 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 in 1837.

\* The present First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) 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 buildings, 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 East Rochester, 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 First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) 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.

The First Meeting House Rock (MHC 905, 1906) commemorates this site of Rochester's first meetinghouse. This first meetinghouse was the first attempt by the town's original settlers to provide for the religious needs of the community and opened the way for church organization throughout the town. Over the next decade the population and congregation increased and in 1714 the meetinghouse was voted too small. Though some wanted to build an addition to it, the building was taken down in 1717 and replaced by one that stood until 1811. The church and parish at Rochester Center commemorated this area by placing a stone where the two meetinghouses stood (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:72-76).

The First Parish Cemetery (MHC 800) was established ca. 1701 and is privately owned by Rochester Center Cemetery, Inc. The earliest cemetery in Rochester, and the only burial ground in Rochester Center, it was known simply as the "Rochester Center Cemetery" throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. Many prominent figures in Rochester's history have been laid to rest at this burial ground, including many members of the Burgess, Haskell, and Foster families. The focus of the cemetery is the centrally located obelisk that marks the resting place of four members of the Ellis family. The Ellis family was one of the earliest families to settle in Rochester when they made their home in Sippican during the late 17th century and later

\* See Inventory Form Continuation Sheet, next page. (Corrected copy)

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in Mattapoissett in the 18th century (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett 1907:53). Among the Revolutionary War Soldiers buried at First Parish Cemetery are members of the Burgess, Clapp, Clark, and Haskell families. The French and Indian War Soldier buried at First Parish Cemetery is Lieut. John Winslow. The First Parish Cemetery remains an active burial ground and is representative of the earliest settlement efforts that took place at Rochester Center at the beginning of the 18th century.

The present-day Academy (MHC 2, 1838) 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 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 (MHC 2, 1838). 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 (MHC 2, 1838) 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 (MHC 2, 1838) 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).

\* See Inventory Form Continuation Sheet, next page. (Corrected copy)

\*\* See Inventory Form Continuation Sheet, next page. (Corrected copy)

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
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- \* The present First Congregational Church (MHC 3,1837) was dedicated in September, 1837, having been designed and built by Solomon K. Eaton (Mattapoisett and Old Rochester, Leonard & Others, page 90.) Eaton was well-known for his ecclesiastical buildings, as evident in the many churches he designed, including the North Rochester Congregation Church on North Avenue (MHC24,1841) and others 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, also built and designed by Eaton still stand in Mattapoisett, Marion and North Rochester, but the Wareham church burned in 1904 and was replaced by a stone building of different architectural style.
  
- \*\* The First Congregation Church (MHC3,1837) has had several additions and alterations funded and donated by its congregation and generous residents. The bell was purchased by the Ladies Sewing Circle in 1850 and the Tracker Pipe Organ purchased in 1866. The church was closed for several months in 1879 and renovated extensively 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) and at a later date returned to the gallery where it remains today. More recently, a large Fellowship Hall was constructed in 1993 to the rear of the church connected by a covered walkway to serve the growing needs of the members and community.

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\* The Rochester Academy (MHC2,1838) was founded by the First Congregational Church in 1836, and built in 1838 containing a vestry for the church. (History and Manual of the First Congregational Church 1909:7). The Academy opened in 1839 as part of the important educational movement in Rochester Center that began in the early 19th century, 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 education 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 complex 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 (MHC815) (RHS files).

\*\* In 1901, the Academy (MHC2,1838) 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). It was shortly after this that the Academy closed down for lack of funds, as did most country academies without endowment (Leonard n.d.625). During the late 1980's, carpentry students from Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School in Rochester, attractively converted the entire upper story into four religious education classrooms, a church office and a pastor's study. During this period of renovation, the woodshed which had come from the old Leonard School was removed, but, by vote of the congregation, the old out-house building was preserved and converted to a storage shed and remains on site today. The downstairs vestry area is still being used as such and hosts many church functions, the Elderly Nutrition Program, and is a meeting place for many community service organizations. (RHS files).



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The Town Hall (MHC 1, 1892) stands on land that was once occupied by the Center School. 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 refurnished 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.

The Civil War Monument (MHC 911, 1927) commemorates Rochester's 81 Civil War veterans. The monument and bronze tablet were funded by an appropriation of \$1,200 at the town meeting of March 1927. A committee of three was appointed to arrange for the memorial and included C.W. Humphrey, who served as chairman, Clarence W. Maxim, and Louis C. Le Baron. The monument was dedicated by the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) on August 15, 1928. Among the men commemorated are members of the Ashley, Braley, Bumpus, Burgess, Crapo, Maxim, Pierce, and Ryder families ("Monument at Town Hall to be Dedicated by Grand Army this Spring":no page).

The seven residential buildings located in and around Rochester Center make up the largest cluster of 17th, 18th, and early 19th century residences in Rochester. Located along Marion Road, Mary's Pond Road, and Dexter Lane, these buildings are testimony to the settlement patterns of Rochester's earliest residents. Centralized around the early civic structures and burying ground, these buildings were occupied by some of Rochester's most prominent citizens, as evident today throughout Rochester in street names, road names, memorial corners, cemeteries, building names, and monuments.

Dexter Lane was laid out in the late 17th century as one of the oldest roads in town. Known as Parlow Road in the 19th century, Dexter Lane served as an important connector from Rochester center south toward the saw, grist, and fulling mills as well as the brooks, swamps, and cranberry bogs that were the focus of agricultural life in early Rochester. Home to several

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of the earliest buildings in town, Dexter Lane was named for the Dexter family, who have a history in Rochester that spans more than 300 years.

The James Stewart House at 119 Dexter Lane (MHC 9, ca. 1690) is the oldest extant building in the Rochester Center area. It was home to James Stewart, one of the earliest known settlers in Rochester. Stewart married Benit Briggs in 1687 and recorded the birth of his son Jonathan that same year. Proprietors Records show that in 1690 Stewart had a dwelling house along this road and the house appears on a 1704 map of Rochester (RHS 1970:7; 1969a map). Benit Stewart died in 1693, apparently from complications during childbirth. In 1694 Stewart married Sarah Wait and bought 60 acres of land in Rochester from Moses Barlow that may have been land adjacent to Barlow's homestead. James and Sarah had seven children together, including James Stewart, Jr. who married Hannah Dexter, the daughter of John and Sarah Dexter (RHS files). James died in 1747, leaving the house to his son James, Jr. (RHS 1970:7). In 1856 the building was occupied by R. Smith and P. Dixter [sic] (Walling 1856). By 1879, the property had passed on to R. Dexter and a map shows the footprint of two separate structures that are probably the house and the barn, indicating the barn was probably constructed sometime between 1856 and 1879 (1879 map). In 1936 the property was occupied by a member of the Nufler family and a map shows both the house and barn with their ells as well as another small outbuilding (not extant) that stands to the west of the house. By 1969, the property had been passed on to the Florindo family where it remained until the 1970s (1969c map).

The James Winslow House at 79 Dexter Lane (MHC 8, pre 1720) was built between 1709 and 1720. Land records show the earliest owner of the property was James Clark, who owned the approximately 56 acre parcel from 1694 until 1709 when it was sold to Lemuel Little. Little owned the property until 1718 when he sold it to James Winslow. The records indicate that by that time Winslow was occupying a house on that land (RHS files). During the Revolutionary War bootleg whiskey was made at the house, as evident by the peep holes drilled into the walls and the carved out door frames made to accommodate whiskey barrels (if these peep holes and door frames are still evident is unclear) (RHS files). The house does not appear on the 1704 map of Rochester (1969a map). Its first appearance is on the 1856 map as the property of J. Randall, whose wife Lydia actually owned the land and kept it in the Randall family by selling off parcels to her brothers from 1837 to 1887. Because of its proximity to the Dexter Mill, which stood just southeast of the property, the building was frequently used as housing for the local workers at the mill. Subsequent owners included Isaac Baker, John Mumford, John Clapp, N. Nye, John Blackwell, Elisha Barrow, several members of the Haskell family, Abisha Tobey, S. Haskell & G. Bonney, Melissa Corse, Isaiah Snell, Jr., William Smellie, Edward Bowen, and more recently Maurice and Martha Gifford who bought the house in 1960 and used it as a residence (RHS files).

The residence known as Bonney Doone at 86 Dexter Lane (MHC 10, pre 1750) was named after George Bonney, Jr. an ancestor of George Bonney, whose residence was located just up the road at 7 Marion Road (MHC 4, 1826). The original occupant of the house is unknown, although it may have been Joseph Doty (MHC Form, 86 Dexter Lane, 1973). The building was used as refuge by British soldiers during the Revolutionary War, as were several other older buildings in Rochester Center. Local legend suggests that during the war, a small group of British soldiers begged for refuge for the night in one of the sheds. They were gone the next morning, leaving a brooch as a gift to the lady of the house for her hospitality (MHC Form, 86 Dexter Lane, 1973). The building does not appear on the 1704 map (1969a map) of Rochester but does appear as early as 1856 as the residence of George Bonney (Walling 1856). In 1879, the building was still in the Bonney family and occupied by Mrs. E. Bonney (1879 map). By 1916, the building was owned by E. LeBaron Bowen, a plumber, who remained

\* In 1936 the property was occupied by 5 members of the Hoffler family.

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there until at least 1941 (1941 map). The property remained in the Bowen family until at least 1969 when M. Bowen lived there (1969c map).

Mary's Pond Road was not laid out until the mid-to-late 19th century, between 1856 and 1879 (Walling 1856, 1879 map). The road was created as a result of the Leonard family who owned East-Over Farms (MHC Area B) to the northeast of the town center. The Leonards lived on the shores of Mary's Pond and paid to have wagon loads of fill put into the swamp which eventually created a road to the center.

The Stephen Winslow House at 1 Mary's Pond Road (MHC 5, pre 1750) was constructed prior to 1750 by Stephen Winslow. The house was originally located on the west side of Mendell Road, north of the Sarah Sherman corner (Gurney 1990:33). The house was moved when it was sold to Nathan Willis, who used 20 yoke of oxen to take the house in two parts and move it to its present location around 1800. The building was subsequently operated as a general store, a post office, and central meeting place for members of the "Center", which was run by members of the Fearing and Bonney families. It was returned to its original use as a residence in 1900 when Mrs. Catherine Rounseville bought the building and changed the angle of the addition. After Rounseville's death the house stood vacant and in ruins for several years until it was purchased in 1972 by Mr. Carr, a retired carpenter. Carr made extensive alterations and additions to the house, including the construction of the attached barn (MHC Form, 1 Mary's Pond Road, 1973).

Marion Road, one of the earliest roads in town, served as the main east-west route through the area. Travelers along this route, which was known as the "Town Highway" (1969a map), stayed at the George Bonney House at 7 Marion Road (MHC 4, 1826) which was built in 1826 by George Bonney who ran a tavern there.

The Charles J. Holmes House at 10 Marion Road (MHC 6, 1814), like the George Bonney House (MHC 4, 1826), was built and operated as a tavern by its owner, Charles Holmes, a lawyer and son of Justice Abraham Holmes. Abraham shared the house with Charles in his elder years, allowing the house to become the focal point for the gatherings of lawyers, debaters, educators, and politicians. Charles, a State Representative, was a well-known politician in his day and among his many acquaintances were John Adams, John Hancock, Thomas Jefferson, and General Wadsworth. The house was subsequently used as a post office for the town in 1815. Though the house was not in the Holmes family for some time, it was occupied by descendants of Charles and Abraham during the early-mid-20th century (Foss 1926:203; Foss 1933-34:181).

The George Bonney House at 7 Marion Road (MHC 4, 1826) was owned and operated as a tavern by George Bonney until his death in the late 19th century. George and his brother Charles ran vessels to the south in search for cotton, which they then gave to the ladies of the "society" who turned the cotton into clothing for slaves (MHC Form, 7 Marion Road, 1973). Because of this, the building is thought to have been where the first ready made clothing in the United States was made (Gurney 1990:52). George, who served as representative to the General Court in Boston from 1844 through 1845, held many town offices as did his brother Charles (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:66). In 1879, the property was still occupied by George Bonney (1879 map) and by 1903 it had become the summer residence of Charles J. Holmes, a banker from nearby Fall River (Foss 1903-04:36) and possibly a descendant of the Charles J. Holmes who occupied the Charles J. Holmes House (MHC 6, 1814) directly across the street during the early 19th century. In 1936 the building was still occupied by Holmes and the shed, garage, and barn (MHC 170, late 19th c.) footprints are visible as well as two other outbuildings

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that are no longer extant. At this time the building was identified as "Holmlands" (1936 map). By 1969, the building was occupied by J. Threshie and a map shows the shed, garage, and barn (MHC 170, late 19th c.) footprints but not the two outbuildings visible in 1936 (1969c map). Presently, the building is home to The Village Sampler, a gift shop.

The Captain John Dexter House at 50 Dexter Lane (MHC 7, 1860) was built by retired whaling Captain John G. Dexter (Maker's Index). The Dexter's history in Rochester began when William Dexter became the first descendant of the Dexter family to settle in Rochester around 1679. The house that William settled in was located just northeast of a stream, sawmill, and gristmill that later became known as the "Dexter Dam." William, one of the thirty original grantees of the town, died in Rochester in 1694 and his four sons and grandsons remained in Rochester through the 19th century (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:52). John G. Dexter was born in 1834 and married Catherine T. B. Ruggles in 1859, the same year he began building a home for his family on land that was previously undeveloped (Walling 1856; Dexter n.d.:199). The building's first appearance on a map of the town is in 1879 (1879 map). The Dexter family remained in the house well into the early 20th century, carrying on the family's deep rooted history in the area. John continued to live in the house on Dexter Lane until at least 1919 (Foss 1919:202). In that time, the family made few alterations to the home, including the addition of a an interior wall (1900) and the curving out of the interior stairs (1900) that were originally straight (MHC Form, 50 Dexter Lane, 1973). In 1969, the property was occupied by J. Crowe (1969c map) and by 1973 had been passed on to Clifton L. Vaughn (MHC Form, 50 Dexter Lane, 1973). In the early 1970s, efforts were made to convert the building into a "road house" and apartments (MHC Form, 50 Dexter Lane, 1973). In 1989, a dormer was added to the west elevation, providing a substantial amount of additional space in the west wing of the upper story. Today, the house remains a residence and is owned and occupied by Daniel and Martha Wright, members of the Rochester Historical Commission.

The house at 100 Dexter Lane (MHC 107, late 19th c./after 1879) was constructed in the late 19th century on land that was previously unoccupied. The building does not appear on the 1856 or 1879 maps, although its architectural style and construction materials help to date it as a late-19th century building. Its first known occupant was E.W.S. Sherman who resided there as early as 1916 (Foss 1916:248). Sherman was a farmer and poultry raiser who owned the E.W.S. Sherman Store on Marion Road (1936 map). By 1969, the building was occupied by L. Doane and the property included three separate outbuildings, two of which are no longer extant (1969c map).

The V-shaped parcel of land formed by the intersection at Marion Road and Mary's Pond Road is known as the Calvin R. Daggett Square (MHC 814). Dedicated on September 20, 1981 this square honors Calvin Daggett (1924-1980), a scout leader, cabinet-maker, and influential leader in the community. Daggett served as Scoutmaster of Troop 31, Boy Scouts of America for over 30 years. Every year he lead his troop in the Memorial Day Parade and also ran a summer camp for the troop for one week out of the year. Daggett was the recipient of Scouting's highest award, the Silver Beaver Award (RHS files).

The World War I Monument (MHC 907, ca. 1918) honors those residents of Rochester who fought and died in World War I. Among those who are commemorated are Maurice A. Fuller, William P. Coggeshall, Greenwood Hartley, Clarence Rounseville, Everett Ryder, and Leonard A. Sherman.

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**Area(s)**  
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**Form No.** 920 921  
1-10, 107, 172-174, ~~814, 815,~~  
905, 907-911

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**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:  
RochesterProperty Address:  
Rochester Center AreaMassachusetts Historical Commission  
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Boston, Massachusetts 02125Area(s)  
AForm No. 920 921  
1-10, 107, 172-174, 814, 815;  
905, 907-911**AREA DATA SHEET**

Properties are listed in numerical order by street.

MHC #	MAP/LOT	NAME/ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE/FORM	OUT BLDG	TYPE
1	31/32	Rochester Town Hall 1 Constitution Way	1892	Queen Anne	none	B
2	31/32	Rochester Academy 7 Constitution Way	1838	Greek Revival	1	B
3	31/32	First Congregational Church 11 Constitution Way	1837	Gothic Revival	none	B
7	6/8	Captain John Dexter House 50 Dexter Lane	1860	Gothic Revival	none	B
8	6/13A	James Winslow House 79 Dexter Lane	before 1720	No Style/ Full Cape	none	B
10	6/9B	Bonney Doone 86 Dexter Lane	before 1750	No Style/ Full Cape	1	B
107	6/10	100 Dexter Lane	late 19th c./ after 1879	Greek Revival	1	B
9, 172	6/16	James Stewart House and Barn 119 Dexter Lane	ca. 1690	Colonial	1	B
4, 173	30/25A	George Bonney House and Barn 7 Marion Road	1826	Federal	2	B
6, 174	6/1	Charles J. Holmes House and Barn 10 Marion Road	1814	Federal	1	B
907	8/1	World War I Monument Marion Rd/Mary's Pond Rd.	ca. 1918	n/a	n/a	C

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

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Rochester Center Area

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MHC #	MAP/LOT	NAME/ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE/FORM	OUT BLDG	TYPE
<del>814</del> 920	8/1	Calvin R. Daggett Square Marion Rd/Mary's Pond Rd.	after 1980	n/a	n/a	C
908	8/1	Calvin R. Daggett Memorial Tablet Marion Rd/Mary's Pond Rd.	ca. 1980	n/a	n/a	C
5	30/26A	Stephen Winslow House 1 Mary's Pond Rd.	before 1750	Georgian	none	B
909	31/26	Pump and Trough New Bedford Road	mid-19th c.	n/a	none	C
910	8/1	Honor Roll Sign New Bedford Road	early-mid- 20th c.	n/a	none	C
800	4/29,30	First Parish Cemetery New Bedford Rd/Dexter Lane	n/a	n/a	n/a	E
<del>815</del> 921	31/32	Town Green Rounseville Road	n/a	n/a	none	H
911	31/32	Civil War Monument Rounseville Road	1927	n/a	none	C
905	31/26	First Meeting House Rock Rounseville Road	1906	n/a	none	C

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

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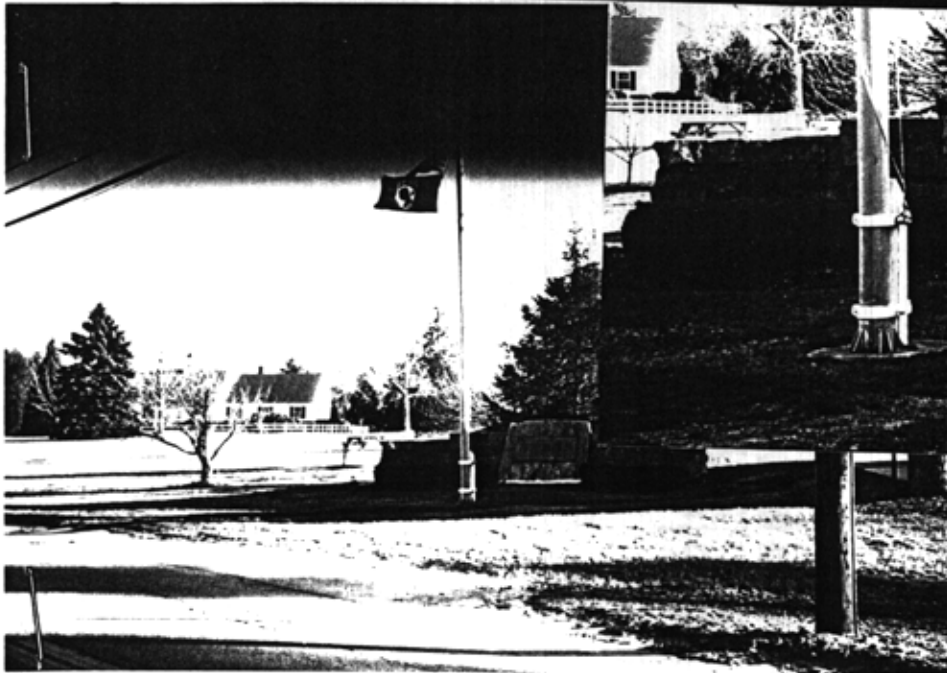
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— FIRST CONGREGATIOAL CHURCH —

PHOTOGRAPHS





*"Never Forget..."*

### **Vietnam Veterans Stone in Rochester**

A new Vietnam Veterans memorial stone was recently placed at Daggett Square on Route 105 in Rochester. The fitting memorial was placed there unnoticed because no parade or fancy unveiling went with it — only Mr. Rex of Rex Monuments (the company which made the memorial) and Will Boutin, the Veterans Grave Taker for Rochester, were present.

Situated on the same green which bears memorials to veterans of other wars, the stone bears a bronze plaque with the simple moniker: "Vietnam - Those who fought for each other, 1959 - 1975."

Money to purchase the stone was allocated upon a request from Mr. Boutin by the Town of Rochester after he noted there wasn't any existing monument or memorial to veterans of the Vietnam War in town. After a lot of thought, phone calls, and foot work, the project came to fruition with a permanent and sombre memorial to all veterans, MIA's and POW's of the Vietnam War.

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*Cover insert: Rochester Veterans Grave Taker Will Boutin poses with the newly-installed Vietnam Veterans Memorial stone recently placed at Daggett Square in Rochester, not far from the town center off Route 105. The monument is dedicated to the veterans, MIA's and POW's of the war spanning the years 1959 through 1975. (Photo courtesy of Nancy Boutin).*

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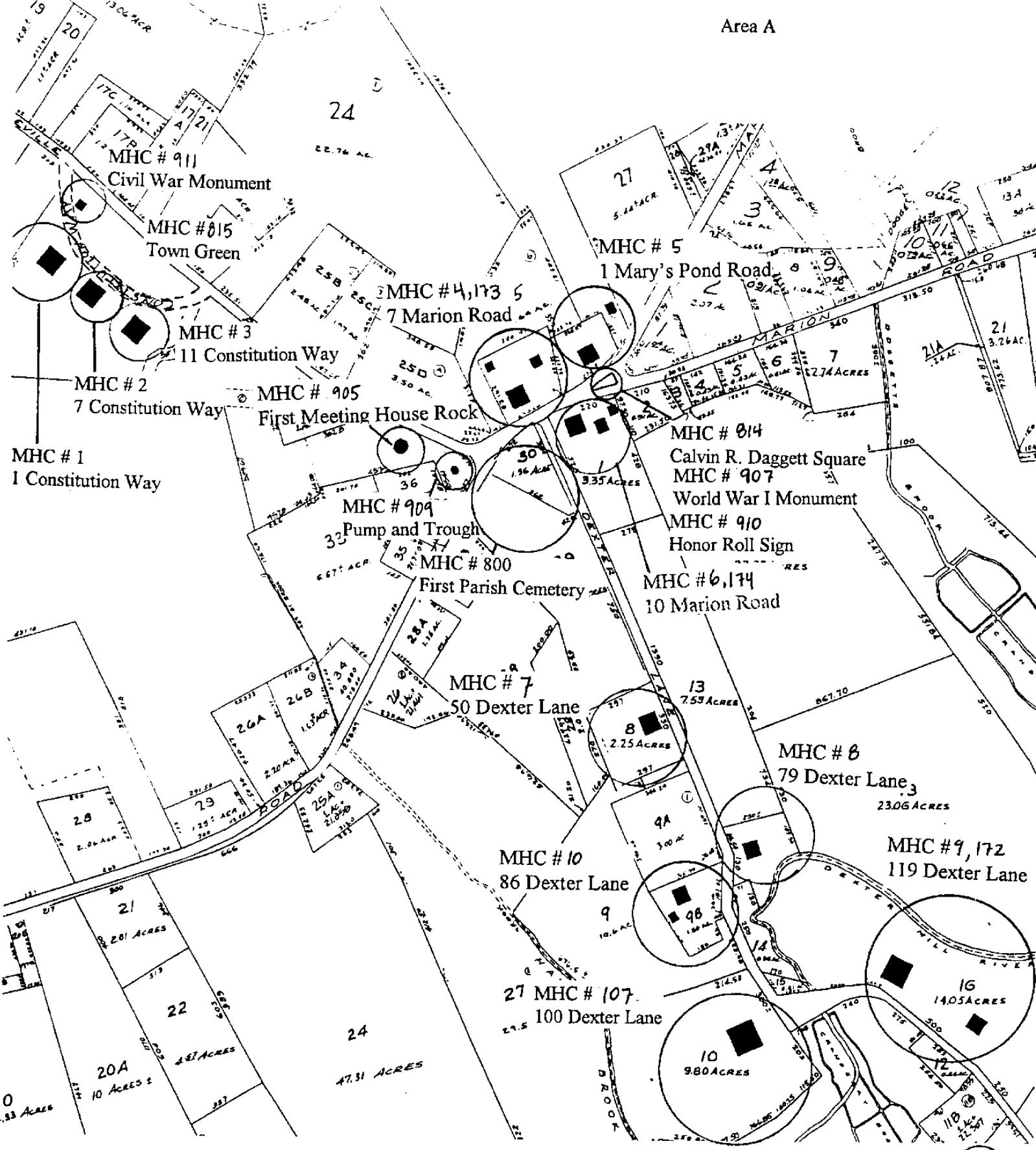
### ***In Rochester ...***



*Vietnam  
vets are  
given  
fitting  
memorial  
at town  
green*

*Page 3*

Area A



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

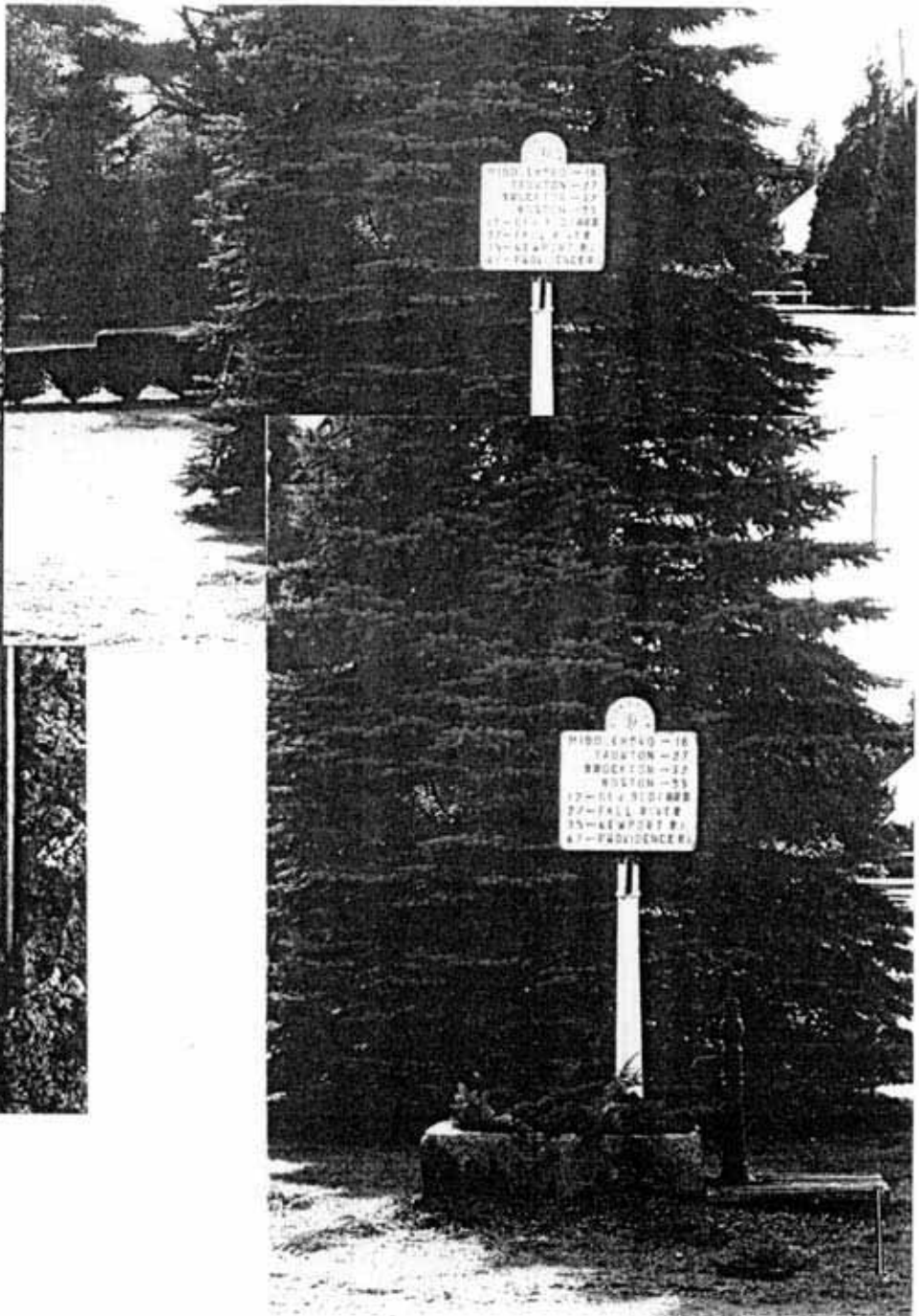
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PHOTOGRAPHS



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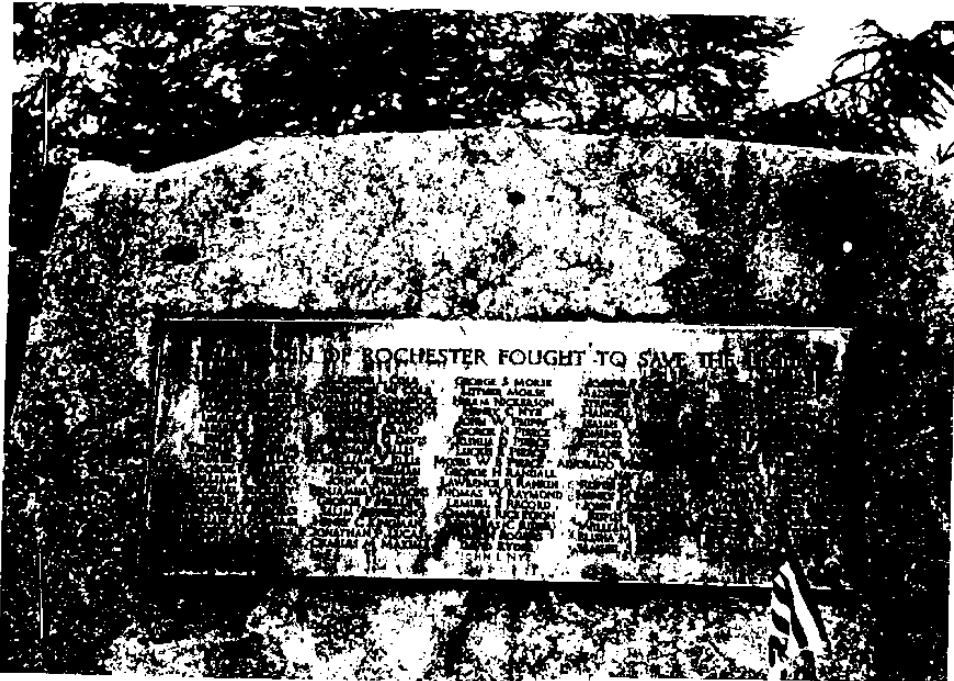
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PHOTOGRAPHS



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PHOTOGRAPHS



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PHOTOGRAPHS



STEPHEN WINSLOW HOUSE  
— 1 MARY'S POND RD. —



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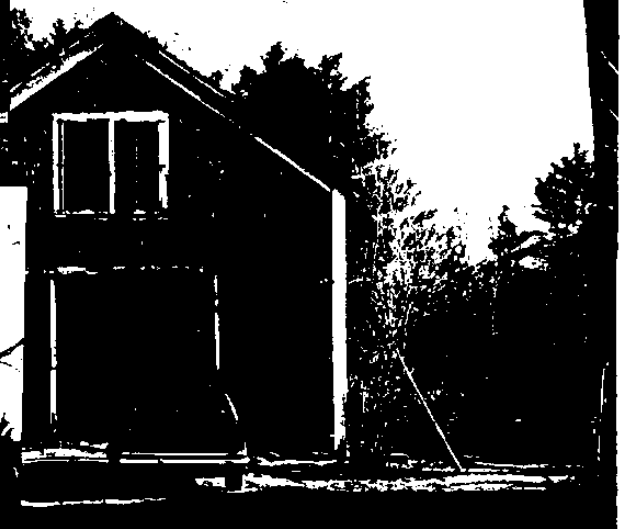
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PHOTOGRAPHS



CHARLES J. HOLMES  
HOUSE & BARN  
10 Marion road





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PHOTOGRAPHS



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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



CAPTAIN JOHN DEXTER HOUSE  
50 DEXTER LANE



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PHOTOGRAPHS



100 DEXTER LANE

JAMES STEWART HOUSE & BARN  
119 DEXTER ROAD



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PHOTOGRAPHS



JAMES WINSLOW HOUSE  
79 DEXTER LANE

BONNEY DOONE HOUSE  
86 DEXTER LANE



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PHOTOGRAPHS



JAMES STEWART HOUSE &  
BARN  
119 DEXTER LANE



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

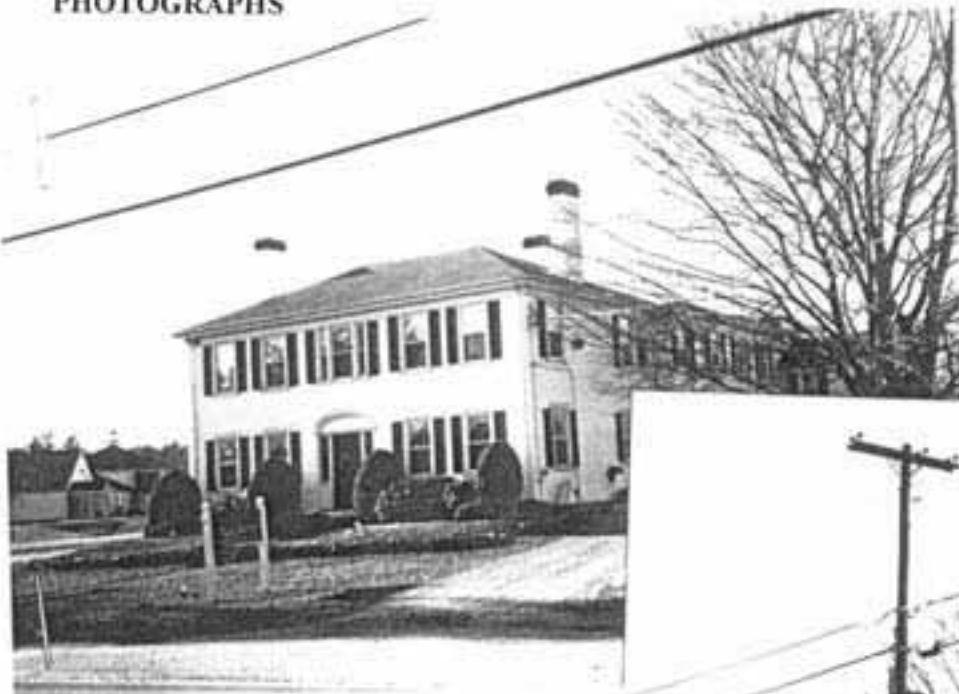
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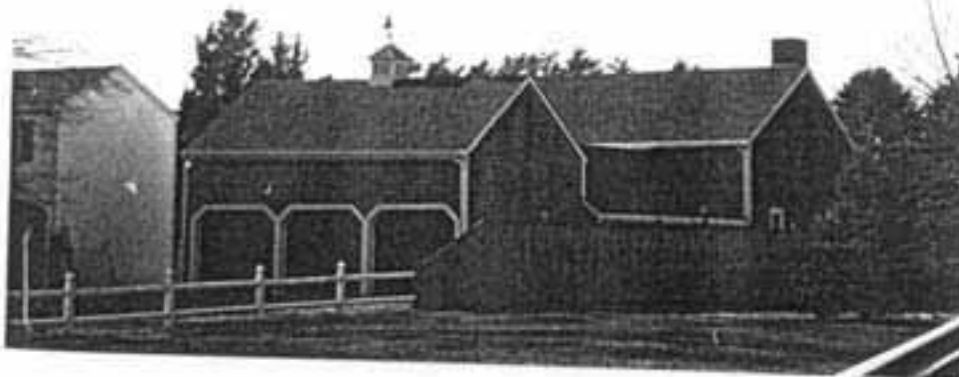
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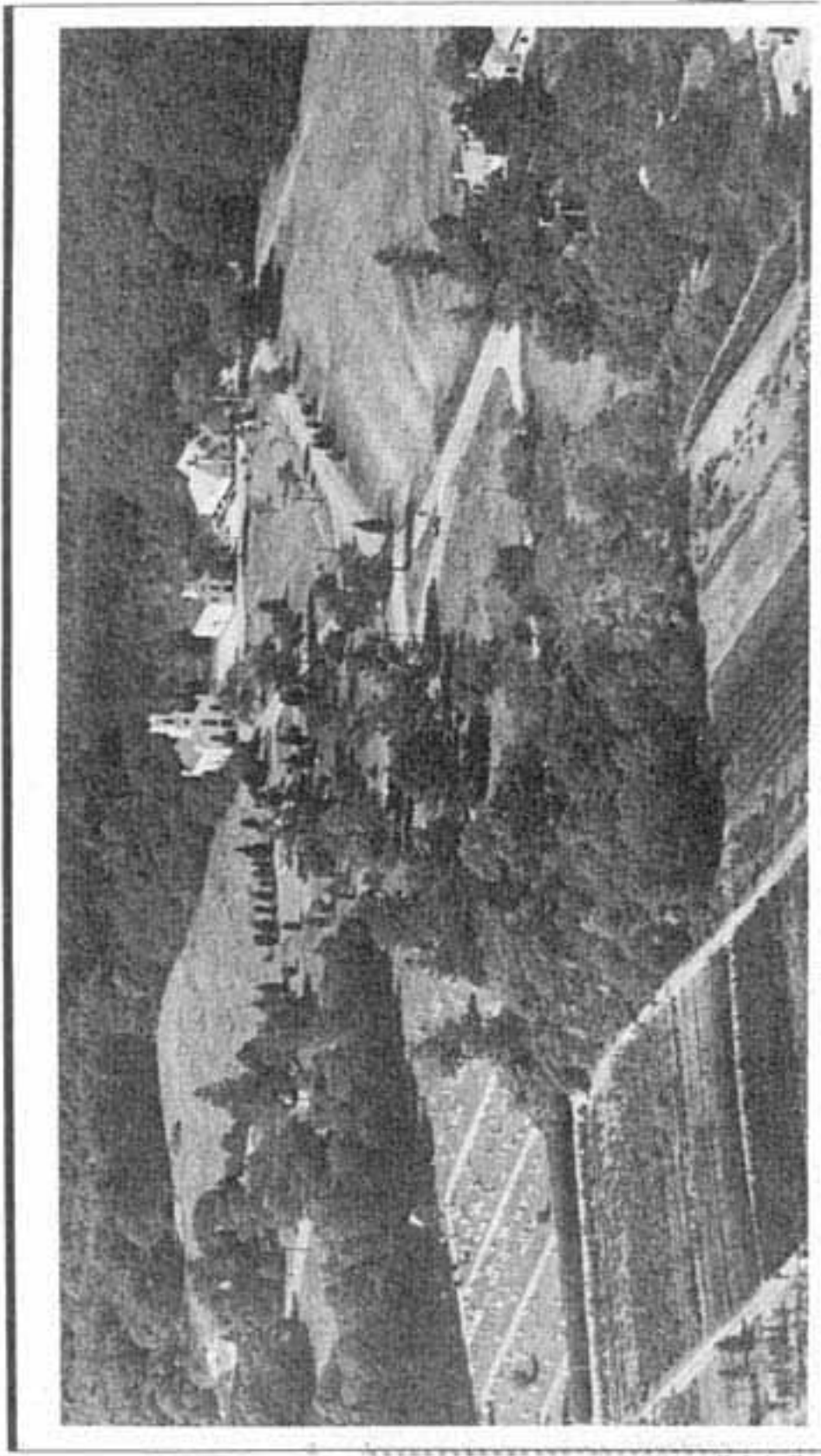
PHOTOGRAPHS



GEORGE BONNEY HOUSE &  
BARN



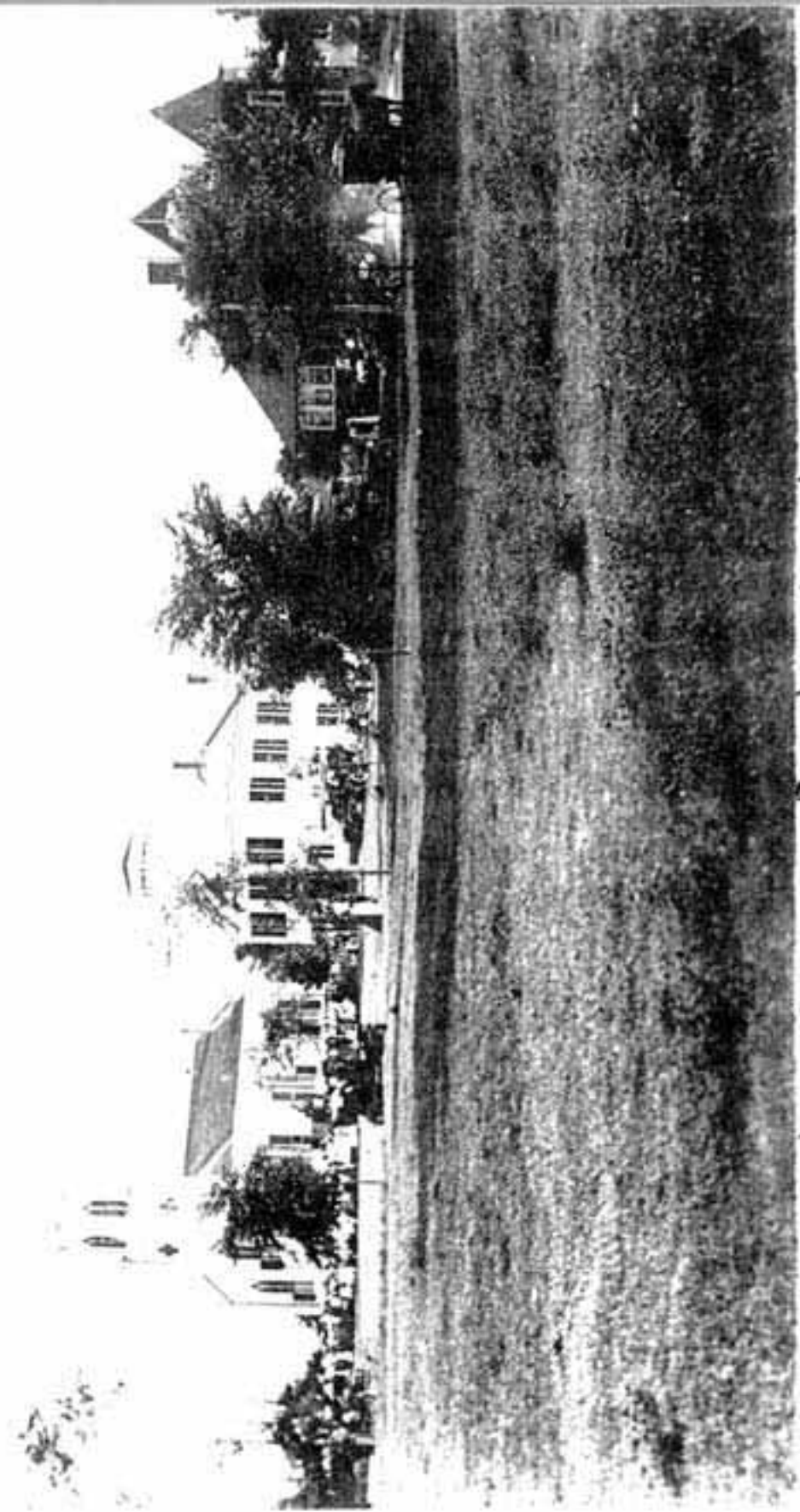
Page 6 / The District of Columbia, May 1918



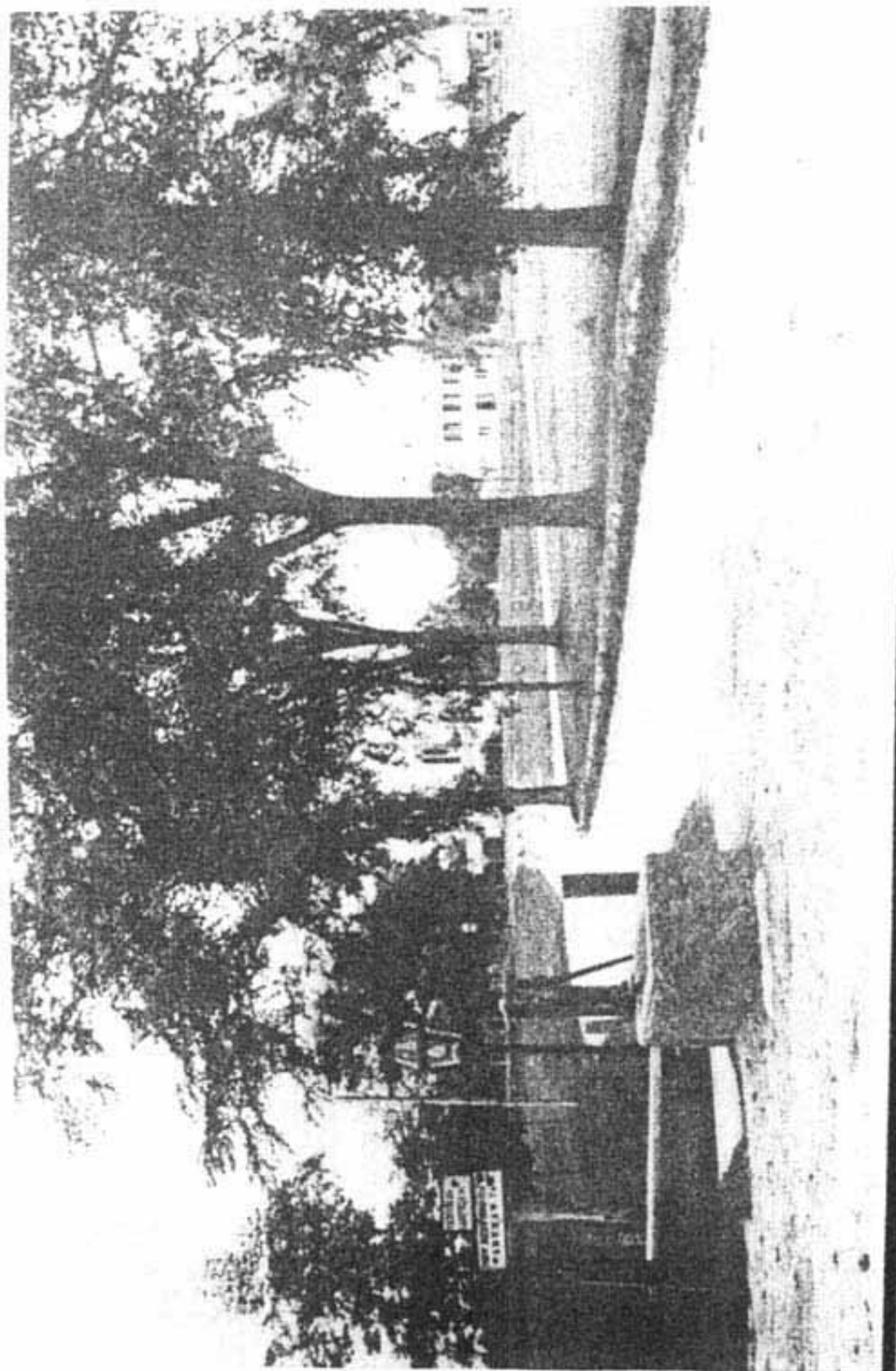


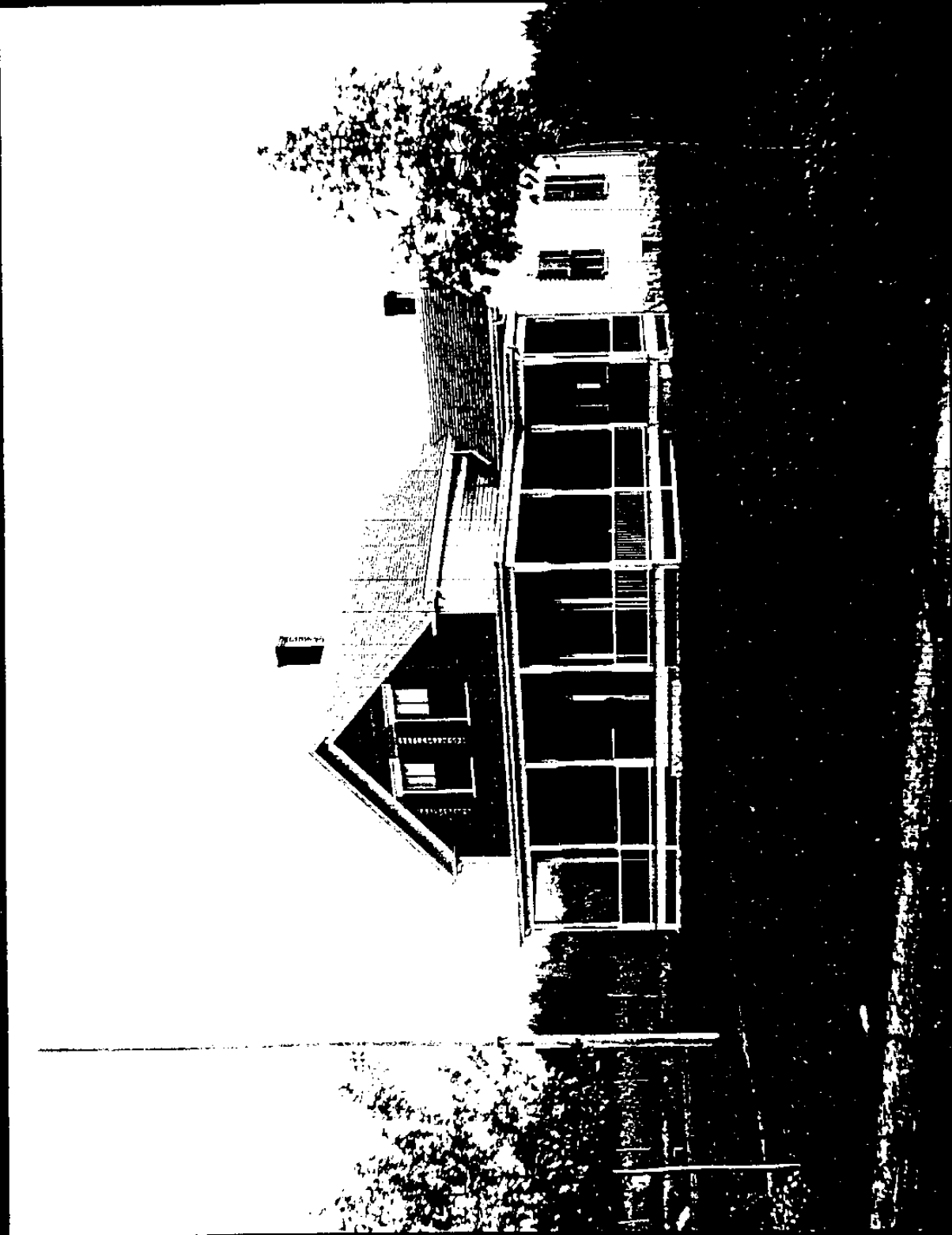
Early Springs Rochester Cen-





Country Circus Rochester Aug 11:09.





# BOULDER DEDICATED.

Stands on Rochester Common



ROCHESTER BOULDER.

**Mary H. Leonard Gives Account of  
Early Churches.**

# BOULDER DEDICATED. WEDNESDAY, JULY 11, 1906.

this spot the town of Rochester its first meeting house in 1699 as organized the First Church ster in 1703."

the inscription on a bronze ark into the face of a six top which, standing in the centre ocheater Common, was today with appropriate ceremonies. er, which was selected with e by Edward G. Spooner of , a former resident of Roch- ds upon a spot closely asso- h historical events of the ochester. It is located near here the first meeting house by the town in 1699 and upon site of the second church, s in existence nearly 100

ate of today's exercises was al address by Miss Mary rd on "The Early Meeting Rochester." The program d into two parts: the first, ssed Miss Leonard's paper ss by Hon. H. K. Eraley er, was held in the church, a audience adjourned to the where the dedicatory prayer i by Rev. John E. Trow- orth Rochester and a short kered by Theophilus King brnary of Rochester.

e invocation by Rev. J. A. the East Rochester church ure reading by Rev. H. A. ator of the First church at, Miss Leonard read her pa- ws.

the early history of New ntries in its meeting houses, e not called "churches" in ws. They were "meeting lit and owned by the towns or purposes of worship and ment alike. Cotton Mather I know of no Scripture au- givng the name "church" to public assembly." Accord- Puritan idea, the church in a meeting house, and our re as much opposed to call- ing house a church as they ing the Sabbath Sunday. ings houses have succes- on Rochester Common. The e built in 1699, stood on the s of the cemetery, and was ss than twenty years. The it in 1717, stood on or very nder. It had a long history- . century. During the last

returned above belonged to Samuel Briggs. Meeting houses were not con- secrated in those days, since they were used for secular purposes as well as for religious worship. When a better meeting house was built, the old one was often sold for a barn or granary or some other humble purpose.

But though little is known of the ap- pearance or history of the first little meeting house - by the seaside, the hearts of Rochester people should turn with interest and reverence toward this romantic spot on Little Neck, "by the great rocks and the ancient graves," where first the men of Rochester set up their altars of worship; even though for lack of population and the "want of members to embody" no church was ever organized in that locality.

The first definite move of the town to establish its permanent centre was made in February 1694-5 when wood- lot No. 17 belonging to Isaac Little (a lot which is described as lying on the west side of Muddy Brook below where the Rhode Island way goes over) was chosen as the place to "sett a meeting house."

But the town was not at that time ready to build; and in 1695 a new vote was taken, the thirtieth share of wood- land being now selected for the min- istry lands. This woodlot had been a part of the proprietary share of Wil- liam Paybody, but later had belonged to Ichabod Wiswell and John Rouse who now "threw it up" for public pur- poses, receiving in return "a like num- ber of 155 acres in the undivided."

On this thirtieth share of woodland the town now "surveyed and layed out a shaded place convenient for the set-

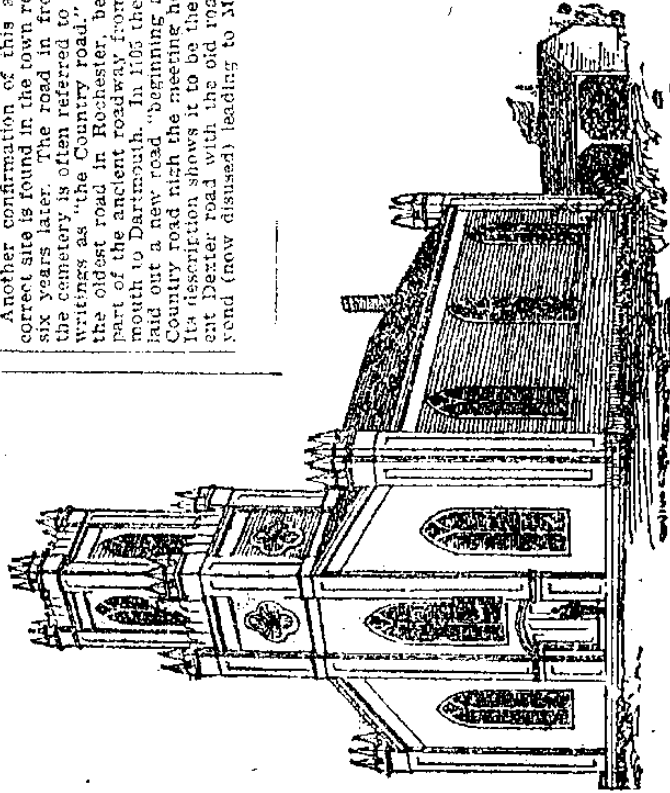
ting of a meeting house for the pious worship of God." They also voted "the westerly half of sd woodlot to ly and remane the Ministry & a competent part not less than ten acres of the south end thereof to remane unin- proved by any manere of tillage for a buryng place and a training field and to sett a meeting house upon as aforesaid."

On William Paybody's old woodlot, the thirtieth share, these successive meeting houses have stood, and "the westerly part still doth ly and remane the Ministry" and the "south end thereof has been a buryng place for the generations." But the training was finally located somewhat further south, "a tract known for many years as the "Old Muster Field," where Mr. Thorpe's dwelling now stands.

In Mr. Holmes's Chronicles, after speaking of the Little Neck meeting house, he continues: "A meeting house was built afterwards at the S. E. of Dr. Haskell's barn but at what date I know not. Mr. Timothy Ruggles in 1710 was settled, the 2nd minister and a meeting house built about 6 or 8 rods in front of Dr. Haskell's house." It is to commemorate these two meeting houses that the people of Rochester have lately placed a granite boulder on Rochester Common.

The date of the first is now known to us as 1699. Its location southeast of Dr. Haskell's barn is made clear by the fact that at the time of Mr. Holmes's writing, Dr. Haskell's barn stood on the other side of the street, so that a position southeast would place the building within the cemetery, which is the natural place to think of.

Another confirmation of this as the correct site is found in the town records six years later. The road in front of the cemetery is often referred to in old writings as "the Country road." It is the oldest road in Rochester, being a part of the ancient roadway from Ply- mouth to Dartmouth. In 1705 the town laid out a new road "beginning at the Country road nigh the meeting house." Its description shows it to be the pres- ent Dexter road with the old road be- yond (now disused) leading to Marion.



FIRST CHURCH OF ROCHESTER, WHERE EXERCISES WERE HELD.

utilize all the roof space of the

One of these lofty pew buildings was built by Timothy Ruggles, Jr., the old-time minister of the church, who later became a national fame, first as a brigadier general in the war, and later as the much decried Tory leader of the Revolution.

ages were soon to come. In 1796, 31 members with their families withdrew from a new church in the town of 1797. In 1797 some families in the section joined with others in the outskirts of Middleborough and Freetown to form a third parish of Rochester.

repaired divisions the committee was set on the site was relieved, and continued to be the place of the first parish, which now Rochester Centre and Shippington.

the 41 years while the second house on the Common was erected, the church life there, a committee of four, headed by John Freeman were chosen of the youth of the town on 3 Day to prevent the protest of the Lord's Day and to bring punishment for the same if reform. In 1785 it took ten "sturdy men" as they were called to "keep good orders Sabbath-day." Three for the house, three for the gate, four for the Internals-Divine Services.

and Joseph Hammond and the other leaders were equal to the task of "lifting up" and setting the time, but whatever may have been their success we do not doubt that the Psalm singing to the worshippers in Rochester.

On June 2, 1777 there was a memorable occasion called "The Renewal of the Covenant." In the meeting house on the Common. A solemn service was held in which Mr. Ruggles was assisted by several neighboring ministers.

In 1760 the first parish decided to build a new meeting house. A year or so later it was ready for occupancy and stood for nearly 77 years on the flag-staff site. Minister Ruggles was now an old man, and in 1768 he laid down his labors leaving the pastorate in the new meeting house to Rev. Jonathan Moore.

In 1773 the town voted, however, "To choose an agent to cut the old meeting house down to one story and with the materials that belong to the said house partition off one end that will serve for a work house with building a chimney thereon and the other end will serve for a town house to hold town meetings." After this transformation it seems difficult to recognize the identity of the meeting house that was built in 1777 for Minister Ruggles's growing congregation.

During the Revolution and afterwards the town house and of the building was the scene of many stormy debates. Lough probably the parish meeting house instead of the town house was used for some of these lively town meetings. The work house end was the subject of much town legislation for a number of years.

The work house was intended as a measure to promote industry by providing a house and supplying it with tools necessary to set to work all such persons as live idly and misspend their time. The enterprise was not carried into effect for some time. The minds of the people were busy with Revolutionary affairs, and Jonathan Hatch was permitted to live in the south room and Sam Lewis in the north room for a while. In 1779 the town again voted to put the work house into readiness to employ idle and vagrant persons, but again the matter was delayed. At last in 1781, the town bought the needed tools, "two large wheels, 2 small ones, 2 pair of wool cards, a thousand weight of old junk, fifty weight of sheeps' wool, fifty weight of flax," and a few other things; also a stock of provisions, "1 bin of pork and beef, 20 bushels of corn and rice, 4 bbls of alewives," etc.; and Elnathan Haskell was chosen overseer of the workhouse. In other years Deacon Seth Dexter and Lot Haskell held the same office.

But this plan did not continue many years. In 1792 a new state law was passed, repealing the provisions for both town and state paupers. After this the workhouse was given up and the poor of the town were boarded out in private families.

With this change the town voted that the chimney and partition in the Town House be pulled down and that Major Elisha Ruggles have all the materials he was using the westerly part of said house as the other parts were used and making the floor and raft good. Exactly why the chimney should have been taken down instead of being retained for the town hall uses of the building, it is not easy to see. But the work house era was finished, the building was now a town hall only, and in this capacity it remained for about 19 years more.

In 1811 a town hall was built on the Common to the north of the meeting house which then stood on the flag-staff site. Between these two buildings was afterwards built the line of horse-benches which now stands in the rear of the present meeting house. The old town house (or meeting house) in front of the cemetery, on the boulder site, which had been through so many transformations was now taken down, some of the best of its timber being used in the construction of the new town house then being erected. Other pieces were saved by different persons as relics. One of these has been given to the library by Mrs. Susan Pratt. About 1835 Mr. Holmes wrote in his Memoirs: "The post on the west of my great gate was made of one of the posts of that old town house which probably was built 129 years ago and the post is oak and is still sound. I shall keep it as long as I can, probably it will not outlast me."

With a change of roof was made into a cranberry house on the Pratt cranberry bog. Probably some of the timbers of this ancient meeting house are still doing duty in the walls of this Old Cranberry house. So ends the history of the second meeting house at Rochester Centre. It had the longest history of any of these structures, a checked history of 95 years. No one is now living that ever saw it, but Mr. Ryder remembers to have heard Mr. John Bourne Strattevant speak of an old town house that had been a work house, and that was once a meeting house that he remembered, in front of the cemetery gate, and a few years ago, as the men of our own village were grading the turf in this part of the Common they uncovered the old door stone and some of the bricks of that workhouse chimney, that today lie buried under the green sward of Rochester Common.

But to return to the third meeting house built by the first parish in 1760 on the Regent site.—It stood there with little outward change until 1837 and is today affectionately remembered by a few of our older citizens as "The Old Meeting House." A pen and ink drawing of the building made by Mr. Ryder may be seen in the library. Both Mr. Ryder and Miss Harriet Church have written interesting descriptions of this building and from their articles mostly I have gathered following details.

It was a large two storied building, plain in its architecture and plain and barren in its surroundings. It had a belfry or bell tower but no bell. In 1833 the "steeple" was taken down as unsafe, and was never rebuilt. A few years after its erection efforts were made and votes were cast "to collar the meeting house," but these failed to be carried out, and the house was never painted. The main entrance was on the south and led directly into the body of the house. But this door and one on the east side of the building were rarely used. The floor chiefly used led into an ell or porch on the west side which contained also a stairway leading to the galleries. A wide aisle extended from the front door to the high pulpit opposite, which was reached by a winding flight of stairs and had a large window behind it draped with heavy curtains. Above the pulpit was suspended a huge sounding board which aroused in children minds the fear "was in a honey" that some day it might fall and extinguish the speaker below. Another aisle, somewhat narrower than the main aisle, crossed the room from east to west and connected with the outer side doors, while another aisle ran nearly around the room just within the row of wall seats. The pews were square with seats on three sides. Some of them had part of the seat hung on hinges so that it might be turned up in time of prayer and allow one to lean against the railing. When the long prayer was over the seats were stamped down with what has been called a "loud wooden arm." In the latter part of its history (but not at first) this meeting house had a

...ing house that has given  
...tively to students of local  
...The town voted, February 2,  
...the meeting house shall be  
...the westerly side of the long  
...Even though this might be a  
...statement, merely indicating a  
...where to the eastward of  
...ing house. It did not seem  
...to think of any long bridge  
...family of Rochester Common,  
...that the location of the meet-  
...is no longer in doubt, the  
...record seems to show some-  
...in the conditions of the local-

...follows the brook a few rods  
...part of Captain Hathaway's  
...may find today - traces of a  
...lent road crossing the brook  
...point. This is a part of the  
...from Rochester Centre to-  
...the Neck and Sippican, that  
...was in use when the meet-  
...ing house was built. Between this  
...and the Country road, there  
...is a low, and broad, at pres-  
...ent and about this may now  
...have been the case. Mr.  
...traces. "One thing is remark-  
...on I was young, old people  
...could remember when peo-  
...ple fish in a brook which ran  
...a road where the road turns  
...Dexter. Dexter's house  
...and the meeting house. There  
...are signs of a brook there, but  
...has yet may be traced from  
...the westward until it comes  
...range with Rutgers's house.  
...between one can seem to see  
...to the east of the meeting  
...house of conformity road and  
...crossing the two brooks  
...to land between, and known  
...to the early settlers of Roches-  
...ter long bridge.

...the plans for the meeting  
...house were drawn at Mark Has-  
...kell's house. But before the meeting house  
...was ready for use Mark Haskell had  
...died and on his completion Mary Has-  
...kell his widow was engaged to "sweep  
...the meeting house once in 15 days or as  
...often as shall be occasion for sweeping  
...of it to keep it decent."  
...So the long desired meeting house  
...was finished, and a new religious im-  
...pulse was felt in Rochester, so that in  
...1732 Rev. Samuel Arnold, who lived at  
...the sturtevant place, now the resi-  
...dence of Mr. Benjamin Withor was  
...able to write in the old church book,  
...the hath pleasant our gracious Lord to  
...shine in this dark corner of this wild-  
...erness and visit this dark spot of  
...ground with the day-spring from on  
...high through his tender mercy to set-  
...tle a church according to the order of  
...the Gospel. Oct 13, A. D. 1731.

...On that day seven Christian men of  
...Rochester met in the meeting house  
...and following Mr. Arnold's lead affixed  
...their signatures to the solemn coven-  
...ant that Mr. Arnold had written. The  
...names are of interest.  
...Asaiah Holmes, deacon and Isaac  
...Holmes, both of whom lived near a  
..."little pond" now known as Snow's  
...pond.  
...Samuel Hammond, one of the original  
...proprietors who drew his house lot in  
...Mattapoisett.  
...Jacob Bumpus, who lived in the  
...Wareham territory.  
...Thomas Dexter and John Benson,  
...both of whom had homes at the Centre,  
...Anthony Coomes, who lived near the  
...mill at Leonard's pond.  
...No one of the original signers lived  
...at Little Neck and probably the de-  
...clining tide of village at that locality felt  
...a sense of disappointment that Prov-  
...idence had not decreed that it was to  
...remain an early importance in the town  
...attempts. But this central village at that  
...date had the place of rising importance,  
...and here history was rapidly develop-

...The interests of the whole town were  
...one, however, and it was not long be-  
...fore the people from all the villages of  
...old Rochester - from Mattapoisett,  
...Wareham, Stimpuit and Sippican, were  
...gathering every Lord's day to worship  
...in the meeting house that the town  
...had built on Rochester Common.  
...The fact that no names of women ap-  
...pear among the signers to the coven-  
...ant illustrates the fact that women did  
...not in those days attend the business  
...meetings of the church; but this is not  
...an indication that women were not  
...factors in the primitive church of  
...Rochester. At Mr. Arnold's death five  
...years later the list of church members  
...that he left included 17 males and 17  
...females, and from that day to this,  
...women have held the superior place  
...numerically, and have been active  
...workers in the church life of Roches-  
...ter.

...In 1710, the young Mr. Timothy Rug-  
...gles, a graduate of Harvard, was call-  
...ed to the pastorate and began his  
...preaching in the little meeting house in  
...the cemetery. The town voted him a  
...salary of £30 (at a later date it was

...According to Mr. Holmes, the house  
...which the town built for Minister Rug-  
...gles was on the Ruggles farm between  
...the brook and the "Ruggles Tavern."  
...The latter was a "very ancient house"  
...still older than Minister Ruggles's  
...probably) and came into the posses-  
...sion of the Ruggles family by pur-  
...chase in the second generation.  
...The coming of the young and popu-  
...lar Minister Ruggles seems to have  
...caused a rapid increase in the congrega-  
...tion for in 1715 the town voted that  
...the meeting house was too small, and  
...that they would build another.

...Opinions on this subject seem not to  
...have been unanimous, however, for in  
...1715 it was voted to "Reasend the vote  
...to build a meeting house, and in the  
...same year to build an addition to the back-  
...side of ye old meeting house." In the  
...books of the town there is no record of  
...any further vote to set aside the vote  
...for an enlargement of the old, and to  
...return to the original plan of building  
...anew. Yet this was what was done,  
...and the second meeting house of  
...Rochester Centre was built in the tri-  
...angular space where the rock now  
...stands, and was finished in 1717.

...The next year the town voted to "sell  
...the old meeting house." As to what  
...brought it, what was paid, and what  
...records uses it was now put to the  
...records are silent. But brief though  
...his history was, this little meeting  
...house in the cemetery had the high  
...honor of being the one where the or-  
...ganized church life of all the old  
...Rochester towns was begun in 1705.

...The plans of the second meeting  
...house on Rochester Common, are not  
...given so explicitly as those of the first.  
...On February 2, 1717 it was voted that  
...the men of the town should "meet at  
...ye old meeting house to agree how to  
...pay the remaining part of ye new  
...meeting house which is not yet sealed."  
...In addition to the general seating ar-  
...rangements, provision was made for  
...persons of means to build at their own  
...cost special pews for their own families,  
...and a "Commonity" was appointed to  
..."spoil out the places for pews and sell  
...them at Vendue to them that would  
...give most." Minister Ruggles was giv-  
...ing leave to choose a spot on which to  
...build a pew for his family, and three  
...pews were built "nye the pulpit stairs  
...for ancient persons to set in." When  
...the house was done Joseph Haskell,  
...the youngest son of Mark and Mary  
...Haskell was engaged to sweep and care  
...for the building at a salary of 20 shil-  
...lings a year.

...After 1717 few records occur for some  
...time regarding the new meeting house  
...on the green. In 1725 large changes  
...were made in the galleries of the house  
...and "a Lock got for it."  
...For a few years its accommodations  
...seem to have been adequate, and our  
...imagination pictures the scene on each  
...Lord's day morning when people on  
...foot came for miles around, and horses  
...with saddles and packings behind, for  
...the good names of the community came  
...from all directions, and were then un-  
...der the shade of the pine trees that were  
...still standing on every side.

...In writing of his own boyhood a gen-  
...eration later Mr. Holmes fully says:  
..."The houses were especially poor crea-  
...tures, owing in a great measure to poor  
...keeping. In the summer they lived on  
...grass. In the winter on hay only, ex-  
...cept when they were going a journey  
...when on the evening previous they  
...would have a mass of bran wet."  
...There was not a wagon of any kind in  
...town. There were ox-carts, and horse-  
...carts, add to these two old riding  
...chairs. Such a thing as a chaise  
...was never heard of. The first that  
...came through Rochester made as much  
...of a wonderment as a Baloon would  
...have done."

...The meeting house had no chimney,  
...no fire unless in footstoves, and it  
...must have been an icy place in winter.  
...Some New England churches in the  
...early days had a "noon house" or  
..."Sabbath-day house" where people  
...gathered before and after service to  
...flaw themselves out, and make it  
...possible to endure the frigid atmo-  
...sphere of the meeting house and the  
...long ride homeward. In other places  
...the houses of neighbors were freely  
...used for this purpose. There is no evi-  
...dence that Rochester was ever provid-  
...ed with a "noon-house," and we may  
...believe that the Ruggles' house, the  
...Haskell houses, and other neighboring  
...dwellings gave comfort to the chilled  
...travelers.

...But no one meeting house could long  
...supply preaching accommodations to  
...this extensive territory. Records begin  
...to appear showing the crowded condi-  
...tion of things.  
...In 1740 the meeting house being much  
...out of repair, a curious record appears  
...of a vote to mend it up slightly, and  
...where the glass was broken to "nail  
...up boards in the thereof for ye pres-  
...ent." The reasons for this slight  
...work are not given, but it seems as if  
...the attraction may have already begun  
...as to whether adequate meeting house  
...accommodations were to be gained by  
...enlargement or rebuilding, or by the  
...dissemination of the town itself into  
...various parishes. It may well be  
...imagined that at that era the people of  
...Mattapoisett and Wareham would be  
...averse to expending much money for  
...permanent repairs on this building.  
...But the general character of the  
...records afterwards makes us believe  
...that the meeting house was soon pro-  
...vedly mended.  
...In 1743 permission was given to a  
...number of persons to "build decently  
...and at their own cost" pews on the  
...beams above the gallery, and in vari-  
...ous lofty nooks like swallows' nests

he room thoroughly; so the old  
reught their footstoves and  
them at noon to good old Mrs.  
Haskell (Dr. Haskell's mother)  
erously replenished them with  
s.  
silies were on three sides of  
the singers being opposite  
it. And here Martin Ryder  
the great bass viol, Joseph  
the violin, William C. Haskell  
, and Jacob Sparrow the clarin-  
le another large and less fami-  
rument called a bassoon was  
r worked) by Prince Dexter.  
his was in the later days,  
music had undergone much  
since the time, three quarters  
ury before, when Deacon Free-  
Joseph Hammond "lined out"  
ns for Sabbath worship. After  
at of the New England Singing  
the latter part of the eigh-  
entury, the "taught singers"  
nered in choir and part sing-  
developed. New tunes were  
and some of these, instead of  
uniform notes of the older  
id a triple time movement  
rong accent. Some of the old-  
s however felt an objection to  
"stems" music in church. At  
ing master named Billings  
!"The Fuguing Psalm-Singer"  
g a new style of psalm sing-  
ch the bass, treble, alto, tenor  
ter; each successively took the  
one and with much verbal re-  
carried on the melody with  
independence of what the  
light be singing. Then fugue  
sought the popular fancy, and  
through, the choirs of the  
like wildfire.

ies had now become common,  
hes were at first brought  
eakingly into the singers' fal-  
r fear that they might lead  
se of musical instruments in  
as was soon the case. The  
was the first instrument that  
be allowed and was sometimes  
ve Lord's fiddle." Violins were  
nanced as suggestive of dance  
from 1794 to 1829 our neighbor  
Wareham was deeply agitat-  
he question of bass viol or no  
A compromise was arranged  
ve to the bass viol to be play-  
other Sabbath and "not to  
Tunes on the Sabbath that it  
y."

ed that Rochester did not es-  
t music discussions. But these  
i over and the instruments  
ed their place, when Martin  
pass viol, and Dr. Haskell's  
the music in the choir of the  
nester meeting house.  
it decade of the eighteenth  
was an era of spiritual de-  
i the New England churches.  
ch Revolution was on, and  
g of Thomas Paine and others  
ied a wide spread spirit of

In the Rochester church  
controversies had arisen in re-  
Minister Moore, who was dis-  
1792, and for some time rival  
were held in the meeting  
d in Mr. Moore's own dwelling  
Bowen now lives.

the supplican members about this  
time formed themselves into a new pre-  
sinct and built a meeting house of their  
own; so they no longer came to the  
Centre to worship, though no formal  
division of the two churches was made  
at that time. In 1798 Mr. Oliver Cobb  
became the pastor of the First Church  
of Rochester, and divided his preaching  
between the meeting house at the Cen-  
tre and the "Harbour meeting house."  
The coming of Mr. Cobb began a new  
era of prosperity. Many new members  
were added in both villages, and in 1827  
the two churches were finally separat-  
ed by act of council. Mr. Cobb now  
became the pastor of the South church  
in the fourth precinct, and Rev. Jona-  
than Bigelow was ordained as pastor of  
The Centre church in the first parish.  
The next year the parsonage was built  
for Mr. Bigelow's family.

January 3, 1837 a committee was  
chosen to examine the meeting house  
as to its fitness for public worship. It  
was pronounced unfit, and a new build-  
ing was decided upon. March 12, 1837  
the last service was held in the old  
meeting house, Dr. Cobb of Marlon  
preaching the sermon. The building  
was then taken down.

The new meeting house, our present  
church, was built that same summer at  
a cost of \$5000. Solomon K. Eaton of  
Mattapoisett being the architect and  
builder. It was dedicated on the 27th of  
September, 1837. Its graceful proportions  
and simple yet appropriate ornamenta-  
tion make this a particularly good spec-  
imen of what has been called the third  
age or type of New England church  
architecture, though differing from  
many churches of its era, in having a  
square belfry instead of the usual  
pointed spire. The Academy with  
church vestry below was built near the  
church a few months afterwards. In  
1850 a bell was purchased for the  
church as a gift from the Ladies' Sew-  
ing Circle. In 1866 the organ was given  
and returned by Mrs. E. G. Leonard.

The removal in 1891 of the old  
town hall of 1811, and the building of  
the new town hall and library that  
year (which was made possible through  
a generous gift from Mrs. Leonard)  
completes the record of the public  
buildings on Rochester Common.  
The movement to place some kind of  
a monument on the Common to com-  
memorate the early meeting houses of  
the town began with an offer of Hon.  
Charles J. Holmes a few months before  
his death to give \$50 for the purpose.  
Another generous gift for the same and  
was made by Mrs. Susan I. Pratt, a  
descendant of Rev. Timothy Ruggles.  
About a year ago the church and parish  
appointed a committee with Mr. C. W.  
Humphrey as chairman, and the re-  
sult of their labor is shown by the  
rock which stands upon our Common  
today.

Of the four meeting houses that have  
thus stood successively on Rochester  
Common, the two first were built and  
owned by the entire town of old Ro-  
chester, Mattapoisett, Wareham and  
Marion and North Rochester shares  
with us the history and associations of

the two meeting houses which the  
boulder specially commemorates. The  
third meeting house was built and own-  
ed by the first parish of which Marlon  
was then an integral part. The fourth  
meeting house belongs to Rochester  
Centre alone.

The meeting house of 1699 was es-  
pecially Minister Arnold's meeting  
house. He was interested in its build-  
ing; in it he organized the First church  
of Rochester; here he spent the larger  
part of his pastorate and ministered  
here till the time of his death.  
The meeting house of 1717 was dis-  
tinctly Minister Ruggles's meeting  
house. He began his ministry in the  
first meeting house, and finished his  
labors in the third. But the meeting  
house whose site is specially marked  
by this boulder had Mr. Ruggles for  
pastor during the whole 44 years of its  
service as a meeting house.

The meeting house of 1760 was widely  
known as Mr. Moore's meeting house.  
But it was also Mr. Cobb's meeting  
house and in it Mr. Cobb ministered to  
the church at Rochester Centre for  
more than a quarter of a century. The  
meeting house of 1837 our present  
meeting house, for Mr. Bigelow's in-  
fluence was strong in the building  
operations of that period, which have  
remained so much to modern Rochester.  
But in this meeting house also a long  
line of later pastors have for a longer  
or shorter period ministered to this  
church, and the walls of this meeting  
house still echo their words to the  
memories of those who have wor-  
shipped here. May this meeting house  
long stand as a beacon radiating gos-  
pel light and truth into the hearts and  
minds of the people of Rochester!

As we gather today about the rock on  
our grassy Common we would lift our  
hearts and voices to  
"Our Fathers' God, from out whose hand  
The centuries fall like storms of sand,  
In a tribute of love and thanksgiving  
For the priceless heritage that has come  
to us and to our age out of the his-  
tory and ministrations that have cen-  
tered in these four meeting houses on  
Rochester Common.

After the singing by a quartet of one  
of the old fugue songs, Hon. H. K.  
Bracey of Fall River was introduced  
Judge Bracey spoke interestingly, giv-  
ing a brief outline of the conception  
and development of constitutional gov-  
ernment by the first settlers of Roche-  
ster and their descendants from 1683 un-  
til the Revolution, as worked out  
through their form of religious worship  
and the influence of the clergy.  
At the close of the exercises about the  
monument the audience sang America  
and the benediction was delivered by  
Rev. H. A. Stevens.

The following committee had in  
charge the arrangements for the dedi-  
cation of the boulder: Chairman, C. W.  
Humphrey; Captain Judah Dexter;  
Captain John Dexter; Deacon George B.  
Haskell; Mrs. Susan D. Pratt; Miss  
Mary L. Holmes; Miss Mary L. Harth-  
away; Miss Mary Hall Leonard.

return



Dedicatory Prayer

BY  
REV. JOHN P. TROWBRIDGE

North Rochester

Music—American

My country! 'tis of thee  
Sweet land of liberty,  
Of thee I sing;  
Land where my fathers died!  
Land of the Pilgrim's pride!  
From every mountain side  
Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee—  
Land of the noble, free—  
Thy name I love;  
I love thy rocks and rills,  
Thy woods and templed hills;  
My heart with rapture thrills  
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,  
And ring from all the trees  
Sweet freedom's song;  
Let mortal tongues awake;  
Let all that breathe partake;  
Let rocks their silence break  
The sound prolong.

Our father's God! to thee,  
Author of liberty  
To thee we sing:  
Long may our land be bright  
With freedom's holy light;  
Protect us by thy might,  
Great God, our King.

Benediction

BY  
THE PASTOR

THE WARREN PRESS

Rochester Centre  
Congregational Church

And Parish



.. Dedication ..

of the

Commemorative Boulder

Wednesday Afternoon

July Eleventh

Two o'clock

1699

1906

## Order of Services



Organ Prelude

Singing

BY

THE CONGREGATION

O God, beneath Thy guiding hand,  
Our exiled fathers crossed the sea,  
And when they trod the wintry strand,  
With prayer and psalm they worshipped Thee.

Thou heardest, well pleased, the song, the prayer—  
Thy blessing came; and still its power  
Shall onward through all ages bear  
The memory of that holy hour.

Laws, freedom, truth and faith in God  
Came with those exiles o'er the waves  
And where their pilgrim feet have trod,  
The God they trusted guards their graves.

And here thy name, O God of love,  
Their children's children shall adore  
Till the eternal hills remove,  
And Spring adorns the earth no more.

Invocation

BY

REV. JOHN A. POGUE

Piercerville

Scripture Reading

BY

REV. HENRY STEVENS

Rochester Centre

MUSIC

BY

SCHUMANN QUARTET

of Fall River

HISTORICAL ADDRESS

BY

MISS MARY HALL LEONARD

Rochester

MUSIC

BY

SCHUMANN QUARTET

ADDRESS

BY

JUDGE HENRY K. BRADLEY

MUSIC

BY

SCHUMANN QUARTET

Adjourn to the *Smelter*

MUSIC

BY

SCHUMANN QUARTET

ADDRESS

BY

MR. THEOPHILUS KING

Boston

FORM C - MONUMENTS  
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

Town Rochester

Street Town Green Driveway

Name Site of first Meeting House

Original Owner Town of Rochester

Present Owner Town of Rochester

Date Constructed 1706

Date Dedicated 1906

Source of Date RECORDS: VILLAGE SOCIETY

Designer or Sculptor \_\_\_\_\_

Individual or group responsible for monument  
if other than owner CONG. VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT SOCIETY

- |                                            |                                              |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| STATUE                                     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MONUMENT |
| BUST                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> FOUNTAIN            |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MARKER | <input type="checkbox"/> MILESTONE           |
| RELIGIOUS SHRINE                           | <input type="checkbox"/> BOUNDARY MARKER     |
| GROUP COMPOSITION                          |                                              |

Monument has historical connection with the following themes: (See also reverse side)

- |               |                                                              |
|---------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| Agriculture   | Commerce/Industry                                            |
| Architecture  | Science/Invention                                            |
| Art/Sculpture | Travel/Communication                                         |
| Education     | Military Affairs                                             |
| Literature    | Indians                                                      |
| Music         | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Development of Town/City |
| Government    | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Religion/Philosophy      |

CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved\* Altered \_\_\_\_\_

IMPORTANCE of monument to area: Great Moderate None \_\_\_\_\_

MONUMENT endangered by: ROADS

LOCATION OF INSCRIPTION: Plaque on wall, house, post; base of monument; other Bronze Plaque on Boulder

ENTIRE INSCRIPTION on monument: NEAR THIS SPOT THE TOWN OF  
ROCHESTER BUILT ITS FIRST MEETING HOUSE. IN 1699  
HERE WAS ORGANIZED THE FIRST CHURCH IN ROCHESTER  
IN 1703

DESCRIPTION\*\*

Foundation: Pedestal Base None Material \_\_\_\_\_

Material: Bronze Stone Marble Granite Wood Other \_\_\_\_\_

Setting (surroundings) RURAL-

Size (approximate) 5' TALL



By William J. ...

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
(Name of Organization)

11 Date Received \_\_\_\_\_

If monument has been moved, indicate the original location on the reverse side. Describe the monument on the reverse side.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

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

Area(s)	Form No.



**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

Town

Property Address

ROCHESTER 1 CONSTITUTION WAY

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

Area(s)	Form No.
A	1

ROCHESTER TOWN HALL 2000



# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

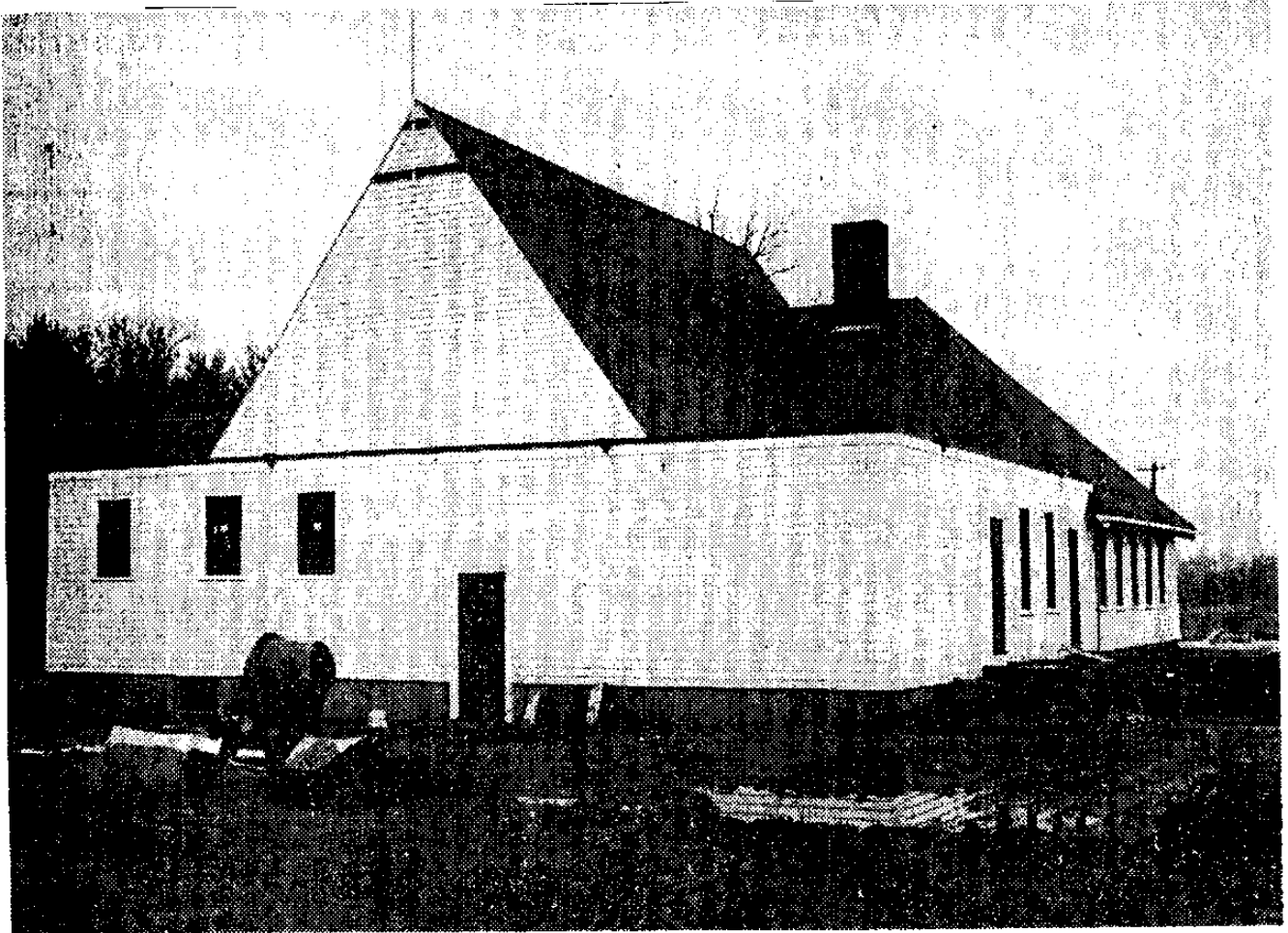
ROCHESTER 1 CONSTITUTION WAY

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

Area(s)	Form No.
A	I

ROCHESTER TOWN HALL 2000





**TOWN HALL ENLARGED** — This view shows the back of the new addition to Rochester Town Hall. Back door leads to the new Police Department office and also serves as an

—Standard-Times Staff Photo by Dave Crowell  
emergency exit. Two windows nearest door are in the town clerk's office and the other window is in the office of the tax collector.

## Offices added to Rochester Town Hall

ROCHESTER — Town officials received an extra special Christmas gift this year with the completion of the new offices at Rochester Town Hall.

The addition at the Town Hall is nearly completed with only small details remaining to be finished. Moving into the newly completed offices in the addition last week were Mrs. Evelyn Aiken, town clerk, and Thomas Gayoski Jr., tax collector.

The Police Department will be moving into its new quarters in the addition this week. Included in the addition is a conference room big enough to accommodate a good-sized gathering.

All the town offices are paneled and have tile floors. Plans are under way to increase the size of the Board of Assessors office and the town treasurer's office, both of which are located in the main part of the Town Hall.

The addition includes a vault to keep all valuable town papers. The vault is located partly in the addition and partly in the downstairs portion of the Town Hall main building.

Henry H. Knight, doing business as Main Street Construction Co., Wareham, is the contractor. Knight said the addition to the Town Hall will be completed

before the completion date of Dec. 28 set by the Town Hall Renovation and Vault Building Committee. Cost of the addition is \$33,896.

Selectmen last week commented on the addition, saying they were favorably impressed with the workmanship in the new town offices.

Members of the building committee included Selectman Ralph W. Walker, George G. Knight, an assessor; Albert N. Alderson, Olive B. Winslow, librarian and a trustee of the Free Public Library, and Humphrey Tallman, member of the Finance Committee.

# Rochester Town Hall



Rochester's Town Hall, 71 years old, was built in 1891 when Mrs. Elizabeth G. Leonard gave a gift of \$2,000 towards the erection "of a town hall and library."

At the annual town meeting March 2, 1891, when Mrs. Leonard's intentions were made known, the townspeople voted "thanks" for the gift. A special Town Meeting was held during the latter part of the month, and appointed on the building committee for the proposed Free Public Library and Town Hall were John S. Ryder, chairman, John G. Dexter, Issac F. B. Perry, Alden Rounseville and Aaron T. Jefferson.

The townspeople voted to raise an identical sum to Mrs. Leonard's gift and the tax rate was increased \$2 a thousand to raise the \$2,000. The First Parish conveyed the piece of land on which the Free Public Library and Town Hall is located for its erection.

Mr. Ryder, chairman of the building committee was instructed to buy a suitable clock to be placed in the Town Hall and "to be taken care of by the Selectmen." The clock now in the town hall is the one purchased by Mr. Ryder. Plans were made to dedicate the library and town hall but Hoyle Demoranville, the present Town Clerk, has found no records to indicate a dedication ceremony was held.

In 1893, "a resolution of thanks was tendered" Mr. Ryder, chairman of the building committee. From that period no alterations or changes were done to the library and town hall until 1957 when temporary town offices were placed in the auditorium part of the town hall.



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

Community  
Rochester

Property Address  
Rochester Center

Area(s)	Form No.
A	1-10, 107, 172-174, 905, 907-911, 814-815

## 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 Center Area is locally significant as a distinctive and well-preserved collection of historic resources associated with the development of the town center. The development of the area as the town center dates to 1697 when a portion of the area was set aside for the use of the town. Throughout the history of Rochester, the area has served as the location for the most prominent public buildings constructed in the town. Those buildings, including the Rochester Congregational Church, Rochester Town Hall, and Rochester Academy, were constructed around the Town Green, which served as a commons and later as a site for the placement of monuments and memorials constructed over the years to commemorate significant events in the town's past. The Rochester Center Area also includes several of the oldest extant residences in Rochester, as well as a cohesive grouping of fine Colonial, Georgian, Cape-type, Federal, Greek Revival, Gothic Revival, and Queen Anne-style residences constructed between the late 17th and late 19th century. One of the oldest buildings within the Area, the Stephen Winslow House, was moved early in its history and acquired its significance at its present-day location. The Rochester Center Area possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criteria A and C of the NRHP in the areas of community development and planning and architecture. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.

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

Community  
Rochester

Property Address:  
50 Dexter Lane

Area(s)	Form No.
A	7

## 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: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

The Captain John Dexter House is locally significant as an excellent and well-preserved example of a large, Gothic Revival-style farmhouse. It has historical associations with the Dexter family, who settled in Rochester as early as 1679. The Captain John Dexter House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criterion C 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.

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

Community  
Rochester

Property Address:  
119 Dexter Lane

Area(s)	Form No.
A	9

## 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: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

The James Stewart House is locally significant as the earliest documented residence in Rochester and as an excellent example of the Colonial style. James Stewart was one of the earliest known settlers in Rochester, and his descendants occupied this house well into the late 19th century. The James Stewart House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criteria B and C of the NRHP in the areas of exploration/settlement 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.

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

Community  
Rochester

Property Address:  
7 Marion Road

Area(s)	Form No.
A	4

## 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: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

The George Bonney House is locally significant as an excellent and well-preserved example of a late Federal period building and for its historical associations with George Bonney, a representative to the General Court in Boston. The George Bonney House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criteria B and C of the NRHP. The property is a contributing element to a potential Rochester Center Historic District. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.

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

Community  
Rochester

Property Address:  
1 Mary's Pond Road

Area(s)	Form No.
A	5

## 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: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

The Stephen Winslow House is locally significant as an excellent and well-preserved example of the Georgian style and for its function as a residence, general store, post office, and central meeting place. This building was moved to its present location early in its history, around 1800, to further solidify Rochester Center as the civic center of town. It was at this present-day location where the building acquired its significance. The Stephen Winslow House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criteria A and C of the NRHP. The property is a contributing element to a potential Rochester Center Historic District. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.

FORM A - AREA AND SITE SURVEY  
 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

6. Please comment on the Historical or Architectural importance of this area:  
 Historical, business, spiritual center of the town since its founding in 1679. Monument marks earliest meeting house, monument remembers Civil War Veterans. Early academy building, town hall Church, earliest cemetery, houses with histories of prominent people living there and early use as stores, post office, taverns, -what is believed to be the oldest remaining house in the original Old Rochester (which now encompasses three other towns, - Marion, Mattapoisett, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  of Wareham) is at extreme south of map and is only building threatened by potential deterioration.

1. Town Rochester

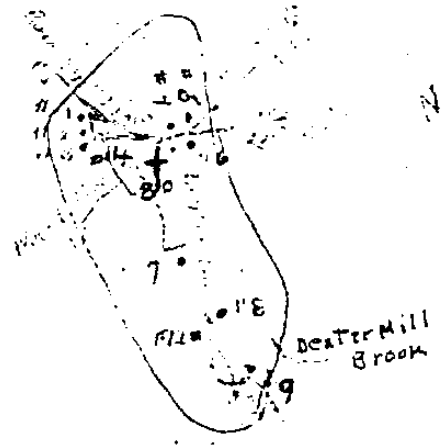
2. Name of area or section Rochester Center

3. General Date or Period 1690-1892

4. Is the area uniform? Yes  
 In style No  
 In condition Yes  
 In type of ownership Varied  
 In use (Explain) Church, cemetery, Town Green, town government, private homes.

5. Is area potentially threatened? Yes  
 By Zoning Yes  
 By Roads Yes  
 By Developers Yes  
 By Deterioration No, with one exception

7. Draw a general map of the area involved. Please indicate in red any known historic sites on which individual reports are contemplated on Form B. Indicate street boundaries of area and any route numbers.



Recorder Martha J. Gifford  
 For Rochester Historical Commission  
 (Name of Organization)



NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form.

JUN 30 1973

AREA B  
EASTOVER FARM

**FORM A - AREA SURVEY**

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

Form numbers in this area <b>16,17,18,19,20,21</b>	Area no. <b>B</b> <b>Roe</b>
-------------------------------------------------------	------------------------------------

Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
staple to left side of form  
Photo number 1

1. Town Rochester

Name of area (if any) \_\_\_\_\_  
East-Over Farms  
"Historic Leonard Place"

3. General date or period 1679 to the  
present

4. Is area uniform (explain): Yes; it has been  
held as a block of 119 acres  
in style? successive periods in har-  
monious building blends.  
in condition? quite uniform, homogen-  
ous.  
in type of ownership? yes.  
in use? yes.

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.

**DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE**  
USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by Mrs. Howard B. Hiller  
Organization Rochester Historical Com-  
mission.  
Date 6/29/73



7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

Old Time rural center, still in open country.

Yellow buildings of all uses in a Scenic landscape which includes some miles of fine stone walls.

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



Leonard Store  
now  
Hiller Cranberries  
office



Boat House



Pasture

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

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

ROCHESTER

EAST OVER FARM

Area(s)

Form No.

B

ROC. B

In the early 1800s George Leonard purchased the property we know as Eastover. George and a brother, Nehemiah, together ran a forge here. George's son Charles improved on the property and turned it into a lovely estate complete with formal gardens. The Leonard family later sold the land to the Delanos. They sold to the Rhodes family from New Bedford, owners of Rhodes Eyelet manufacturing company. In the early 1900s Mr. Rhodes sold the land to Robert & Isaac Hiller with the stipulation that he be able to use the home listed on form ROC. 12 in the summers. It is the Hiller family who still own this beautiful area.

In the original survey the following were either glossed over or omitted.

The General Store once stood on Mary's Pond Rd. along side of the Leonard/Rhodes/Hiller home (Area B, Form ROC. 12) and across from Hiller Rd. It is not known exactly when built, although the store is shown on the Henry Francis Walling map of 1856. In 1867 William Leonard signed his name in a door that is now stored in the upper part of the building.

Across the road steps can be seen in the stone wall. Here the Leonard School was built in 1849. A small one room school it, became School District #11 in 1857. It was felt by the town to be necessary as it was too much to expect very young children from the area to travel to schools farther away. However, in 1881-1882 the School Committee declared it and several other small schools unfit for occupation and was closed. The students were then transferred to the Centre School.

The present Hiller Cranberry office is made up of these two historical buildings moved from their original sites in the late 1800s and attached. The Store being the front portion and the school the rear portion. Upon being attached a Bowling Alley was installed in the rear portion of the building. On weekends this was opened by Mr. John Rhodes to Town residents for their use. Part of the alley still remains in the office below the floor. In late 1997- early 1998 an ell was added to the building for use as a conference room.

The actual farm area has had many changes over the years. The original barn built in 1756 still stands. An early home (shown in a lithograph of the estate) nearby built at the same time burned down in 1904. Part of it's foundation is still visible. The barn consisted of two sections. One smaller than the other. At some point in time the large barn next to the Haskell/Leonard home ( Area B, form ROC. 11) was moved and attached to the original barn. These barns now are home to The Hiller Clydesdales.

Where once a large Greenhouse stood a cow barn was built when the Estate was sold and converted to a dairy farm by Robert & Isaac Hiller in 1912. A fire in 1934 destroyed the barn which was rebuilt with one wall of cinder block and the other wood. After another fire in 1954 it was all rebuilt with cinder blocks except for one corner left for a proposed addition. Today this too is being redone due to rotting of the wood. Two silos were taken down in the 1980s. There are now workshops and a small office housed within. A cinder block dairy was built in 1915 to bottle and process milk under the EAST OVER label. This continued until 1968. In 1997 the dairy was turned into a farm stand.

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Town

ROCHESTER

Property Address

EASTOVER FARM

Area(s)

Form No.

3

Rec B

In the pasture, on the edge of the pond, sits a boat house built around 1850. The remains of a pier can also be seen, a favorite resting place for ducks & geese.

Much newer structures made of metal are here as well. They garage various pieces of equipment as well as old carriages that have been carefully restored.

A new home at 228 Mary's Pond Rd., owned by June (Hiller) Carr and her husband Richard W. Carr was built in 1996. It is a 1 1/2 storied half cape with ell on either side with attached garage. The home is painted to match the rest of the property and fits in very well with the much older historic homes and buildings. It was built by Robert Sherman a Rochester contractor .

All of the buildings at Eastover are painted a deep yellow and trimmed in dark green making a very pleasant sight as one travels along Mary's Pond Rd.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY

**Mattapoissett and Old Rochester.** a Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett.

The Grafton Press, New York, N.Y. 1907

**Tales of Old Rochester** -Judith Jenney Garney -

Gateway Press Inc., Baltimore MD., 1990

**Written notes** - Robert B. Hiller II - present owner

**Rochester town reports** - 1881-1882

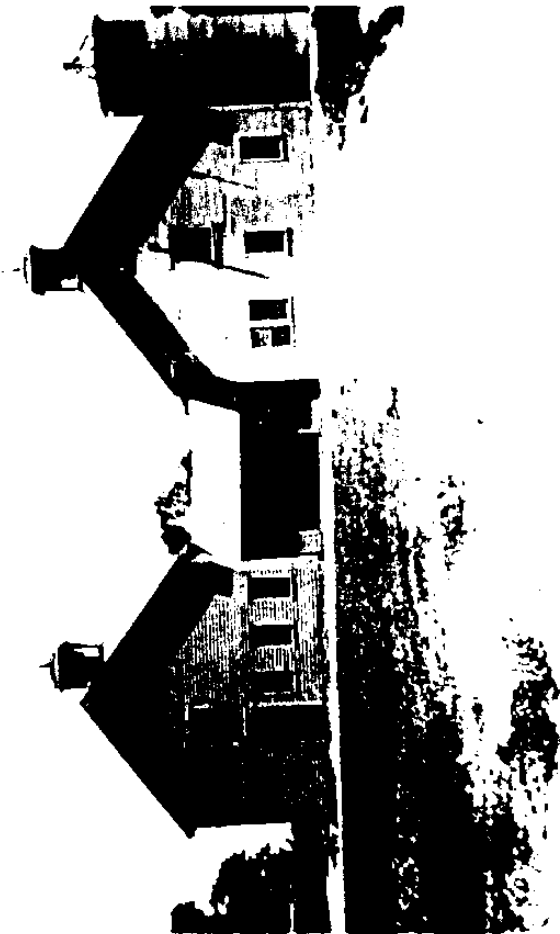
### Maps

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

1969b Town of Rochester, Mass., 1854. Rochester Historical Society

Plan of Town of Rochester - 1936

53191 @  
52101503



**FORM B \* BUILDING**

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

In Area no. B	Form no. 16 ROC 11
------------------	--------------------------

1. Town Rochester

Address East-Over Farms, Marys Pd. Rd.

Haskell-Leonard-Robert Hiller

Present use House

Present owner Howard B. Hiller

Description:

Mid-eighteenth century

Source L. G. Humphrey

Colonial (Square with back ell)

Architect Not Known

Exterior wall fabric Wood shingle (painted)

Outbuildings (describe) Barn-shed; Icehouse

Other features Two-storey, steep-roofed

house with central chimney. Pleasing

pilastered doorway; tear-drop lintel motif and entablature

Altered \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less \_\_\_\_\_ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 200' within Stone wall.

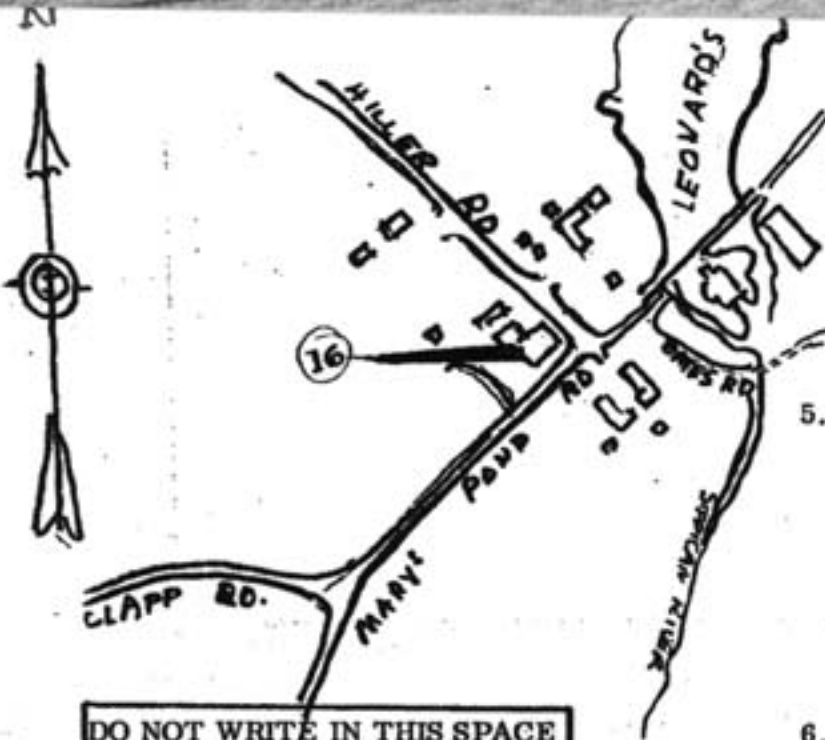
Approximate distance of building from street

22 feet from road on terraced rise above 3' granite retaining wall.

6. Recorded by Mrs. Howard B. Hiller

Organization Rochester Historical Commission

Date 6/28/73



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Original owner (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Original use Dwelling

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

H. F. Walling's 1856 Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County Massachusetts shows the names of old families, each in its quarter or grant. Saw mills, grist mills and salt works were in generous evidence and each 'Crossing' or 'Corners' was for practical purposes a small family community. The map shows C. H. Leonard and T. W. Leonard at Leonard's Pond and there was a store and a school and a Grist Mill. Leonards before Charles and Theodore had been Iron Founders at the pond.

Charles Leonard (1814 - 1868) engaged very successfully in the Whale Oil Industry in New Bedford and New York.

Mrs. Charles H. Leonard (1823 - 1901) donor of the Rochester Free Public Library, 1876 and the Rochester Town Hall 1892.

Their portraits in the Rochester Public Library.

The East-Over Farms complex of rolling green open fields, fine stone walls and old-time yellow buildings is scenic and sets a mood of earlier times.

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

L. C. Humphrey Notes and reminiscences  
Mattapoissett And Old Rochester, Third Edition The Grafton Press  
1950

H. F. Walling : Map of the Town of Rochester, Plymouth County, Massachusetts, 1856.

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Town

Rochester

Property Address

EAST OVER FAN

Area(s)

B

Form No.

11 Roc

Ownership changed to Robert B. Hiller II in 1986.

In 1994 the home was altered. The back Ell was enlarged in a style in keeping with the original architecture.

A large barn that once sat to the side of the home was moved at an unknown date and attached to the original 1756 structure. It is home to the Hiller Clydesdales.

Out buildings include a Carriage house, barn/garage with woodshed and an outhouse.

Historical - Charles H. Leonard was born Sept. 23, 1814 and died Oct. 24, 1868. He ran a whale oil & candle business - "Leonard's Wharf", New Bedford. It was he who paid to have wagon loads of fill brought in and dumped to fill the swamp making it possible to build a road to the center. This is Mary's Pond Road. It was also he and his wife who provided half the money needed to build the Town Hall adding on a room that was the Town's first Library. This room housing their pictures is now the Assessor's Office.

### Bibliography -

"Representative Men and Old Families of Southeastern Massachusetts"; Vol. III

J. H. BEERS and Co., Chicago, Illinois 1912

Rochester Assessor's records

Robert B. Hiller II - Owner







**FORM B - BUILDING**

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

In Area no. <b>B</b>	Form no. <b>17</b> <i>ROC 12</i>
-------------------------	----------------------------------------

1. Town Rochester

Address East-Over Farms, Marys Pd. Rd

Name Leonard-Rhodes<sup>o</sup> Howard Hiller

Present use House

Present owner Howard B. Hiller

3. Description:

Date Mid- nineteenth century

Source "Mattapoissett & Old Rochester

Style Greek.....to Gothic Revival

Architect Not Known

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) Horse-barn; garage  
ice-house cow barn

Other features Steep-roofed rambling  
house with many chimneys. Two  
ornate upstairs dormers on W.  
side. Bracketted cornices at roof-  
line and front door and porch de-  
tailing mark a budding trend in Cour?

Altered \_\_\_\_\_ Date building.

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less \_\_\_\_\_ Over one acre

Approximate frontage 200'  
40' from road

Approximate distance of building from street  
on terraced rise.

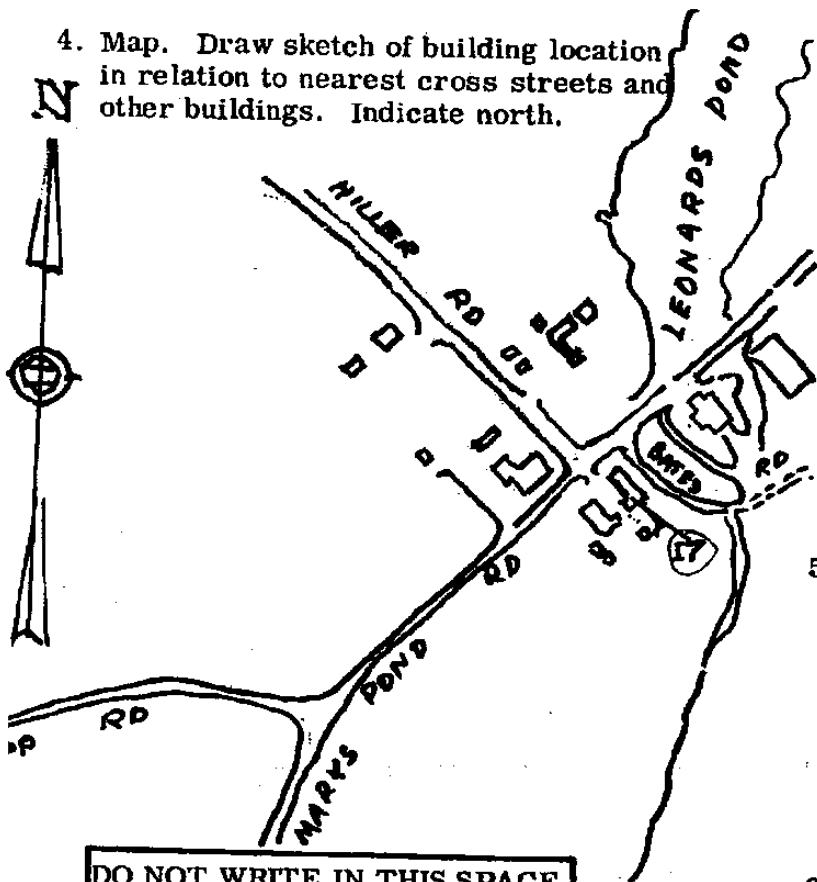
6. Recorded by Mrs. Howard B. Hiller

Organization Rochester Historical Com-  
mission.

Date 6/29/73

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number 3

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 \_\_\_\_\_

MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Original owner (if known) Theodore Leonard

Original use dwelling

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

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

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

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

Rochester EASTOVER FARM

Area(s)

Form No.

B	Roc 12
---	--------

Ownership changed to June (Hiller) Carr & her husband Richard Carr. It again changed when ownership transferred to their daughter Debbie and her husband Daniel Clark in 1997.

The home has been well maintained with no outside alterations. Buildings have been resingled, clapboards replaced and painted as late as this year - 1998.

The once lovely formal garden that had become over grown has been cleared and to some degree replanted.

Historically the home to Theodore Leonard who was born Sept. 1, 1812 in Middleboro and moved here at the age of 10. He sailed on two whaling voyages and later worked in Marion. He returned to Rochester to run the Leonard Store in 1849 when his father George died. He passed away Feb. 28, 1881.

This home was also home to Mr. Rhodes. He continued to use the home in summers for some years even after selling to the Hiller Family. He particularly enjoyed sitting on the porch with "lady friends" listening to music played on an old Victrola set out on the small dock on Leonard's Pond.

## Bibliography

Robert B. Hiller II - Present owner

"Representative Men and Old Families of Southeastern Mass." Vol. III

J. H. Beers and Co. , Chicago, Illinois 1912



**FORM B - BUILDING**

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

Assessor's Number map #11 lot 5-B	USGS Quad	Area(s) B	Form Number ROC. 126 43
-----------------------------------------	-----------	--------------	-------------------------------

Town ROCHESTER

Place (neighborhood or village) EASTOVER FARM

Address 120 HILLER RD.

Historic Name C. H. LEONARD HOUSE

Uses: Present DWELLING

Original DWELLING

Date of Construction 1853

Source INSCRIPTION ON DUTCH OVEN

Style/Form CAPE 3/4 - 1 1/2 story

Architect/Builder \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Material: \_\_\_\_\_

Foundation STONE

Wall/Trim CLAPBOARD

Roof \_\_\_\_\_

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures GARAGE

Major Alterations (with dates) 1986 & 1996

ADDITIONS

Condition EXCELLENT

Moved  no  yes Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage 4.6 acres

Setting LOVELY ESTATE SURROUNDED BY

Recorded by SUSAN M. LAFLEUR

Organization ROCHESTER HISTORICAL COMMISSION FIELDS, STONEWALLS

Date (month/year) MAY 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.*

Though two large additions have been added to accommodate an office and a growing family the original portion remains as it was built. A 3/4 Cape, 1 1/2 story. The front has a lovely porch running the full length. Two single windowed dormers are on the front and one is on the right side rear of the home. Though replacements, the windows are all 12 over 12 as were the originals. There is a single center chimney.

The additions are a full two stories, but are made to blend perfectly. The home as are all the buildings at Eastover is painted yellow with dark green shutters.

### 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.*

This home was built by Charles H. Leonard for use as housing for employees and as a caretakers home. It has continued as such. In 1987 ownership was transferred to Robert B. Hiller III and his wife Sandra to be used as their private home.

The out line of a 1/2 mile race track built by Leonard can be seen in the field near the home. The long driveway to the house is part of this track. The track was used by Leonard and later by Mr. Rhodes during the late 1800's.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES see continuation sheet

Map - 1856 Town of Rochester, Plymouth County Henry Francis Walling  
Map - Plan of Town of Rochester 1936  
Written notes -Robert B. Hiller II

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

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

Town

*Rochester*

Property Address

*120 Hillier Rd*

Area(s)

Form No.

B

ROC. ~~43~~ 176



**FORM B - BUILDING**

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

In Area no. <b>B</b>	Form no. <b>18</b> <i>Roc 38</i>
-------------------------	----------------------------------------

to (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number 4

1. Town Rochester

Address East-Over Farms, Marys Pd.

Name Sippican River Dam Grist Mill

Present use Storage Cranberries  
and Picking boxes and Machinery

Present owner Hiller Brothers

3. Description: Grist Mill with machine  
intact.

Date Uncertain...circa 1800

Source Records of a mill heresince  
1680 when Rochester Propri-  
tary was laid out.

Style Gray weathered shingle simpl  
structure. Colonial aspect.

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric weathered shingle

Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Other features Stone mill-race runs  
into and off under the building.

Altered \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less \_\_\_\_\_ Over one acre

Approximate frontage 50'

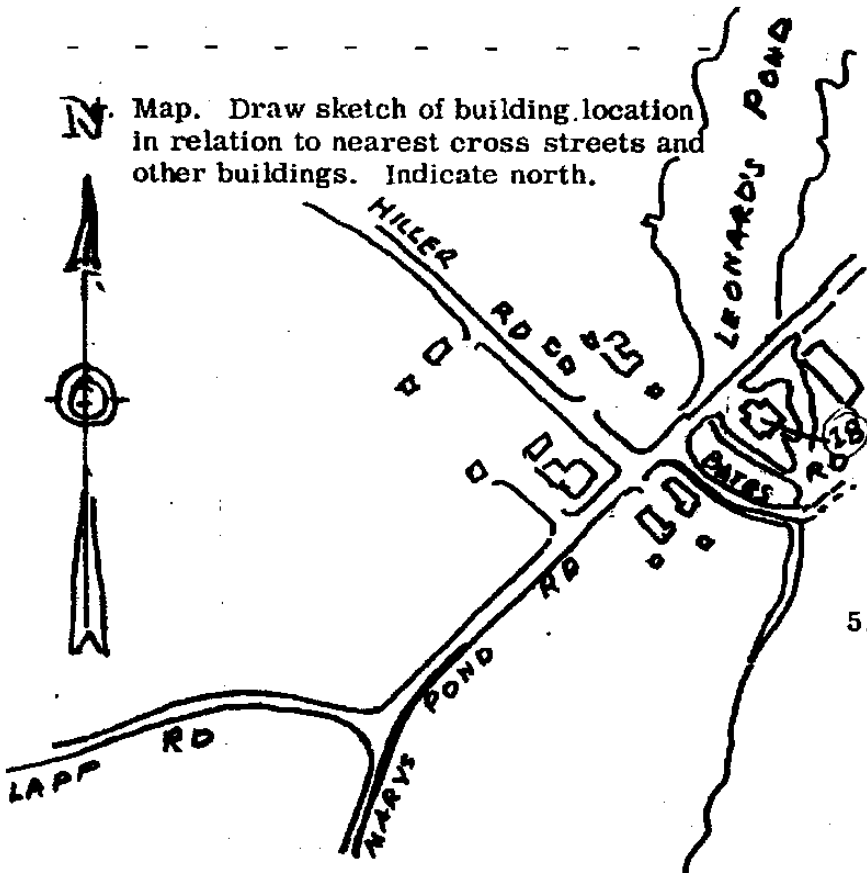
Approximate distance of building from street  
35'

6. Recorded by Mrs. Howard B. Hiller

Organization Rochester Historical Com-  
mission.

Date 6/29/73

N. 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_



7. Original owner (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

Original use Grist Mill

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Storehouse (Cranberries and Machinery)

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

"In 1679, when the Rochester Proprietary was laid out, the settlers apportioned first a place for a church and a minister, and then a place for a grist mill, showing clearly two things which in the minds of the early colonists were most thought of.

"The Leonards were originally iron workers, and their first settlement was in Taunton. The iron industry was at that time of some importance in this section of the country, and between 1818 and 1820 George Leonard moved to Rochester to start a forge by the dam in the Sippican River.

"He secured the old house and lived there until his death in 1849. There were during his life three industries located at the dam, the grist mill, the forge and a fulling mill.

"George Leonard was survived by a son, Charles H. Leonard, and it was by him that the improvements were made on the estate in 1857.

"The greatest feature of his work on the place, however, was the building of the stone walls which surround the estate. There are miles of these walls, five feet in height and two feet in thickness, and every block was carefully squared as if for use in a house, while the whole was faced. This piece of work alone was said to have cost over \$50,000.

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

New Bedford Standard Article at the time of the destruction of the Charles Leonard House in 1912.

by Mary Hall Leonard

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Town

Rochester

Property Address

EASTOVER Farm

Area(s)

B

Form No.

ROC 38

Information varies as to when a mill was first on this site. There was an Iron Mill with a forge at 284 Mary's Pond Rd. between 1700 - 1821.

As Grist Mills, were a necessary part of every day life, as early as 1683 land was set aside for these on the two sides of the Sippican River.

When "a very important Grist mill was erected" in 1704 at the "Sippican Mills" site it was known as Handy's Mill. Leonard's Pond was formed by the Sippican river being dammed. This mill was installed with a perpendicular shaft.

Peter Blackmer was appointed miller by the Town at this time. His home on the "Road to Clark's House," now Hiller Rd., no longer stands. The foundation, however, is still visible in a field across from 120 Hiller Rd. - the C. H. Leonard/R.B. Hiller III home. It should also be noted that Blackmer who was on a list of Freemen in 1684 was Rochester's 2nd Town Clerk serving from 1699 or 1700 to at least 1711. He was also a Selectman and builder of the first meeting house.

A new mill was built on the same foundation as the old, sometime between 1850 - 1855. The mill was in operation continually until shut down in 1920. It remains much as it was and is very well maintained.

## Bibliography

Written notes by owner Robert B. Hiller II - 1997

Mattapoisett and Old Rochester - a Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett - The Grafton Press, New York, N.Y. 1907

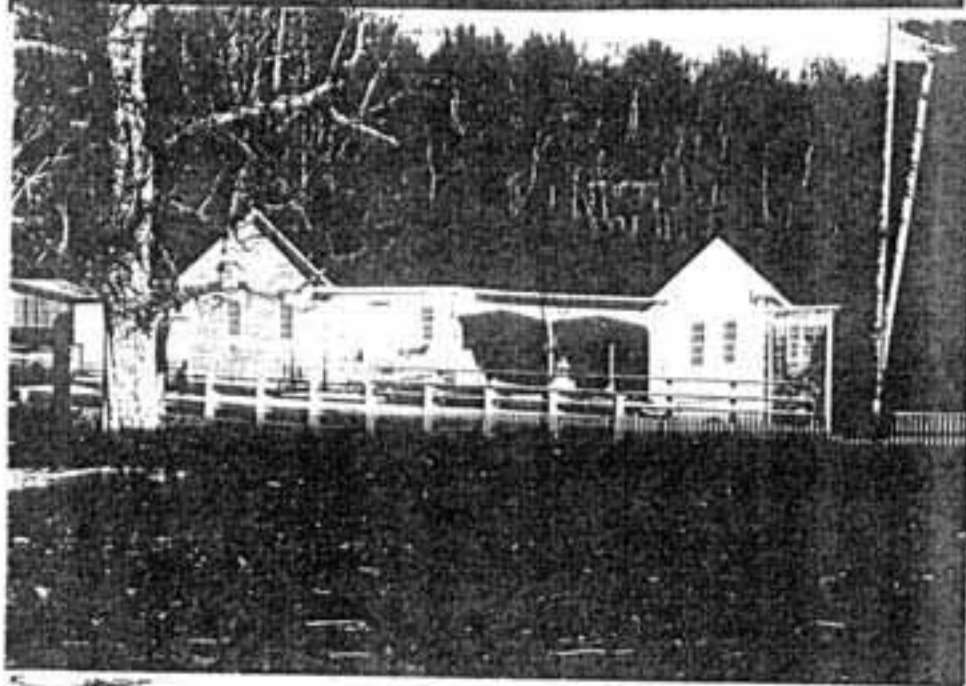
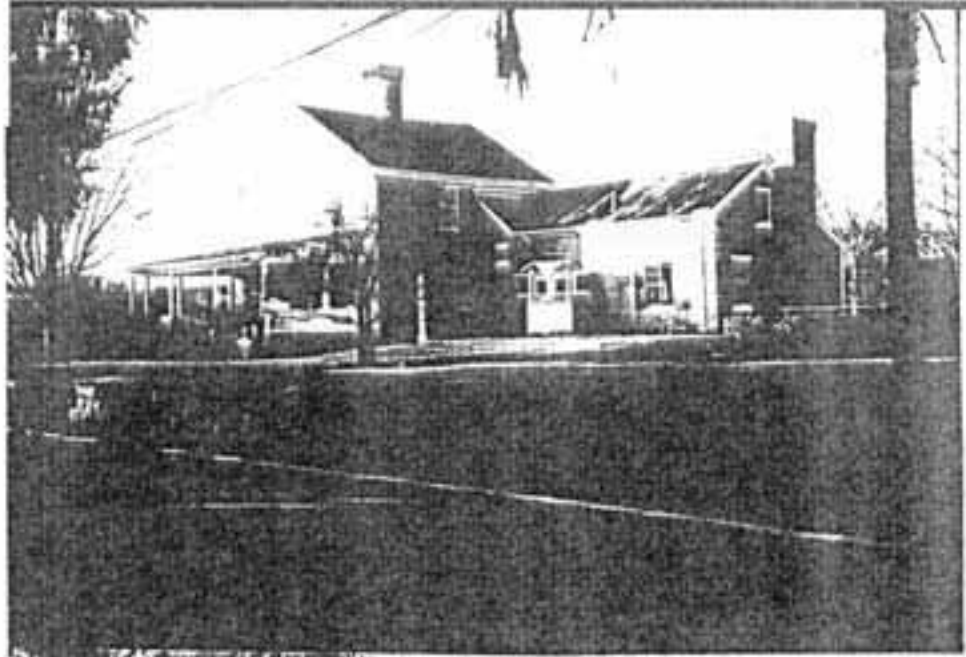
Tales of Old Rochester - Judith Jenney Gurney - Gateway Press Inc. Baltimore, MD. 1990

Maps - 1856 Town of Rochester, Plymouth County Henry Francis Walling

1969a - Town of Rochester, Ma., 1704 Rochester Historical Society

1969b - Town of Rochester, Ma., 1854 Rochester Historical Society





APRIL 1998 EASTOVER FARM  
FORM B AREA B # 16  
Haskell-Leonard-Hiller Home  
Right side

---

APRIL 1998 EASTOVER FARM  
FORM B AREA B # 18  
FRONT VIEW - GRIST mill

---

April 1998 EASTOVER FARM  
FORM B AREA B # 18  
Rear view - Grist mill

**FORM F - STRUCTURE**

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

In Area no. <b>B</b>	Form no. <b>21</b> <b>ROC 902</b>
-------------------------	-----------------------------------------

1. Town **Rochester**

Address **East-Over Farus Marys Pd. Rd.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Present use \_\_\_\_\_

Present owner **Howard B. Hiller and**

**Hiller Brothers**

3. Type of structure (check one)

bridge _____	pound _____
canal _____	powder house _____
dam _____	street _____
fort _____	tower _____
gate _____	tunnel _____
kiln _____	wall _____
lighthouse _____	windmill _____

other **Long stretches of wall built**

**of hewn stone**

5. Description

Date **1857-62**

Source \_\_\_\_\_

Construction material **granite; dry wall**  
now **Free standing now retaining as**  
Dimensions **contour of the land dictates**

Setting **Scenic open country made state**

Condition **by these level dressed walls**

6. Recorded by **Mrs H. B. Hiller**

Organization **Rochester Historical Com-**  
**mission.**

Date **6/ 29/73**

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number **6**

4. Map. Draw sketch of structure location in relation to nearest cross streets, buildings, other structures, natural features. Indicate north.

See Form # 20 Map of walls.

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Original owner (if known) Charles H. Leonard , 1814- 1868

Original use Wall landscape entity enhances the natural land contours

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

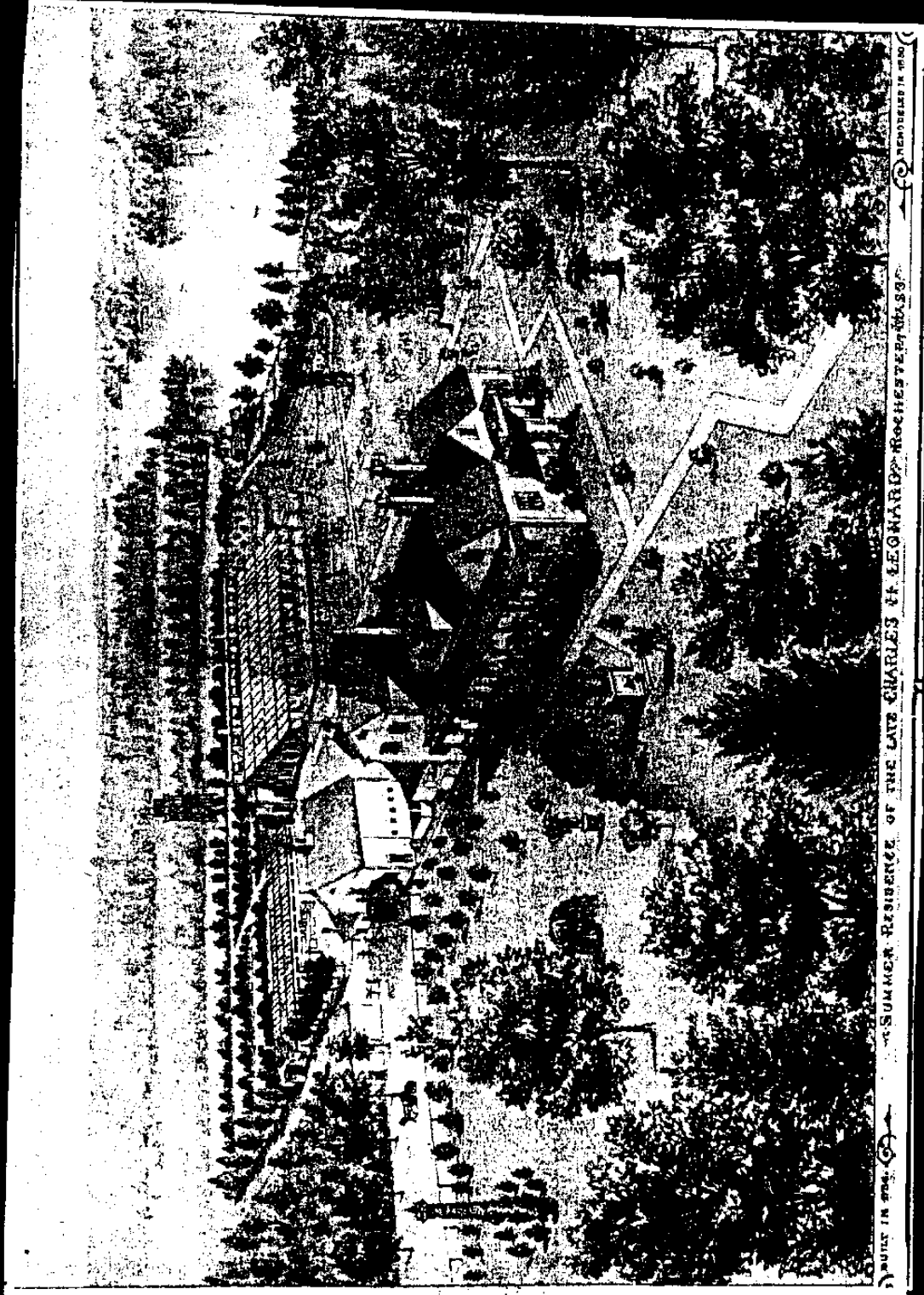
8. Historical significance.

~~Magnificent~~ ~~By~~ ~~skill~~ ~~stonemasonry~~, holding up amazingly  
against time and heavy traffic.

The engineering and artistry of the stonemasons is a never ending delight to review. In addition to miles of matched walls there are stone hitching posts with iron rings; steps for alighting from your carriage- refinements of yesterday.

With Charles Leonard the wall making was an extravagant fancy which can still excite the beholder.

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



BUILT IN 1890. G. W. SUMNER RESIDENCE OF THE LATE CHARLES F. LEONARD, ROCHESTER, N.Y. 1899. PHOTOGRAPH BY W. H. WOOD

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

1998

Town

Property Address

ROCHESTER EAST OVER FARM

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

Area(s) Form No.

B

ROC.902

The stone walls, known as "Face Walls", were built between 1849-1851 (one set of notes have the dates at 1845 -1855) at a cost to the Leonard Family of \$60,000. There are some 2 miles of walls surrounding the Estate. The walls follow the contour of the land and though from the road they seem to be of one height the back side will vary greatly in depth. At one point, along Hiller Rd., the wall was made to go around a tree rather than cut it down. The man in charge of setting the stones was Isiah Smith from New Bedford (again notes vary -saying Wareham).

L. C. Humphrey - a prominent town resident - wrote that the boulders came from the farm, were split, and that no mortar was used in the wall construction. He also said that it took 1600 work days to build the walls. Some of the workers known to have helped in the building were: Abram Parlow, Rufus Savery, Elisha Nye, John S. Ryder and Alphas Bishop - all old town names.

## Bibliography

Written notes by owner Robert B. Hiller II - 1997

Mattapoissett and Old Rochester - a Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett - The Grafton Press, New York, N.Y. 1907

The Humphrey papers - L. C. Humphrey 1940s - 1953 written memories of Rochester particularly the 1800s.





**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

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

Town Property Address  
**ROCHESTER EAST OVER FARM**

Area(s)	Form No.
B	902



**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

Town

Property Address

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

ROCHESTER EAST OVER FARM

Area(s)	Form No.
B	902



FORM F - STRUCTURE

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

In Area no.	Form no.
B	20 ROC 903

1. Town Rochester

Address East-Over Farms, Marys Pd. Rd.

Name Sippican River dam-bridge-  
watergate-millrace-complex of

Present use hewn stone

Present owner Hiller Brothers &

Rochester Town

3. Type of structure (check one)

bridge	_____	pound	_____
canal	_____	powder house	_____
dam	_____	street	_____
fort	_____	tower	_____
gate	_____	tunnel	_____
kiln	_____	wall	_____
lighthouse	_____	windmill	_____
other	_____		

5. Description

Date 1857

Source Mattapoisett & Old Rochester

The Grafton Press 1950

Construction material granite

Dimensions Marys Pond Road passes over  
the dam-bridge at Leonarda  
Pond between Grist mill  
and Screenhouse.

Setting Endangered by heavy traffic

Condition Town Action has restricted  
bridge loads to under 10 tons

6. Recorded by Mrs . H. B. Hiller

Organization Rochester Historical Com-  
mission.

Date 6/29/73

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number See Photo # 4  
Photo # 5

4. Map. Draw sketch of structure location in  
relation to nearest cross streets, buildings,  
other structures, natural features. Indicate  
north.

Tissue map of the stone  
walls folded and affixed here

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Original owner (if known) Charles H. Leonard, 1814- 1868

Original use Wall- Landscape entity enhances the natural land contours.

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Historical significance.

The engineering and artistry of the stonemasons is a never -ending delight to review. In addition to miles of matched walls there are stone hitching posts with iron rings; steps for alighting from your carriage; refinements of yesterday.

With Charles Leonard the wall making was an extravagant fancy which can still excite the beholder.

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

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

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

Town Rochester Property Address EAST OVER

Area(s)	Form No.
B	ROC 903

The bridge work was repaired by the town 1995-1996. The road on either side was widened slightly and the existing bridge was capped rather than taken down and rebuilt. This way, the original stonework has been saved and is still visible. New metal guardrails were installed at this time.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town

Property Address

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

ROCHESTER

EAST OVER FARM

Area(s)

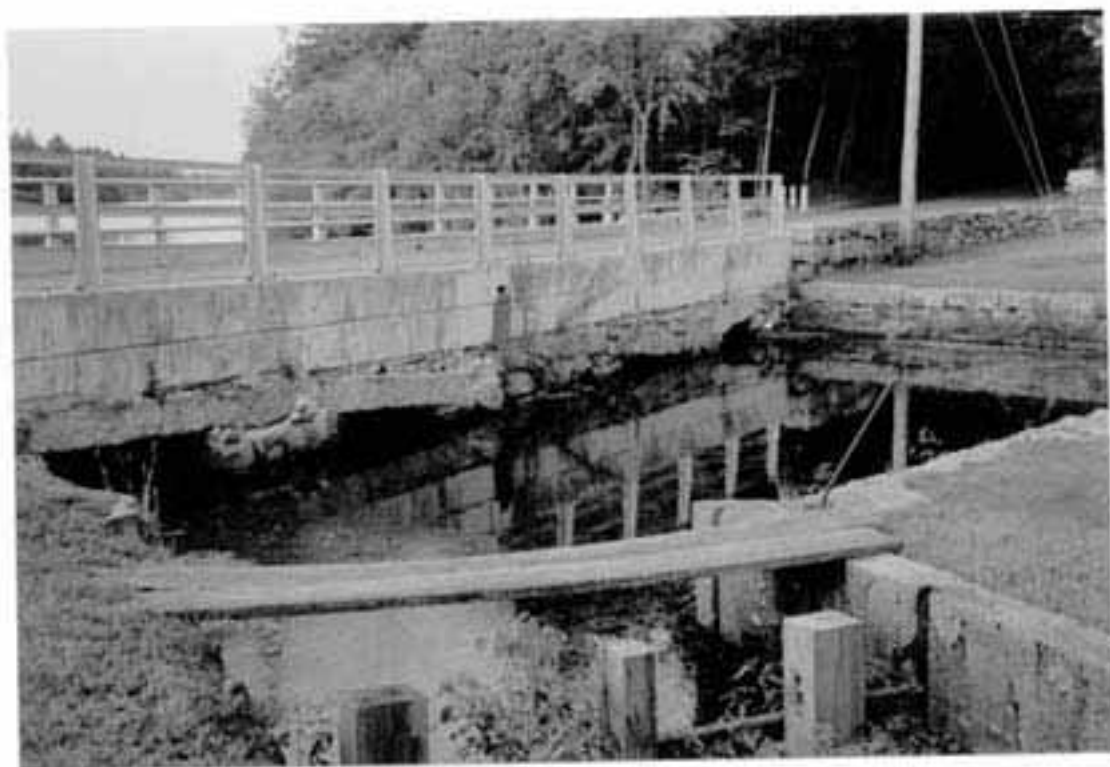
Form No.

B

ROC. 903

PHOTOS MARY'S POND RD. BRIDGE





## HOW IT WAS

### GRIST MILL SITE

*Iron Mill located at 284 Mary's Pond Road 1700-1821*

*Original Grist Mill, built with a perpendicular shaft, in 1704, known as Handy's Mill.*

*The first miller was Peter Blackmer who also served as Town Clerk.*

*The original mill was replaced, Circa 1850-1855, by the present structure and was operated continually until 1920.*

*There was also a blacksmith shop on this site from 1704 - ??*

*A. Coomes was the name of the first blacksmith.*

### EAST OVER FARM

*Original house and barn built in 1756. House destroyed by fire in 1904.*

*The base for fireplaces and some foundation stones are still in place.*

*The barn is still in use today.*

*The present houses, on the farm complex, were built between 1770 and 1853.*

*The farm office building is made up of structures that were a general store and a one room schoolhouse. The two benches presently on the porch were used by pupils in the school. The General Store stood across Mary's Pond Road opposite Hiller Road and and was moved to its present location around 1850.*

*The Schoolhouse known as the "Leonard" School, was built in 1849 in School District #16 which we believe became District #11 in 1857. There were 17 students in school in 1881. The school was closed in 1882. The building was then joined onto the general store and a bowling alley was installed. The alley, ball return, balls and pins now decorate the office area.*

*A boat house built Circa 1850 on Leonard's Pond, can be seen from the bridge at Mary's Pond Road and the Grist Mill area.*

*A 1/2 mile race track existed off Hiller Road, the outline of which can still be recognized as one looks across the field at the gateway on Hiller Road across from Winters Way.*

### FARM STAND - 1997

*Originally the farm dairy, built in 1915, and used to process and bottle milk under the East Over label until 1968. A 1917 wooden Minnetonna Home Creamery Machine for making butter and cheese is in storage at the farm.*

### STONEWALLS

*The stone walls or face walls, as they were called, were built between 1849 and 1851 at a cost of \$60,000. The exact origin of the stones has been lost to history. There are two miles of this stonework. The setting of the stone was under the supervision of a man named I. Smith from New Bedford. Along Hiller Road the wall went around a tree, rather than cutting it down.*

### TRUCK

*1925 International Speed Truck used by Petersen's Ice Cream of Marion until 1936 then served as ice delivery truck for East Over Farm until 1942.*



Notes of L.C. Humphrey done @ 1950-53, as pertain to Eastover Farm or nearby areas

(A hand written note) First grist mill for grain and flour two set? of stones of ----- and -----machinery for flour making built by E.(Ezra) Parlow and equipped and run for years by him for late Charles H. Leonard about 1850.

(Hand written note) Old Bark Mill for \_\_\_\_\_ oak and hemlock bark \_\_\_\_\_ tanning of hides for shoes and other uses of leather. This stood by bridge over Leonard's Mill stream (near Bates house, built 1712). The original mill stone now antique at home of Hinsdale in Mattapoisett.

Isiah Smith of Wareham 1845-1855 built stone walls for Charles Leonard. Workers - Abram Parlow, Rufus Savery, Elisha Nye, M. Ruggles?, John S. Ryder and many others and Alphas Bishop,-----1600 days work

Ezra Parlow built and ran first grist mill for Leonard 1850. Ezra built 5 grist mills for Charles Leonard

R---- worked in general store of Theodore Leonard for many years.

House and home of Bates on old highway over the river below now Leonard's Mill in Rochester. House built in 1712 by date cut in doorstep, now removed. The farm large, both sides of highway to Marion, much timber. Alden Rounseville Sr., Capt. Judah Hathaway -all mill men- of town looking it over as offered for sale by a relative- S.Bates of Acushnet. Porter best--offer? to it. He--- fast and bought and cut timber. After his death sold to Mr. Smith of city. He has new kitchen?? I have a good picture of old Mr. Bates and the kitchen. The path from spring by the river up over hill shows in picture. All water used in home carried over that path in buckets 1712-1930--218 years. Last of Bates family Miss Lucy passed away some 30 years ago.

John Rhodes bought old Leonard Estate on Wareham Road, moved old time country store on Mr. Charles Leonard's part of estate for bowling alley. Sold to Hiller Brothers.

Old Leonard school (known as house on farm of late C. Leonard sold and remodeled by Augustus Gibbs.

1712- mark on doorstep of old Bates Homestead on rise of land above mill stream now or formerly of Charles Leonard. I have seen picture of old homestead and land adjoining shores, a path down the hill to the spring near stream for all water as no well, was carried in pails 1712-1935. Home gone now, sold to P.R. Porter now Mr. Smith. He built new home. At foot on right side stood old time bark mill for grinding oak and bark to 1820 for tanning. On left side stood small shop where nails were made by hand,\_\_\_\_ iron from near by mill (gone)

For years I used old corn husks left by our cows to keep barnyard dry and clean, but cows would sometimes tip over corn stacks and eat even the old husks. Tried many things - sea weed, pine needles and finally cranberry vines - worked best of all.

Elijah Bates of old time farm near Leonard's Grist mill, cut up dressed hogs, rendered the lard, cured hams, shoulders, bacon, knuckles, feet and ears. Made Head Cheese and cut out the lean loins for towns people and others. He saved all but the squeal. The tail with a small strip of back attached was used to grease the griddle cake iron, the curl of the tail when stiff served as a handle. It was also used by pine log cutters to grease the saw in the spring when the pitch flowed.

The art of stone wall building is almost a lost art. (Marcus ???) H. Leonard in the 1850s and then for some years ad granite boulders on his farm split out for face wall on both sides, no mortar used and the wall rods and many of them as perfect as when built, they are a work of art, for some sections closed in since farm left his ownership. Shows that the modern man has not got the gift. Where and when did it go?

In 1638 John Haskell owned all land near Mary's Pond in town, that later contained dwelling home later owned by Jonathon Perry and sons, also Paine house. Before the Leonard family of George and sons Charles H. and Theodore that property owned by Haskells, the one building now occupied by Howard Hiller was formerly a Haskell home. Haskell was a familiar name in town's earlier history. Haskells, good Haskells, Poor Haskells as they were known and the various Haskell families had in my recollection more mentally deficient members than any name I knew. Haskells in two sections of Rochester, Acushnet and Marion all had their defects.

The only Bark Mill I ever knew of in town on stream from Leonard Mill 1 mile east of center. Bark ground by large circular flat stone - saw teeth cut in, large square hole in center for high and large shaft of wood for turning in pit just of size of stone in circumference stoned up. Bark thrown in saw teeth, ground up, used by old time men for leather, for house use, , shoes, harnesses, various other uses.

Before 1863 highway to Wareham run past house of late William Smellie, blacksmith, from Rochester center past Mary's Pond, past home of Charles H. Leonard. Mr. Leonard proposed to the town to build from old road near old Bassett farm straight through the swamp to Rochester center and offered to pay 1/2 the expense of construction. Rodolphus Ashley contracted to do the job.

**FORM B - BUILDING**

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

In Area no. B	Form no. 19 Roc 904
------------------	---------------------------

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number see Photo # 4  
left

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

1. Town Rochester

Address East-Over Farms, Marys Pd.Rd.

Name Cranberry Screenhouse

Present use " "

Present owner Hiller Brothers

3. Description: Louvered Shingle Gambrel  
roof Screenhouse with storage loft  
Date 1934 and cellar.

Source \_\_\_\_\_

Style Typical Cape Cod Screenhouse

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric Brown Shingle

Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Other features Cranberry industry

machinery, seasonal use.

Altered \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less 1 acre Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 50'

Approximate distance of building from street

25'

6. Recorded by Mrs. Howard B. Hiller

Organization Rochester Historical Com-  
mission.

Date 6/29/73

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Original owner (if known) Hiller Brothers

Original use Screenhouse

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Although this Cranberry plant is not yet even fifty years old it is part and parcel of the rural type scene and an integral part of the life as lived and worked at the dam in the Sippican River.

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

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Town

ROCHESTER

Property Address

EASTOVER

Area(s)

Form No.

6	ROC 904
---	---------

The screen house burned to the ground Nov. 12, 1987. A metal repair shop was built on the same foundation. It is used for the repair of vehicles and equipment. This structure sits to the left of the Grist Mill.

This is also believed to be the sight of an early blacksmith shop. The blacksmith shop was built in 1704 by Anthony Coomes (Coombs), originally from Sandwich. He was given land by the town on provision that he would remain and work for 7 years. His home on Mary's Pond Rd. was in the area between Mary's Pond and Perry Lane.

## Bibliography

Written notes - Robert B. Hiller - present owner

Tales of Old Rochester - Judith Jenney Gurney - Gateway Press, Inc. 1990

Mattapoisett and Old Rochester - a Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett - Leonard & Others The Grafton Press, New York, N.Y. 1907

## PETER BLACKMER HOME

On the "Road to Clark's House" now called Hiller Road was the home of Peter Blackmer. The ruins of it's foundation are all that remain and lie almost directly across the road from the home of Robert B. Hiller III (120 Hiller Rd.). This area was also known as the "Sippican Mill Site."

Nothing is known of Mr. Blackmer prior to his move to town. The earliest list in Rochester of freemen dated 1684 lists his name among those of other early and prominent men.

In 1699 he was chosen town clerk upon the death of Mark Haskell. An office he held for many years. Occasionally a small sum was paid for the work of the clerk known as the "Proffits of the townes books." In 1711 Peter was paid 20 shillings "for keeping the townes books for about 11 years past." At some point, he also served as Selectman

Sometime after 1683 there were mills known as the "Sippican Mills" in the area of what is now Leonard' Pond. In 1704 when the commission for the 1st town mill had expired a " very important gristmill was erected at "Leonard's Pond." It had a perpendicular shaft. Peter Blackmer built and tended that mill.

The towns 1st meeting house was built in 1699. The building committee consisted of Samuel Prince, Mark Haskell and Peter Blackmer. The plans for the building were drawn at the home of Mr. Haskell. Peter Blackmer was the builder. Blackmer also was one of the members of the building committee for the home of Rev. Timothy Ruggles on the old road near the home of Captain Hathaway. This road was changed in 1785.

The last known Blackmer descendent Garrison Blackmer lived near the Acushnet town line and passed away sometime around the turn of the century.



AREA C

HASKELL NEIGHBORHOOD

FORM A - AREA AND SITE SURVEY  
 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

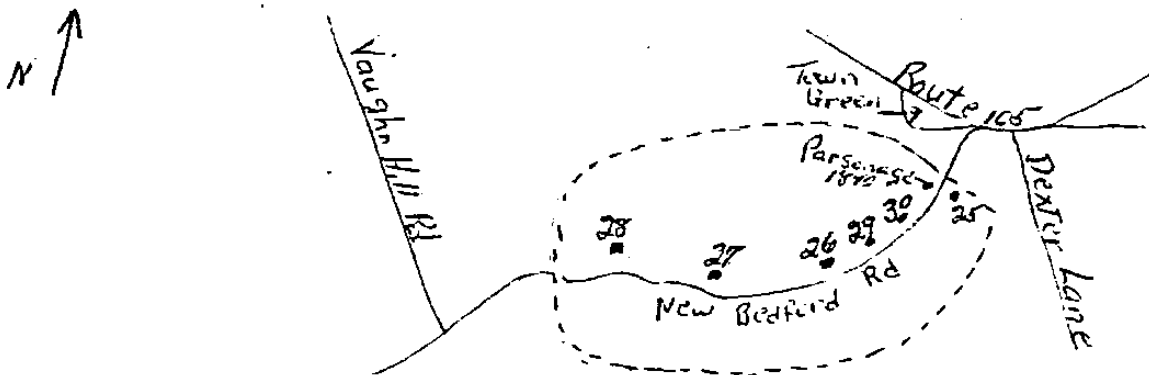
6. Please comment on the Historical or Architectural importance of this area:

Main thoroughfare through town.  
 A whole section of beautiful old houses, built around the same area and all for members of the same family. (which was a very large and prominent family in town right from the founding)  
 The family had older houses in this area also, but these are gone. One of these was moved to Bourne and became the Aptuxet Trading Post.

Also see Form # 32  
 and  
 Form # 33

1. Town Rochester, Mass.
2. Name of area or section Haskell Section
3. General Date or Period mid 19<sup>th</sup> Century
4. Is the area uniform? Yes  
 In style No  
 In condition Yes  
 In type of ownership Yes  
 In use (Explain) Yes - all HOMES
5. Is area potentially threatened? Yes  
 By Zoning Not Presently  
 By Roads Yes  
 By Developers Yes  
 By Deterioration No

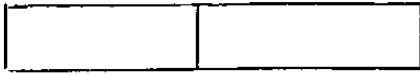
7. Draw a general map of the area involved. Please indicate in red any known historic sites on which individual reports are contemplated on Form B. Indicate street boundaries of area and any route numbers.



Map on 74

Recorder Martha J. Blufford

For Rochester Historical Comm.  
 (Name of Organization)

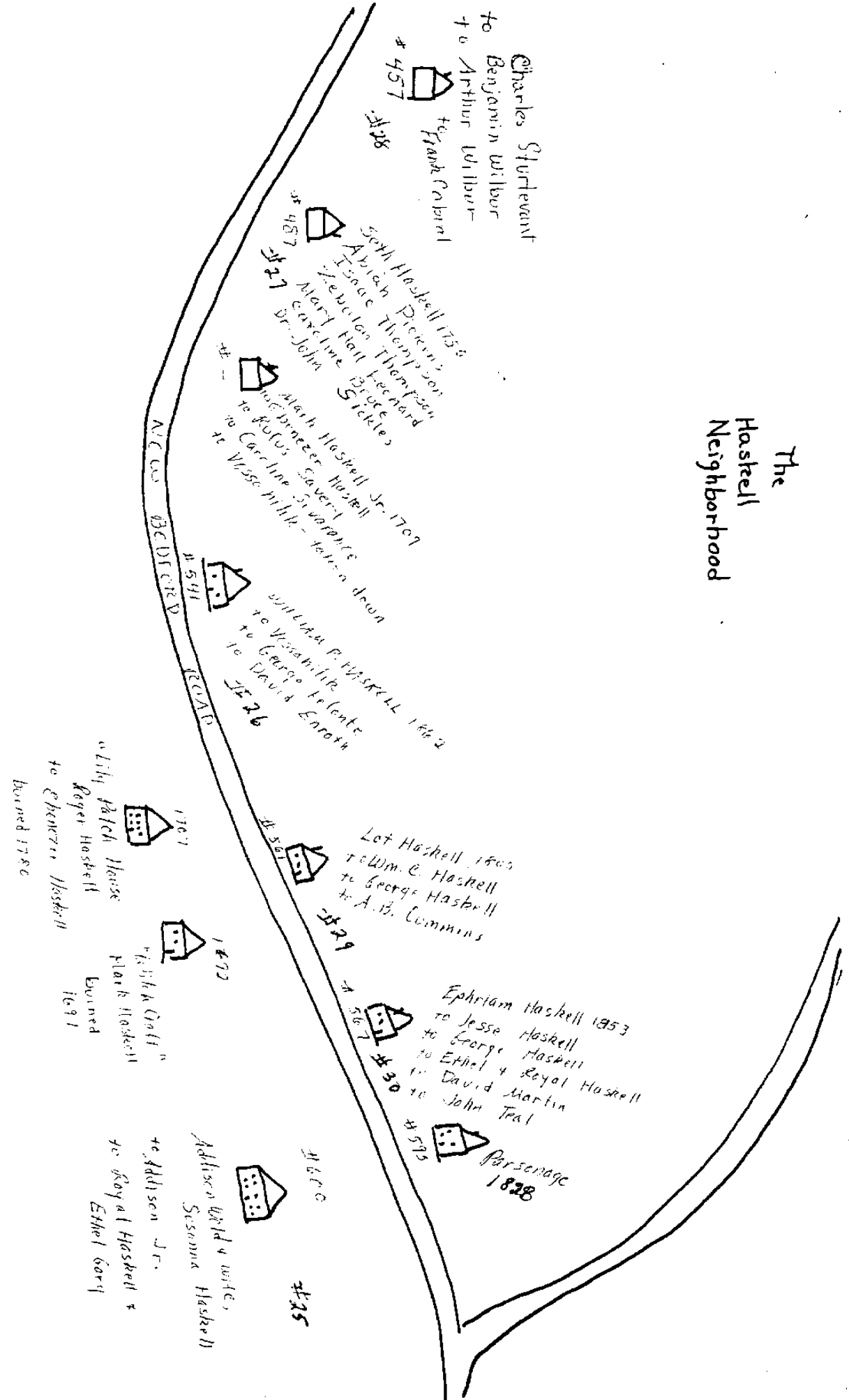


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JUN 30 1973



# The Haskell Neighborhood



AREA  
A-e

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town ROCHESTER

Property Address

New Bedford RD.

May 26, 1999

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Area(s) Form No.

C 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19

The HASKell Neighborhood

Massachusetts Archives Building

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

## Historical narrative:

In 1692 when Witchcraft hysteria took over Salem, Massachusetts one Mark Haskell, rather than serve as a juror, moved quickly by night to leave town, eventually coming to Rochester. Here he bought a parcel of land to farm and built a home. Not an original proprietor, he bought the share belonging to Isaac Little in 1693, thus making him eligible to draw lots along with the other proprietors. His wife Mary and their children joined him 5 years later. In 1697 he was named Town Clerk. The existing town books begin with him. Mr. Haskell served on the committee to build the 1st Meeting House and the plans for such were drawn at his home. He died in 1699 at the age of 49, before the building was completed. It is believed that he was one of the first to be buried in the new cemetery in the center of town. A stone has not been located to prove this however. He is often referred to as "Witchcraft Mark" Haskell.

Mark and Mary's children were the following: 1) Mary, whose wedding to Scotaway Clark is the first ever recorded in the township of Rochester. 2) Roger, who was 19 at the time of his father's death wed Joanna Swift in 1707. 3) Joanna wed one Benjamin Andrews. 4) Mark Jr., his wife being Rebecca Thomas. 5) John, wed Mehitable Clark. She was, in all likelihood, sister to Scotaway. Their home was down what is now Perry's Lane on Mary's Pond. 6) Joseph, who was 8 when his father died, wed Bethua Hammond.

The land which Mark Haskell bought when he came to Rochester extended westward from the Meeting House and cemetery, on what is now New Bedford Rd., to where the stream crosses the road just passed the Center Garage. His home was built on the highest part of a large field some distance in from the road. It is no longer, having burned in 1691, but the field still exists. Gone too, is the home known as the "Lily Patch (or Lily Path) House", built next door by his eldest son Roger. Though long gone, burning in 1780, the name remained for a great many years because of the lilies planted by Roger's wife which along with the doorstep remained to be seen by all who passed by the site. Another of the early Haskell homes was the home of Mark Haskell Jr. built around 1709. It has come to be known as the "Savery House." West of his father's, it remained until the middle part of this century (1930s) when it was sold to the Bourne Historical Society. It was torn down, removed and rebuilt in Bourne. Today it is known as the "APTUXET TRADING POST."

It is this area on New Bedford Road, known as the Haskell section of Rochester, that a number of lovely homes can be found today. These homes almost all have a tie, though some remote, to the first Mark Haskell and his descendants. The following is a brief history and description of these homes.

#595 New Bedford Rd - MHC 13 - This beautifully restored Georgian Colonial is best known as the "Parsonage". According to Church Historian Anna White the home was built in 1828 by the First Congregational Church to house the Reverend Jonathan Bigelow who until that time was commuting from Hingham, MA. to conduct the services. Traveling such distances by horse or by horse and wagon on a regular basis was indeed a hardship for anyone. It became necessary to build a home within the town, near to the church. The Reverend Bigelow served until 1849 and was a moving force behind the erection of the present church building in 1837 and of the Rochester Academy building in 1839. This home remained church property until sold in 1987 when the present owners moved in.

# 600 New Bedford Rd - MHC 14 - is known both as the Addison Weld home and as the Royal Haskell home. The home was built in 1854 by Susan Haskell and her husband Addison Weld of New York. She was a great, great granddaughter of the founding Mark through his son Roger. The home remained in the family into the 1970s. At that time being the summer home of Dr. and Mrs. Royal J. Haskell Jr.

A two story Italianate, it is set back from the road. The home has a columned porch and arched windows on the second floor.

#575 New Bedford Rd. - MHC 19 - was built around 1852-53. A home built in 1738 by Elder Mark's son Ephraim, occupied this lot until torn down in 1853 to make way for the new home. The newer house was built by Ephraim's great nephew George Whitfield Haskell and his wife Martha Dexter Burgess. George was for many years a Deacon and Sunday school superintendent of the First Church of Rochester. The house next passed to George B. Haskell. According to L.C. Humphrey, it was built by Mr. Haskell to be used by lodgers of the Academy.

The home is a grand 2 1/2 story white side gabled Italianate/Greek Revival style home with tall 6/9 front windows on the 1st floor. The second floor has regular sized 6/6 windows. All with black shutters. Two chimneys sit on each side of roof, about midway to center.

#561 New Bedford Rd. - MHC 18 - The oldest Haskell home remaining, was built about 1800 ( L.C. Humphrey put the date at 1830) by Lot Haskell. Descended from Roger, he was a Great Grandson of Witchcraft Mark Haskell. Lot lived in the home to a ripe old age and his unmarried daughter Patty, known as "Aunt Patty" to the neighborhood, later lived in the home.

The home later went to Lot's Grandson George E. Haskell who was living there in 1915. He also owned the field across the road where the first Mark had built his home. The late Bart Cummings, a past Selectman lived here for many years.

The home is a large two and a half story Federal/ Italianate, side gabled home with two attached ells. One to the rear of the home and the other extending from the right side of the 1st ell. This section is now a garage. A porch runs along the eastern side of the home to the side ell. It has clapboard siding. Both the main house and the rear addition have center chimneys. The main entrance on the facade of the building is enclosed in a one story vestibule. A lovely place, it has recently undergone a face lift and is in very good condition.

#541 New Bedford Rd. - MHC 15 - was built by William Prince Haskell, a grandson of Lot, about 1862. This lovely yellow Gothic Revival has clapboard siding and a side ell addition. This home has side gables as well as a steep gabled dormer directly over the front door. In the L.C. Humphrey papers there is a note that an old barn was moved from the lot where the Woman's Club now stands to this property about 1870 for use as a stable. It remains today.

#487 New Bedford Rd. - MHC 19 - , The Zebulon Thompson house is not actually a Haskell home, though it was built on the site of a home built by Seth Haskell in the mid 1700s. The original home was sold to stonemason Isaac Thompson, later passing to his son Zebulon. The home burned in the 1850s and Zebulon built the home you see today, a Gothic Revival, in 1856. The doorstone is from the original home. A bachelor, Zebulon was rich and considered eccentric by many. Some of the homes design may just reflect that eccentricity. According to L.C Humphrey, Thompson gave \$2000 to the town to build a macadam road from the Marion line to the center of Rochester. Humphrey says that this was the first macadam road in Rochester & was made in 1896-97. A marble shop once stood next to the house. Standing across from the Center Garage and is now the home of Dr. John Sickle and his wife.

Side gabled, this home also has a steep gabled dormer on the 2nd floor above the front door. There are sidelights with the main entrance on the facade, the windows on the main structure all have shutters. The side ell that once attached to a barn ( torn down in 1998) has a narrow porch that runs about 3/4 the length followed by two rather narrow windows which are side by side. There is another pair of these windows centered over the porch. A single chimney is to the left of the dormer in the roof ridge. Another chimney is on the ell. The front of the home has a stockade fence (in need of repair) set near the road. This has a gate at the driveway which is often closed.

#459 New Bedford Rd.- MHC 17 - the "Charles Sturtevant House" is known today as Love-Lea Acres, home of "Frank the Barber." This home is actually not part of the original Haskell property is close enough to be thought of as part of the Haskell Neighborhood. This home on a lovely piece of property has a large red barn behind and a small pond on the right side.

There is also a small single story cottage to the rear of the drive across from the barn. The pond and stream being the bound for the original property bought by Mark Haskell in 1699. Built around 1859, possibly by a Randall, the home is in the Greek Revival style?. Today many know the home not just by it's lovely setting but also because of the life size horse statues which grace the side field in summer.

Sided in clapboard the 2 story home has a low addition to it's left side as well as a short ell addition to the rear. A rectangular shaped home, a single chimney sits at the rear of the main structure.

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## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community: Property Address:  
Rochester 575 New Bedford Rd.

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

Area(s) Form No.  
C 19

Survey Update  
May, 2001

### Architectural Description

The Ephraim Haskell House at 575 New Bedford Road (MHC 19, ca. 1852) is located on the north side of New Bedford Road. Built on the site on a 1738 home built by Mark Haskell's son, Ephraim, this grand 2 ½-story Greek Revival style home with some Italianate features has a great degree of integrity. Built by George Whitefield Haskell, oldest son of Jesse, has a rectangular plan with side-facing gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, four-bay façade with no entrance facing the street (south elevation). The west-facing end has three-bays. The main entrance is centered on the west of the main block featuring a wood door with sidelights under a projecting entrance portico. The portico has two columns, a flat roof, and entablature with dentil molding. A ca. 1910 photograph shows a more ornate portico, which has been changed to the present less ornate one. Another exterior alteration after 1910 was the removal of the original front porch which ran from the west entrance around to the south facing façade. Fenestration consists of single 6/6 double hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with molded wood lintels and sills. The window at the peak of the west gable has a molded drip lintel. The four lower windows on the façade 6/9 double-sash floor length windows. Shutters surround all of the windows. The structural system is timber frame on a fieldstone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Twin brick white chimneys with black tops rise from the center ridge of the roof. Other notable exterior architectural features include an entablature with dentil molding along the roof and pilasters at the corners. Attached to the north of the main block is a two-story gable ell, which is two-bays deep, and a one-story shed with the gable end facing north. A secondary entrance on the ell was replaced with a window and the shed altered inside to be included in the living space. Off the northwest corner is a one story three bay, post and beam garage with double wooden doors. A low stone wall is in the front of the property. The house is approached by a gravel driveway on the west side.

### Historical Significance

The Ephraim Haskell House at 575 New Bedford Road (MHC 19, ca. 1852, Map #37) was built in 1852-53 by Ephraim Haskell's great nephew George Whitfield Haskell and his wife Martha Dexter Burgess. The original home on this site built by Ephraim (1711-1773) in 1738 was torn down in 1853 to make room for the new house. George W. Haskell (1814-1873) was a deacon and Sunday school superintendent of the First Church. Mr. Haskell built the house to be used by lodgers of the Academy. (L. C. Humphrey papers) The house next passed to his son, George B. Haskell (b. 1854), who ran the Haskell Mill with George E. Haskell. The house passed to his son Royal J. and daughter Ethel B. Haskell. The house, then passed out of the Haskell family. More recently David Martin and John Teal have owned the property and currently, Peter See is the owner.

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

Community: Property Address:  
Rochester 600 New Bedford Rd.

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

Area(s) Form No.  
C 14

Survey Update  
May, 2001

**Architectural Description**

The Addison Weld House at 600 New Bedford Road (MHC 14, 1854) was built in 1854 by Susan Haskell, a great, great granddaughter of the founding Mark, and by Addison Weld of New York. The house, located on the south side of New Bedford Road directly across from the Parsonage, is a 2-story Italianate style, residential building rare for this region. The most prominent feature is the large paired eave brackets under the roof, which are placed on a deep, decorative wood trim band. The foursquare main block has a low hip roof. The north facing façade has a one-story, columned porch with a low hip roof. The main entrance, at the left end of the porch is arched door with a two-pane window and flat wood surround. Fenestration consists of two six pane floor to ceiling windows with shutters on the porch and three four-pane arched rectangular windows with simple wood lintels and sills. The exterior walls are clad with clapboards and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the southwest corner is a very unusual two-story square, side hall with a low hip-roof. Two tall brick chimneys rise from the main block roof and one large chimney is located on the ell. Outbuildings include a 1½-story garage off the southeast corner. A long arching gravel drive approaches the eastern side of the house. The foundation is surrounded with attractive plantings.

**Historical Significance**

The Addison Weld House at 600 New Bedford Road (MHC 14, 1854, Map #33) also known as the Royal Haskell House, was built in 1854 by Susan Haskell, a great, great granddaughter of the founding Mark through his son Roger, and by her husband Addison W. Weld of New York. Addison H. Weld was a merchant. Susan was the daughter on Hon. Jesse Haskell, who was a state representative and served in the War of 1812. He owned the first Ephraim Haskell house across the street at 575 New Bedford Road. The home passed to Susan’s son, Addison Weld Jr. (1851-1931). He was Rochester town clerk for about 25 years. His sister, Mrs. Caroline Lewis and her daughter Winifred Lewis also lived in the house. Winifred died in 1916, one year after marrying Victor Gibbs. In the 1960s the house was the summer home of Dr. and Mrs. Royal Haskell. Dr. Haskell worked for the Federal government as an investigator of plant diseases. The home passed from the Haskell family when Virginia M. Haskell sold it to Dr. John Howard in 1979. The current owner, Michael Corrigan purchased it in 1994.

# INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community: Property Address:  
Rochester 541 New Bedfprd Rd.

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

Area(s) Form No.  
C 15

Survey Update  
April 2001

## Architectural Description

The William Prince Haskell House at 541 New Bedford Road MHC 15, ca. 1862) was built by William Prince Haskell, a grandson of Lot, about 1862. This 2 ½-story yellow Gothic Revival home is a good example of the Gothic Revival style and is notable for its steeply pitched front gable. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side gable roof. The main block has symmetrical, five-bay façade (north elevation) two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the façade has a wood door - surrounded by five-light sidelights. Fenestration consists of single, 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple molded lintels. The structural system is wood frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Two brick chimneys are located at the ridgeline. A one-story ell, attached to the northeast corner of the main block, is two bays with one being used for a garage. Facing the street on the left bay of this ell is a columned-porch. The property is in very good condition. Outbuildings include a barn set back off the northeast corner of the house. The barn was moved from the lot where the Rochester Woman's Club (MHC 63, 1932) in 1870 for use a stable. The original stone walls define the fields on either side of the property. A driveway approaches on the east side, swinging around to the rear of the house.

## Historical Significance

The William Prince Haskell House at 541 New Bedford Road (MHC 15, circa. 1862, Map #43) was built by William Prince Haskell (1831-1902), a grandson of Lot, about 1862. William was the son of William and his first wife, Mary Dexter. The wife of William Prince Haskell was Lucretia Randall an energetic president of the Mission Society. When her husband died in 1902, she went to live with relatives in Lakeville selling the approximately 40 acre farm out of the Haskell family to Daniel D. Vossahlik in 1911. The property then passed to George R. Leconte who continued to run the farm until his death. More recent owners of the home include Enroth, Hunsdorfer and Adams.



## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:      Property Address:  
Rochester      355 County Road

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

Area(s)    L    Form No. 48

East Rochester Congregational Church  
Map 19- Lot 13  
.22 acres

Update  
June 2001

### Architectural Description

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 tied 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-20<sup>th</sup> century) 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 19<sup>th</sup> c.) to the southwest of the building.

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 Significance

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-19<sup>th</sup> 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 I.A. Morse, Savery Morse, William W. Pierce, C.C. Gurney, John Gault, Benjamin W. Morton, and John T. Gallt. After about twenty-five years, the church became weakened through the formation of an Advent Church in Wareham by some of the members.

**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**Historical Significance (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.

**Bibliography**

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**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET****Community:** Rochester  
**Property Address:** 595 New Bedford Rd.**Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)** C  
**Form No.** 177Survey Update  
April, 2001**Architectural Description**

As we travel from Rochester Center east on New Bedford Road we come to the First Congregational Parsonage at 595 New Bedford Road (MHC, 1828) - This beautifully restored Georgian Colonial is best known as the "Parsonage". The home was built in 1828 by the First Congregational Church, probably designed by architect Solomon K. Eaton, to house the Reverend Jonathan Bigelow who was a moving force behind the erection of the present First Congregational Church (MHC 3, 1837) and of the Rochester Academy (MHC 2, 1838). The original house had a summer kitchen ell and attached large barn on the west side. On April 5, 1909, the parsonage suffered extensive fire damage (probable chimney fire) destroying about 1/4 of the back corner of the house. New chimneys were built at that time but the damaged quarter was not restored. Since 1987, the present private owners have opened up and replaced a fireplace and built new mantle, replaced the deteriorated front door with door believed to be one of the original doors found on the premises, a heavy six panel door now set off with a fluted molding casing. Interior of the house has been put in prime condition in historical context. Still to be completed is restoration of the kitchen area, including addition of area destroyed by fire on the downstairs level. Present owners have also added similar ell and attached garage to what original house had, but at slightly different angle to conform to present by-laws. House is attractively painted yellow suitable to the period of the house and landscaping also carried out accordingly. It is a striking addition to a neighborhood of other historical homes and well-kept newer residences on this well-traveled, yet country setting. Exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and clapboard. The roof has asphalt shingles.

**Historical Significance**

Parsonage-First Congregational Church at 595 New Bedford Road (MHC 177, 1828, Map #34), a Georgian Colonial house was built for use as a parsonage in 1828 for the Reverend Jonathan Bigelow, who was commuting from Hingham, MA, a distance of approximately 50 miles making it imperative to provide a dwelling place adjacent to the church and so the house was built. Reverend Bigelow served until 1849 and played a great part in the building of the present church (1837) and the Rochester Academy building (1839). The parsonage served as home to subsequent ministers until about 1980. The decision to sell the historic parsonage in the mid 1980's came about because of the trend of today's pastors to own their own homes and build up equity for their retirement years. In this instance, the former parsonage property has been considerably enhanced.

## INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community: Property Address:  
Rochester 561 New Bedford Rd.

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

Area(s) C Form No. 18

Survey Update  
Mat, 2001

### Architectural Description

The oldest remaining Haskell home, the Lot Haskell House at 561 New Bedford Road (MHC 18, 1800) is a good example of a Federal-style building with Italianate updates. Located to the west of the Ephraim Haskell House on the north side on New Bedford Road ½ mile west of the Rochester center, this is a 2 ½ story Federal house has a five-bay, south-facing façade. The rectangular main block is four bays deep. Fenestration consists of symmetrically placed 6/6 double sash rectangular window with simple wood lintels and sills. The second floor windows are set in a wide cornice under the entablature with dentil moldings. A massive brick chimney centers on the side-gable roof. The primary center entrance boasts a classic one-bay vestibule with a hip roof and dentil molding. The house also has a large north ell with a center chimney. Off the northeast corner there is another ell which now is a two-bay garage with wooden doors. A one story, porch with a hip roof runs along the east side on the house. An entablature with dentil molding is found along the porch roof, which is supported by five thin Doric columns. Recently restored, the property is in excellent condition retaining integrity of location, setting, design, materials, and workmanship.

### Historical Significance

The oldest Haskell house, still extant, the Lot Haskell House at 561 New Bedford Rd. (MHC 18, ca.1800, Map #40) was built about 1800 by Lot Haskell (1758-1844). He was a town official and an authority on matters of local history. Descended from Roger, he was a great grandson of Witchcraft Mark Haskell. Lot lived in the home with his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife Elizabeth Cotton until his death. He worked the Haskell Mill located in the woods on the south side of New Bedford Road. Elizabeth was an ardent Revolutionist belonging to a society of women who boycotted English goods. His unmarried daughter Patty, known as "Aunt Patty" to the neighborhood lived there. Lot's son William Cushing Haskell (1806-1871) and his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife, Joanna, owned the house next. In addition to three stepchildren, eight of her own, a niece, and a nephew, Joanna cooked for her husband and hired help from the mill. The home later went to William and Joanna's son, George E. Haskell who was operated a boxboard factory at the Haskell Mill with George B. Haskell who lived in the house next door. He also owned the field across the road where the first Mark Haskell had built his first home. More recently the house has been the home of Rochester treasurer, the late A. Barton Cummins. The house has undergone extensive restoration in the 1990s and is currently owned by Mark Petri.

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

Property Address

Town *Rochester*

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Area(s) Form No.

*C*

*Haskell Neighborhood*

Massachusetts Archives Building

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02111

*William Prince Haskell House Roc 15*



*Zebulon Thompson House*

*Roc 16*



**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

Property Address

Town Rochester

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Area(s) Form No.

C

Haskell Neighborhood

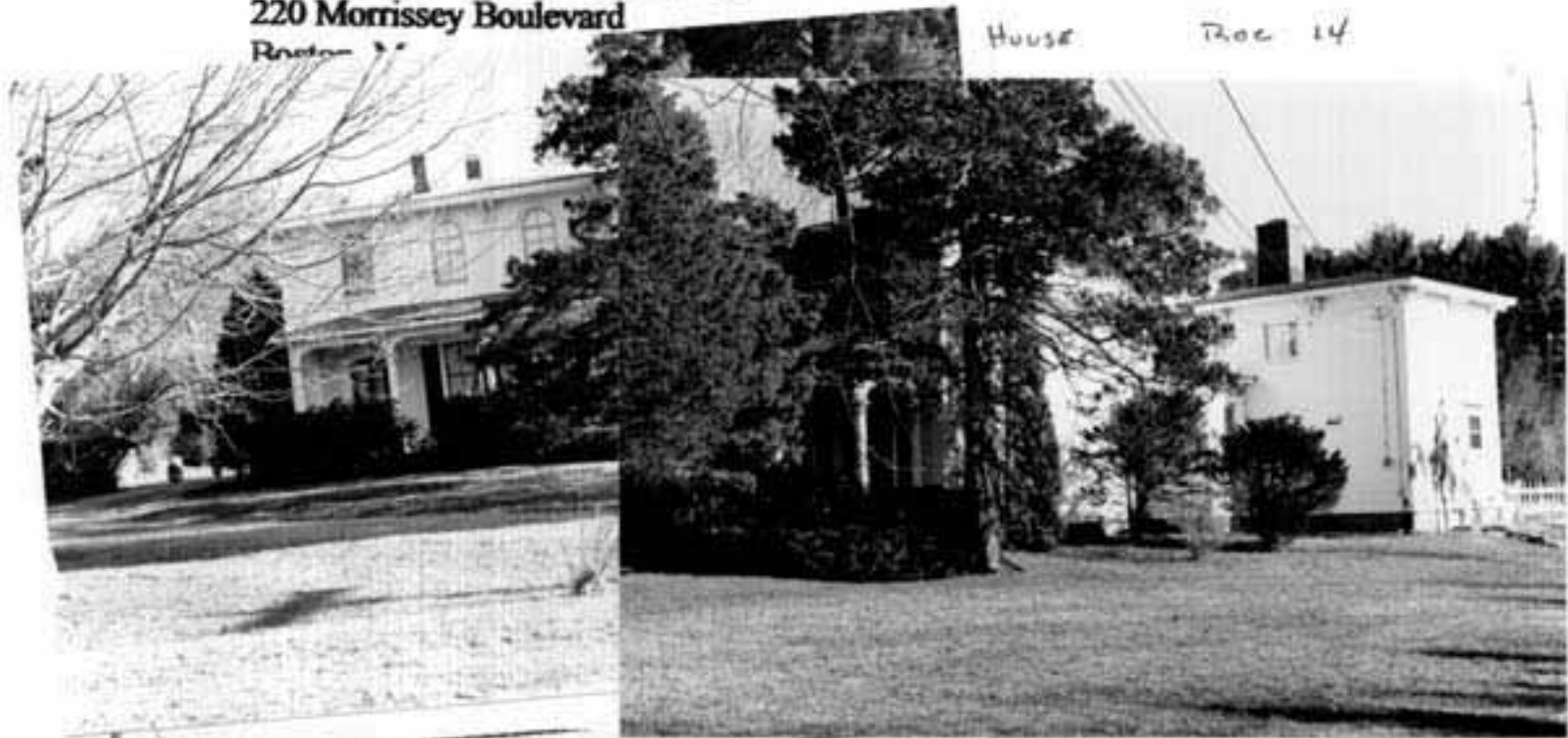
Massachusetts Archives Building

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Rochester

House

ROC 14



Lot Haskell House  
ROC 18

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

Town

Property Address

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Area(s) Form No.

Massachusetts Archives Building

220 Morrissey Boulevard

Boston, Massachusetts 02125



Ephraim  
Hasket  
House

Roc 19



Charles Sturtevant  
House

Roc 17

In Salem, Massachusetts, in 1692, Witchcraft reared its ugly and hysterical head. Mark Haskell, respected citizen, was summoned to serve on the jury. This was against everything he believed, so he packed his saddlebags and rode away in the dark, first to Boston and then to Rochester, where his brother John had property. There was great risk in doing this: to refuse to serve on the jury was to point an accusatory finger at himself.

Mark Haskell bought land in Rochester, built a home, a farm, and was elected Town Clerk. Five years after he left Salem he sent for his wife and children. In the same year his house burned down, and only two years latter, Mark Haskell died.

Mary (Smith) Haskell, left widowed with an eight year old and five older children, earned a bit of money for the family by sweeping out the meeting house once a week.

Of the children of Mark and Mary Haskell:

Mary married Scotaway Clark, and theirs is the first marriage recorded in Rochester history. Scotaway Clark was the son of Andrew Clark of Boston and Harwich, and nephew to the John Clark who settled in Rochester at this time. John Clark and Mark Haskell had married sisters and the familial lines drew them close.

Roger Haskell was nineteen when his father died, and he became the head of the family. He married Joanna Swift, daughter of Ephriam Swift in 1707. They built a home next door to his mother, and Joanna planted lilies about the doorstep. Although the house is long gone, the doorstep and lilies remain, the "Lily Path House" lives on in memory.

Joanna Haskell married Benjamin Andrews.

Mark Haskell Jr. married Rebecca Thomas and built a house a little west of his mother, on the other side of the road. This fine old house stood until the middle of the 20th century, when it was sold, torn down, and re-assembled in Bourne as the "Aptuxet Trading Post."

John Haskell married Mehitable Clark, probably Scotaway's sister, and they built a home on the south shore of Mary's Pond, on land said to have been bought



for him by his mother before he came of age. His grandfather, Roger, also owned land in that area. John and his ten children all live in the area, and many homes were in that compound. One remains today, One remains today, but certainly this is not John's original one. This old house, property of Wm. Reifle, (1973) is remarkably well preserved.

Joseph Haskell, the boy who was eight when his father died, married Bethuah Hammond and had ten children. His son, Elnathan, had sons named Elnathan, Nathan and Nathaniel, James and Joseph. Elnathan Sr. and Elnathan Jr., as well as James and Nathan served in the Revolution. Elnathan Jr. became Aide de Camp to General Washington, and settled in the south. James became a minister, Nathan was killed while serving in the navy. Nathaniel had a son named Nathaniel and a son named Joseph. Mathaniel Jr. was a "Tea Kettle Captain" which means that he sailed up and down the coast, trading. Joseph became a doctor and lived at what is now 307 Walnut Plain Road. When Nathaniel retired he lived with his brother for a while, while he built a big, fancy house next door at 333 Walnut Plain Rd. with rare woods collected in his trading days. His daughter Eugenia was born on the day that the frame of that house was raised. Eugenia was brilliant and beautiful, and her parents sent her to Philadelphia for her education. She returned to Rochester a very witty, accomplished, cheerful person, much sought after by local and far away suitors. But she refused them all, outlived her parents and siblings, inherited the house, and lived there alone, except for hired help until she died in 1907, alone during a snow storm. The guests who enjoyed Miss Eugenia's hospitality included poets, philosophers, and a president. (Cleveland, who slept in the north-east bedroom) She was famous for her charm and hospitality, and today, people claim her footsteps can be heard in the house, and children playing on the lawn will catch a glimpse of her face, framed by dancing ringlets, watching from an upstairs window. Another rumor about the house bears mention. Nathaniel was Sheriff when he built the house, so he made a jail cell in the south-east corner of the stone cellar. There is absolutely no record of it ever having been used.

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children of Mark and Mary Haskell, all born in Salem, Massachusetts. Roger's first wife, Elizabeth, was born in 1715. Elizabeth, born in 1715, was the daughter of John and Mary Haskell. She was married to Roger Haskell in 1735. They had four children: Mary, born in 1735; Joseph, born in 1738; Mark, born in 1741; and John, born in 1744. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1741 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1738 and died in 1815. John was born in 1744 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1735 and died in 1815.

**The Roger Branch of Rochester Haskells.**  
Roger Haskell 4th (Mark 2nd, Roger 1st), the oldest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1741. He was married to Mary in 1760. They had four children: Mark, born in 1763; Joseph, born in 1766; John, born in 1769; and Mary, born in 1772. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1763 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1766 and died in 1815. John was born in 1769 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1772 and died in 1815.

**The John Haskell, 2nd Branch of Rochester Haskells.**  
John Haskell 2nd, the second son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1744. He was married to Mary in 1765. They had four children: Mark, born in 1768; Joseph, born in 1771; John, born in 1774; and Mary, born in 1777. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1768 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1771 and died in 1815. John was born in 1774 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1777 and died in 1815.

**The Ephraim Haskell 4th, the youngest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1747. He was married to Mary in 1768. They had four children: Mark, born in 1771; Joseph, born in 1774; John, born in 1777; and Mary, born in 1780. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1771 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1774 and died in 1815. John was born in 1777 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1780 and died in 1815.**

**The Joseph Haskell 4th, the youngest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1750. He was married to Mary in 1771. They had four children: Mark, born in 1775; Joseph, born in 1778; John, born in 1781; and Mary, born in 1784. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1775 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1778 and died in 1815. John was born in 1781 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1784 and died in 1815.**

**The Mark Haskell 4th, the youngest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1753. He was married to Mary in 1774. They had four children: Mark, born in 1779; Joseph, born in 1782; John, born in 1785; and Mary, born in 1788. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1779 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1782 and died in 1815. John was born in 1785 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1788 and died in 1815.**

**The Mark Haskell 4th, the youngest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1756. He was married to Mary in 1777. They had four children: Mark, born in 1783; Joseph, born in 1786; John, born in 1789; and Mary, born in 1792. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1783 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1786 and died in 1815. John was born in 1789 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1792 and died in 1815.**

**The Mark Haskell 4th, the youngest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1759. He was married to Mary in 1780. They had four children: Mark, born in 1787; Joseph, born in 1790; John, born in 1793; and Mary, born in 1796. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1787 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1790 and died in 1815. John was born in 1793 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1796 and died in 1815.**

**The Mark Haskell 4th, the youngest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1762. He was married to Mary in 1783. They had four children: Mark, born in 1791; Joseph, born in 1794; John, born in 1797; and Mary, born in 1800. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1791 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1794 and died in 1815. John was born in 1797 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1800 and died in 1815.**

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**The Mark Haskell 4th, the youngest son of Mark of Rochester, was born in Salem, Mass. in 1765. He was married to Mary in 1786. They had four children: Mark, born in 1795; Joseph, born in 1798; John, born in 1801; and Mary, born in 1804. Mark and Joseph were the sons of Roger Haskell. Mark was born in 1795 and died in 1815. Joseph was born in 1798 and died in 1815. John was born in 1801 and died in 1815. Mary was born in 1804 and died in 1815.**

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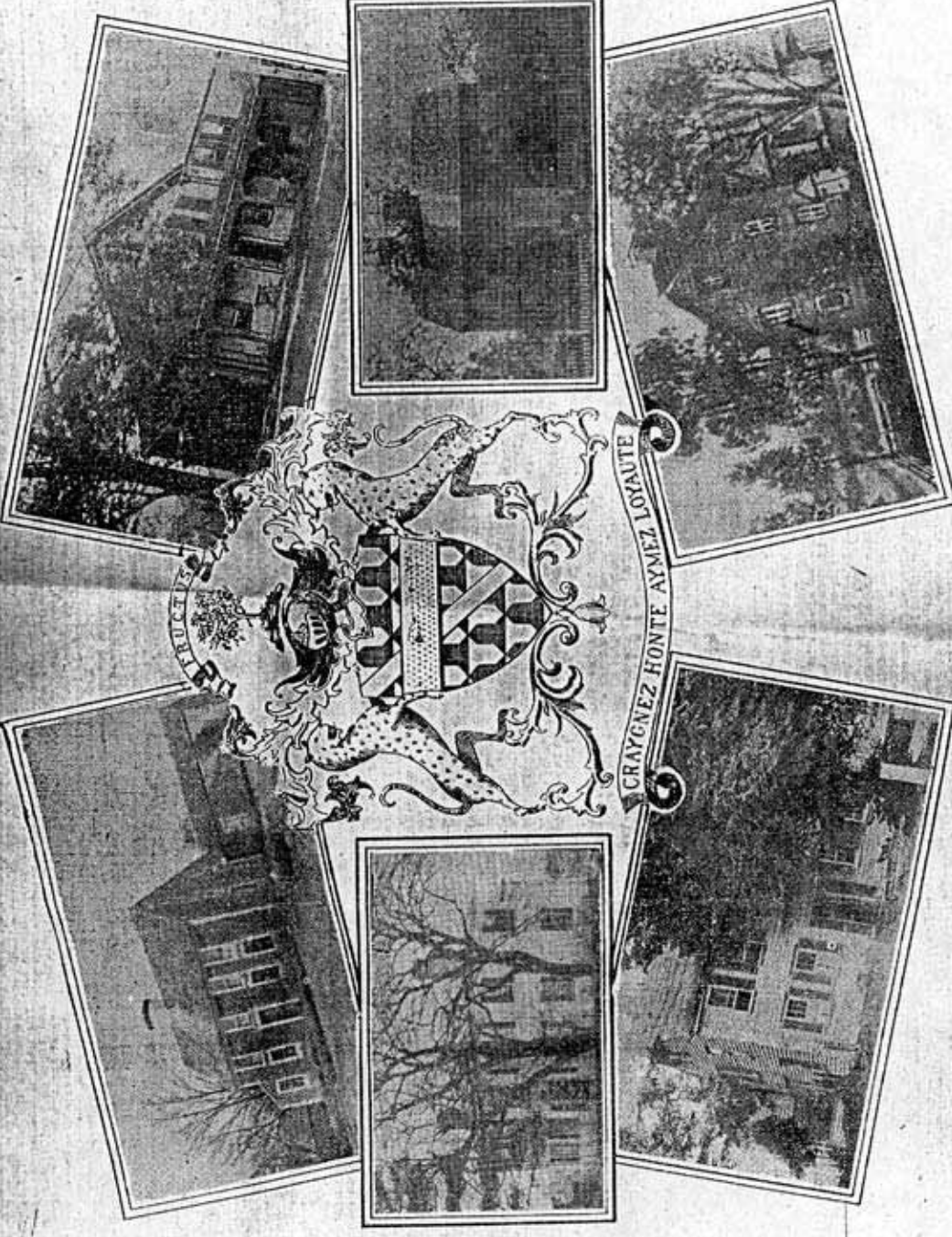
# HASKELL FAMILY ANCESTRY SAID TO HAVE BEEN TRACED AS FAR BACK AS NINTH CENTURY.

## Those in This Section Belong to the Rochester Haskell, Descendants of Roger Haskell Who Came to Salem in Early Part of Seventeenth Century.

By Mary H. Johnson.

Most of the Haskells of southern Massachusetts, belong to the "Horton" or "Horton" branch, which can be easily traced in four tribes of branches, all descended from the four sons of Mark Haskell 2nd, (son of Roger 1st of Salem), who was the first ancestor of the Haskells in this section of the state. The descendants of Mark Haskell 2nd are very numerous and are scattered in many of the foreign countries. Yet for several generations after the town settlement, there were "four kinds of Haskells" in Rochester—descendants of Mark 1st and Joseph 2nd, the four sons of Mark 2nd, the early Rochester pioneer, persons in Rochester today bearing the Haskell name belong to the oldest of Roger branch of Rochester Haskells. The John and Mark branches descend from the Massachusetts emigrants. The last representative of the younger or Joseph branch of Rochester Haskells, Miss Eugenia Haskins, died in 1899. In addition to these four tribes of Rochester Haskells, there are also in southern Massachusetts some descendants of John Rochester, who settled in Middleboro at an early date. A group of Dartmouth Haskells, and another group represented by Mr. Andrew Haskell of John Haskell 2nd of Middleboro. Some of the Middleboro Haskells, however, went to Connecticut at an early date and the descendants of this branch are scattered in other parts of the country.

Mark Haskell 2nd, the founder of the Haskell family of Rochester, was born in Salem in Rochester May 11, 1699. He married March 26, 1718, Mary Smith, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Goodell) Smith of Salem. He came with his children to Rochester in Salem several years later. The tradition is that he had been drawn for jury duty in a witchcraft case, and that his horse at midnight, and set forth, declaring that he would get as far from Salem as his horse could carry him. So, Mr. Rochester, although it may be noted that his older brother John had preceded him to Plymouth colony, finally settling in Middleboro. Mr. Rochester and he bought of Isaac Little a large tract of land just west of the "Ministry Lands" in Rochester, reaching from the town line and including the farm which was to be known as the "Horton" farm. Most of this extensive Haskell farm is still owned. The site of his house was in a field, now owned by George E. Haskell, and its position in relation to the roadway front is shown on the plan. He was town clerk of Rochester in 1747, his records (which were transcribed by Peter Blaquiere in 1899), being in the town meeting-house, built in 1699, when Mark Haskell died, the lands Rochester Haskells. His grave is in the cemetery, only recently dug for the Haskell monument. The Mark Haskell, 3rd branch of the family, died before its completion. He died before his completion.



Top, left to right—Savery house, oldest in Rochester, built by Mark Haskell in 1699; George E. Haskell house in Rochester, built by Lok Haskell in 1806; Middle, left to right—House of Miss Eugenia Haskins in Rochester, built by Mark Nathaniel Haskell; Old Haskell house near Mary's Point, now known as the Payne house; Bottom, left to right—Haskell house in Acamnet near the Head of the River; The old Jesse Haskell house, built by Ephraim Haskell and torn down in 1853; Mrs. Abba (Horton) Haskell house, built by George E. Haskell in 1806; directly descended from Ordesman nor from Surrey Haskell of the 18th roll. The first American fact that can be positively stated is, that they were in America.

married and became the head of a large and important family in the state of Massachusetts. The descendants moved to Waterford, Vermont, and from this family came Franklin Haskell 4th, who joined the Kansas emigrants under Charles Johnston in 1854. His son, Charles Johnston Haskell, was a member of the congress from Kansas for four terms. Other descendants in various states, but probably none are to be found in southern Massachusetts.

Two of the promoters of the Haskell family in the state of Massachusetts are John Leland Haskell, president of the board of publication, were descendants of Mark Haskell Roger Haskell, son of Roger Haskell, who lived in Salem, Massachusetts. Roger Haskell, through the agency of these two men, judging from their printed accounts of their ancestry, seems to have established a connection in Salem, Massachusetts, with the Rochester branch. It is now at work in the three lines of Salem Haskells. Facts will be unearthed which will establish clearly the ancestry as well as the relations they had to the early history of Salem and of the whole country.

### WOULD TAKE TIME TO COUNT.

**Said to Be One Million Wheat Plants to An Acre.**

In Farm and Fireside, L. C. Burnett, an expert on the breeding of cereals connected with Iowa State college, has an article on the breeding of new wheats for the corn belt. The results he has secured are significant and what he says about them may be taken as authoritative. An extract from Mr. Burnett's article follows:

"Every seed of wheat is made up of approximately 1,000,000 plants together more or less in families, but every acre contains some in the dairy herd, has individuality and character all its own.

"Some families have peculiar shapes and some are dwarf and some are tall in stature. Some have a striking rosette habit and spread their leaves flat on the ground at its first growth, while others are upright and have long roots and stems from the roots. Some have strong, elastic straw, some are brittle and break down under the load of grain, or some are so brittle that their stems are so hard, while their neighbors give a hard, nitrogenous product.

"Six years ago the writer started a seedling of wheat, sold into the families so that the lookers and the mediocre strains could be discarded, and so that what could be produced, not at the price of much higher than the field, contained eleven so-called varieties. From each variety was picked the twenty best hundred heads. The seed had been twenty-five hermits and came from a plant that

## ROCHESTER'S HASKELL NEIGHBORHOOD

In 1692 when Witchcraft hysteria took over Salem, Massachusetts one Mark Haskell, rather than serve as a juror, moved quickly by night to leave town, eventually coming to Rochester. Here he bought a parcel of land to farm and built a home. Not an original proprietor, he bought the share belonging to Isaac Little in 1693, thus making him eligible to draw lots along with the other proprietors. His wife Mary and their children joined him 5 years later. In 1697 he was named Town Clerk. The existing town books begin with him. Mr. Haskell served on the committee to build the 1st Meeting House and the plans for such were drawn at his home. He died in 1699 at the age of 49, before the building was completed. It is believed that he was one of the first to be buried in the new cemetery in the center of town. A stone has not been located to prove this however. He is often referred to as "Witchcraft Mark" Haskell.

Mark and Mary's children were the following: 1) Mary, whose wedding to Scotaway Clark is the first ever recorded in the township of Rochester. 2) Roger, 19 at the time of his father's death wed Joanna Swift in 1707. 3) Joanna wed one Benjamin Andrews. 4) Mark Jr., his wife being Rebecca Thomas. 5) John, wed Mehitable Clark. She was, in all likelihood, sister to Scotaway. Their home was down what is now Perry's Lane on Mary's Pond. 6) Joseph, who was 8 when his father died, wed Bethua Hammond.

The land which Mark Haskell bought when he came to Rochester extended westward from the Meeting House and cemetery, on what is now New Bedford Rd., to where the stream crosses the road just passed the Center Garage. His home was built on the highest part of a large field some distance in from the road. It is no longer, having burned in 1691, but the field still exists. Gone too, is the home known as the "Lily Patch (or Lily Path) House", built next door by his eldest son Roger. Though long gone, burning in 1780, the name remained for a great many years because of the lilies planted by Roger's wife which along with the doorstep remained to be seen by all who passed by the site. Another of the early Haskell homes was the home of Mark Haskell Jr. built around 1709. It has come to be known as the "Savery House." West of his father's, it remained until the middle part of this century (1930s) when it was sold to the Bourne Historical Society. It was torn down, removed and rebuilt in Bourne. Today it is known as the "APTUXET trading post."

It is this area on New Bedford Road, known as the Haskell section of Rochester, that a number of lovely homes can be found today. These homes almost all have a tie, though some remote, to the first Mark Haskell and his descendants. The following is a brief history and description of these homes which, it is hoped, will be of some interest.

#595 - This beautifully restored Georgian Colonial is best known as the "Parsonage". According to Church Historian Anna White the home was built in 1828 by the First Congregational Church to house the Reverend Jonathan Bigelow who until that time was commuting from Hingham, MA. to conduct the services. Traveling such distances by horse or by horse and wagon on a regular basis was indeed a hardship for anyone. It became necessary to build a home within the town, near to the church. The Reverend Bigelow served until 1849 and was a moving force behind the erection of the

present church building in 1837 and of the Rochester Academy building in 1839. This home remained church property until sold in 1987 when the present owners moved in.

# 600 New Bedford Rd, is known both as the Addison Weld home and as the Royal Haskell home. The home was built in 1854 by Susan Haskell, a great, great granddaughter of the founding Mark through his son Roger, and by her husband Addison Weld of New York. It is set back from the road some 60 ft or so. A two story Italianate, it has a columned porch and arched windows on the second floor. The home remained in the family into the 1970s and was part of a house tour sponsored by the Tobey Hospital Guild in May of 1962. At that time being the summer home of Dr. and Mrs. Royal J. Haskell Jr.

#575 is a grand 2 1/2 story Italianate/Greek Revival style home with large front windows built around 1852-53. A home built in 1738 by Elder Mark's son Ephraim, occupied this lot until torn down in 1853 to make way for the new home. The newer house was built by Ephraim's great nephew George Whitfield Haskell and his wife Martha Dexter Burgess. George was for many years a Deacon and Sunday school superintendent of the First Church of Rochester. The house next passed to George B. Haskell. According to L.C Humphrey it was built by Mr. Haskell to be used by lodgers of the Academy.

The oldest Haskell home remaining, #561 New Bedford Rd., was built about 1800 ( L.C. Humphrey put the date at 1830) by Lot Haskell. Descended from Roger, he was a Great Grandson of Witchcraft Mark Haskell. The home is a large two story house with two attached ells. One of which is now a garage. Lot lived in the home to a ripe old age. His unmarried daughter Patty later lived in the home. She was known as "Aunt Patty" to the neighborhood. The home later went to Lot's Grandson George E. Haskell who was living there in 1915. He also owned the field across the road where the first Mark had built his home. Many in Rochester will know this house as having been the home for many years of the late Bart Cummings, a past Selectman. A lovely place, it has recently undergone a face lift.

#541 New Bedford Rd. was built by William Prince Haskell, a grandson of Lot, about 1862. This lovely yellow Gothic Revival has clapboard siding and a side ell addition. William was the Grandson of Lot. In the L.C. Humphrey papers there is a note that an old barn was moved from the lot where the Woman's Club now stands to this property about 1870 for use as a stable.

#487 , The Zebulon Thompson house is not actually a Haskell home, though it was built on the site of a home built by Seth Haskell in the mid 1700s. The original home was sold to stonecutter Isaac Thompson, later passing to his son Zebulon. The home burned in the 1850s and Zebulon built the home you see today, a Gothic Revival, in 1856. The doorstone is from the original home. A bachelor, Zebulon was rich and considered eccentric and some of the homes design may just reflect that. An attached barn was recently torn down. A marble shop once stood next to the house. Standing across from the Center Garage and is now the home of Dr. John Sickle and his wife.

#459 New Bedford Rd., the "Charles Sturtevant House" is known today as Love-Lea Acres, home of "Frank the Barber." This home on a lovely piece of property has a large red barn behind and a small pond on one side. The pond and stream being the bound for the original property bought by Mark Haskell in 1699. Built around 1859, possibly by a Randall, the home is in the Greek Revival style. Today many know the home not just by it's lovely setting but also because of the life size horse statues which grace the side field in summer.

It is the hope of the Rochester Historical Commission that this brief article will help remind people of our towns rich historical past and also show that lovely reminders of a time gone by still exist for all to enjoy.

Written Feb. 1999 for Newspaper by Susan M. LaFleur  
Rochester Historical Commission

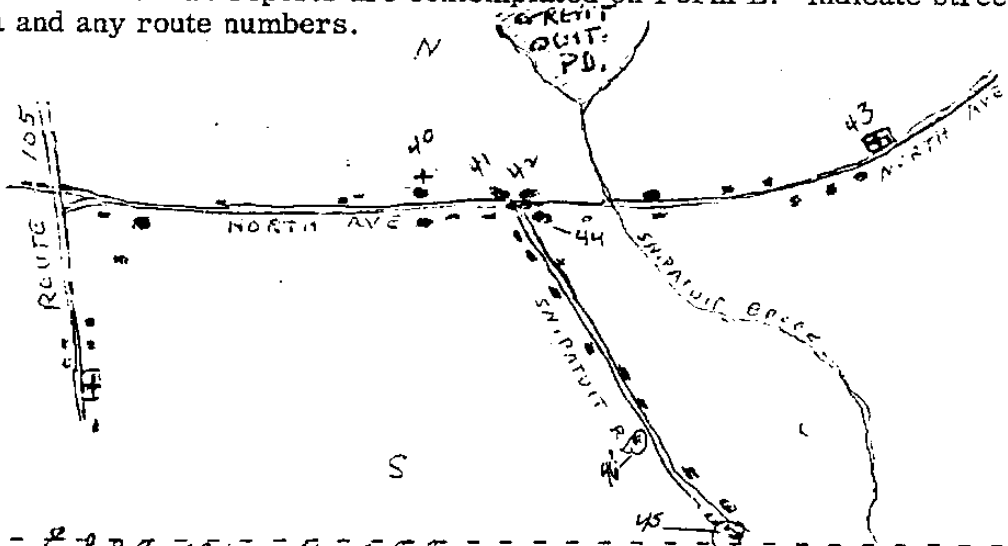
AREA D  
NORTH ROCHESTER

FORM A - AREA AND SITE SURVEY  
 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

6. Please comment on the Historical or Architectural importance of this area:

- (read)
1. Town ROCHESTER, MASS.
  2. Name of area or section NORTH  
ROCHESTER ~~CENTRA~~
  3. General Date or Period early 19th C.
  4. Is the area uniform? YES  
 In style YES  
 In condition NO  
 In type of ownership MIXED  
 In use (Explain) HOUSES, EXCEPT FOR  
CHURCH, CEMETERIES, ANTIQUE  
SHOP + TOWN POUND
  5. Is area potentially threatened? YES  
 By Zoning YES  
 By Roads YES  
 By Developers YES  
 By Deterioration NO

7. Draw a general map of the area involved. Please indicate in red any known historic sites on which individual reports are contemplated on Form B. Indicate street boundaries of area and any route numbers.



Recorder Barbara S. Baskin  
 For Rochester Historical Comm.  
 (Name of Organization)

NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form.

JUL 3 1973



FORM A - AREA AND SITE SURVEY  
 MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

6. Please comment on the Historical or Architectural importance of this area:

1. Town Rochester, Mass.  
 2. Name of area or section Smipatuit

3. General Date or Period 1700

4. Is the area uniform? YES

In style YES

In condition YES

In type of ownership YES

In use (Explain) Homes

5. Is area potentially threatened? NO

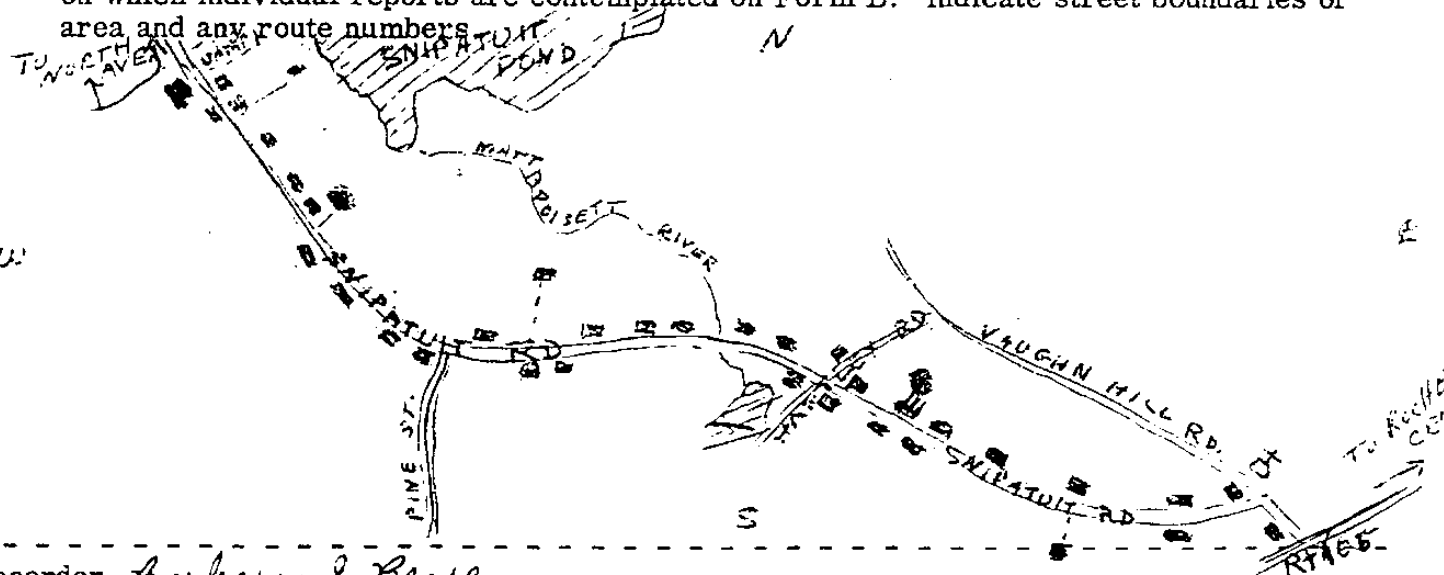
By Zoning NO

By Roads NO

By Developers NO

By Deterioration NO

7. Draw a general map of the area involved. Please indicate in red any known historic sites on which individual reports are contemplated on Form B. Indicate street boundaries of area and any route numbers.



Recorder Barbara J. Bessie

For Rochester Historical Comm.  
 (Name of Organization)

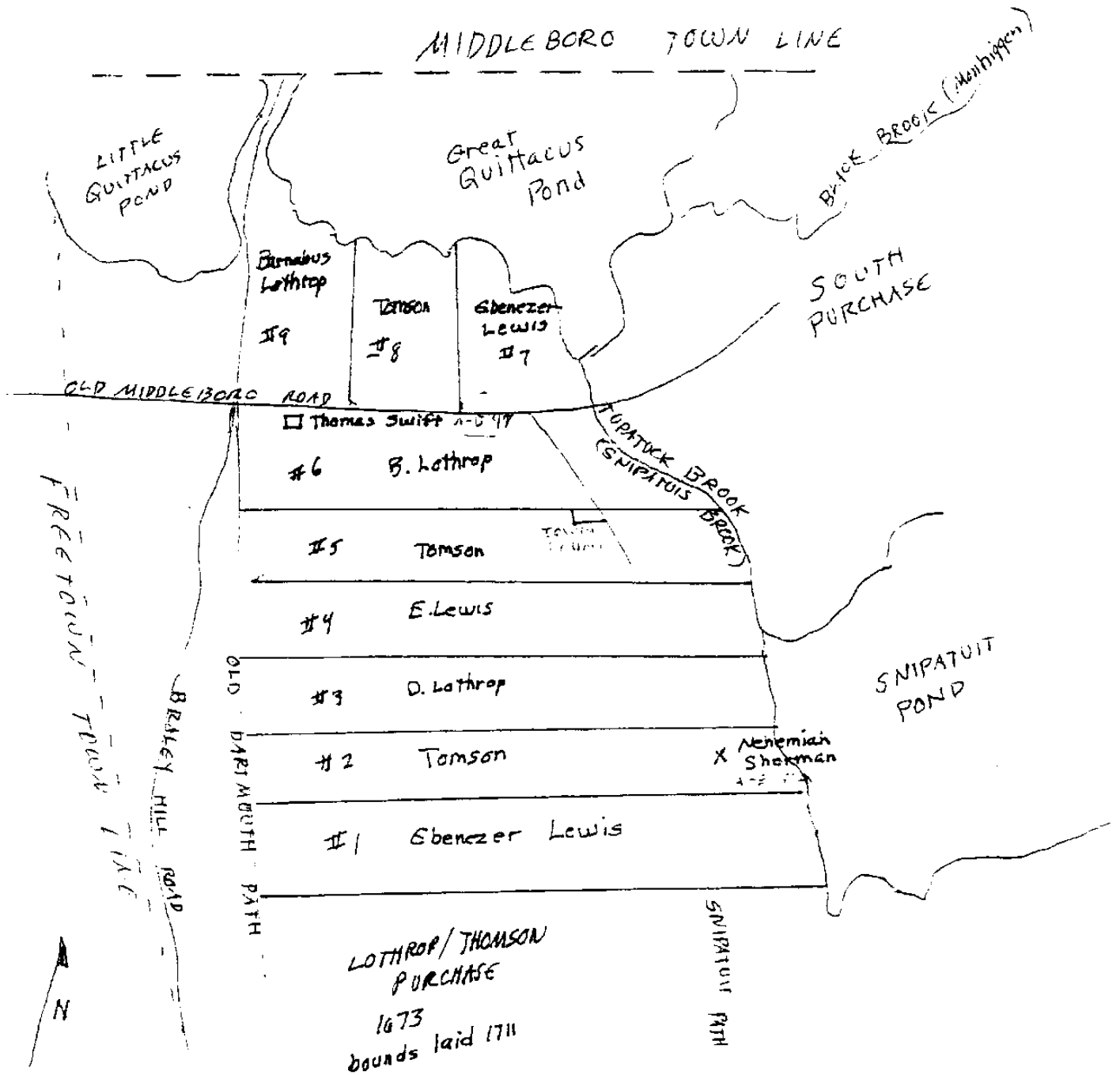
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NOTE: Recorder should obtain written permission from Commission or sponsoring organization before using this form.

LOTHROP-TOMSON

PURCHASE 1673

plan drawn by Arthur E Allen from  
boundry descriptions



AREA E  
SNIPATUIT

FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets

USGS Quad

Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

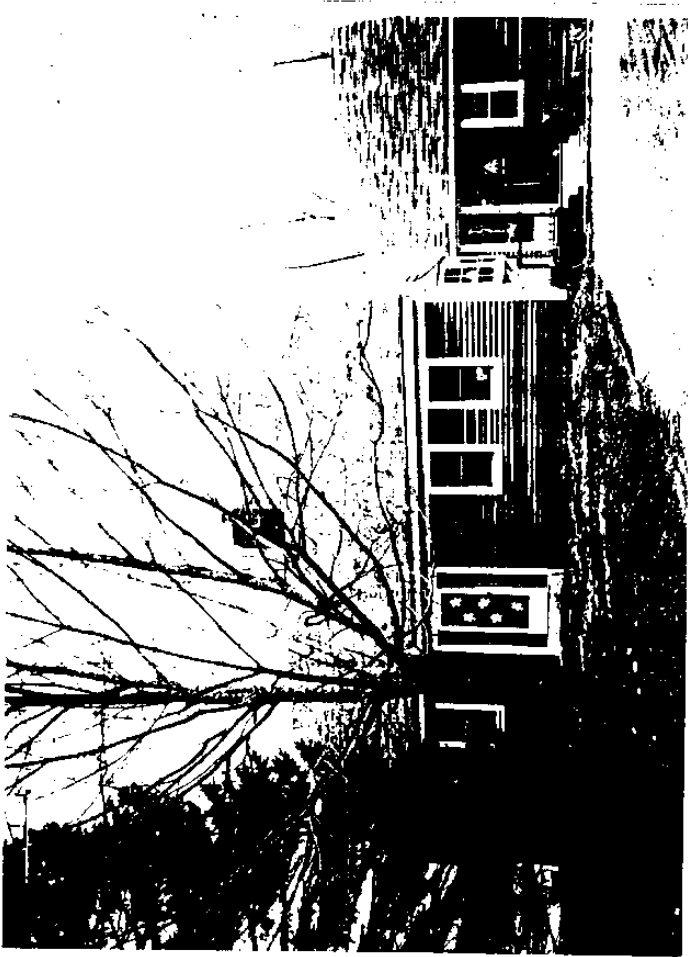
35,38,39,41

Snipatuit Pond

E

31-33, 108-118

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



Town Rochester

Place *(neighborhood or village)* \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Area Snipatuit Area

Present Use residential

Construction Dates or Period \_\_\_\_\_

ca. 1710 -- early-mid-20th century

Overall Condition good

Major Intrusions and Alterations \_\_\_\_\_

some infill construction

Acreage approx. 200 acres

Recorded by M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

Sketch Map — 140 SNIPATUIT ROAD  
JOHN CLARK HOUSE  
see attached map

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:  
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31-33, 108-118**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

The Snipatuit Area is a roughly L-shaped area along Snipatuit Road, in the western part of town. The area is characterized by a flat, rural landscape with large tracts of land between most buildings. The area is comprised of eight properties, seven of which were constructed in the 18th and early 19th century. They are Full Cape-type houses, all built within 100 years of one another. They are generally 1½-story, side-gable, rectangular, residential buildings. The structural systems are timber frame on stone foundations. Of these seven, five (140 Snipatuit Road (MHC 32, ca. 1710), 178 Snipatuit Road (MHC 113, ca. 1770), 206 Snipatuit Road (MHC 114, 115, ca. 1750), 278 Snipatuit Road (MHC 116, late 18th c.), and 386 Snipatuit Road (MHC 31, 1818)) share many of the same architectural details. All have main blocks with symmetrical, five-bay facades and are two bays in depth with interior, brick chimneys at the ridge. All can be described as typical examples of their type and period, the Cape form being the predominant building type in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries.

The southern-most building within the area is the John Clark House at 140 Snipatuit Road (MHC 32, ca. 1710). The building's primary entrance is centrally-located on its facade and is flanked by 5-light sidelights. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the building's south elevation is a 1½-story, side-gable ell (early 19th c.) set upon a stone foundation. A long, 1-story, gable-roof ell (19th c.) on a fieldstone foundation is attached to the building's rear elevation. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, gable-roof storage shed (20th c.) to the east of the house.

Heading northwest through the area, the next building is the Philip Crapo/Grandma Hartley House at 178 Snipatuit Road (MHC 113, ca. 1770). The building's primary entrance is centered on the facade and has a wood panel surround. Fenestration consists of 12/12 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A shed-roof dormer projects from the north slope of the roof. Two brick chimneys are located on the center ridge of the main roof and ridge of the side ell. A 1-story, triangular bay window (1900) with recessed panels in its lower portions is located on the east bay of the facade. Attached to the building's east elevation is a 1-story, side-gable ell (early 20th c.) set on a concrete foundation with a 1-story, shed-roof, enclosed porch on its south side. Attached to the east elevation of this ell is a 1-story, side-gable ell (early 20th c.) set on a concrete foundation with an integral porch on its south elevation. A 1-story, gable-roof garage (early 20th c.) is attached to the second ell. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, saltbox-roof, vertical wood-sided shed (mid-late 20th c.) and a small, shed-roof chicken coop (early 20th c.) to the southeast of the house.

The next property to the northwest is the Samuel Arnold III House at 206 Snipatuit Road (MHC 114, ca. 1750). The building's primary entrance is centered on the facade (south) below a 3-light transom. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the east elevation is a 1-story, side-gable ell (early 19th c.) set upon a stone foundation. The property is in good condition and also includes four outbuildings. A 1-story, saltbox-roof shed (early 20th c.) is located to the northwest of the house. A large 1½-story, gambrel-roof barn (MHC 115, late 19th/early 20th c.) on a stone foundation is located to the rear (north) of the house. To the northeast of the house stands a small, 1-story, gable-roof cottage (early 20th c.). A recently restored 1½-story, gambrel-roof barn with a stone foundation are located to the east of the house.

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Further north on the road, on the same side of the street, stands the "House Down the Lane" at 278 Snipatuit Road (MHC 116, late 18th c.). The building is set back approximately 250 feet from the road, at the end of a tree-lined drive with a small pond to the west. The building's primary entrance is centered on the facade (south) and fenestration consists of 2/1 and 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the east elevation is a 1-story, side-gable ell (early-mid-20th c.) set upon a concrete foundation. A 1-story, gable-roof ell (19th c.?) (foundation not visible) with 2/1 windows is attached to the rear elevation. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, end-gable, one-bay garage (early 20th c.) to the northwest of the house.

The William N. Thomas House at 386 Snipatuit Road (MHC 31, 1818) is set back approximately 25 feet from the street, is bordered by mature trees, and has a stone perimeter wall. The building's primary entrance is centered on the facade (west) and fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the south elevation is a 1-story, side-gable ell (19th c.) set upon a stone foundation with a 1-story, shed-roof porch on its west elevation. Attached to the rear of this ell is a 1-story, shed-roof greenhouse (mid-20th c.). The property is in good condition and also includes three outbuildings. Located to the south of the house is a 1-story, end-gable, two-bay garage (early 20th c.), to the rear (east) is a 1-story, gable-roof chicken coop (20th c.) set on a concrete foundation, and a 1-story, gable-roof, vertical wood shed (early 20th c.).

The next two buildings were originally built as five-bay Capes, but through the addition of additional bays, the buildings now have a drastically altered appearance. The Joseph Hammond House at 453 Snipatuit Road (MHC 33, ca. 1770) is a five-bay Cape with three bays added on its north end ca. 1830 (MHC B Form, 453 Snipatuit Road, 1978). The building has two main entrances, one in the center bay of the original five-bays and the second in the northern-most bay of the additions. The first entrance is set below a five-light transom with a simple wood surround. The second is set within a Federal-style entrance with 5-light sidelights. Fenestration consists of 12/1 and 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with splayed lintels and simple wood sills. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A 1½-story, side-gable ell (ca. 1880) (MHC B Form, 453 Snipatuit Road, 1978) is attached to the south elevation of the building. Attached to the rear (west) of this ell is a 1-story, gable-roof, wood shingle ell (early 20th c.) with exposed rafters and a concrete foundation. To the rear of this is a 1-story, gable-roof ell (mid-20th c.). A 1-story, shed-roof, enclosed porch is attached to the west elevation of the main block. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1½-story, gable-roof, wood shingle barn (MHC 117, late 19th c.) set on a stone foundation with a lower, 1½-story, gable-roof addition on its west end.

Further north on the road stands the Nehemiah Sherman House at 500 Snipatuit Road (MHC 118, ca. 1747), a 1½-story, residential building. The building has a rectangular plan with a side-gable roof. The original, five-bay main block has been altered on its north end through the addition of an extra bay that is taller in height. This addition sits upon a stone foundation and was most likely added to the house in the mid-19th century as shown by its architectural details, including cornerboards and cornice returns. A more recent addition to this ell is the small oriel window (mid-late 20th c.) on its west elevation. The primary entrance is centered on the original five-bay facade (west elevation), within a 1-story, end-gable vestibule. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with splayed lintels and simple wood sills. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A gable dormer projects from the east slope of the main roof. Two brick chimneys with a concrete skim coat are located on the ridges of the main roof and

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side ell. Attached to the south elevation of the main block is a lower, 1½-story, side-gable ell (early 19th c.) set on a stone foundation. The property is in good condition and also includes three small, 1-story sheds (20th c.) and a 1-story, one-bay, end-gable garage (early 20th c.) on a concrete foundation set to the rear of the house. The property also includes a large, open tract of land to the rear (east) of the house bordered by trees.

Across the street from 453 Snipatuit Road (MHC 33, ca. 1770) is Camp Snipatuit (MHC 108-112, ca. 1929), a collection of 1-story, Craftsman-style, recreation buildings. The buildings are set back from the road within a wooded area with a dirt drive providing access to the south. Low stone walls criss-cross the property which extends down to Snipatuit Pond to the east. The property is comprised of six detached buildings which share many of the same architectural details. Buildings sit upon concrete piers and are clad in novelty siding. The largest of these is an E-shaped building (MHC 109, ca. 1929) comprised of three, clipped-gable roof projections stemming off from a long, rectangular block. Fenestration consists of single and paired, 6/6 double-hung sash windows set within simple wood surrounds. To the north of the larger building are three, 1-story, gable-roof cottages MHC 110 and 111, early-mid-20th c. To the west of the E-shaped building is a building which appears to be the camp office (MHC 112, early 20th c.), a 1-story, hip-roof building with several 1-story ells attached to its north elevation. To the south of this building is a collapsed outbuilding. A 1-story, gable-roof barn and a small 1-story shed are also located on the property.

### **HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** *(continued)*

The houses within the Snipatuit Area have associations with many descendants of the town's earliest settlers as well as prominent 19th-century residents. They include members of the Sherman, Crapo, Hartley, and Bumpus families. 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 members of which lived along this road in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (1879, 1936 maps). Hartley's Mill Pond, which had a saw mill along its edges, is also named for this family (1936 map). The intersection of Snipatuit Road and Quaker Lane is known as "Sherman's Corner" for the numerous members of this family that resided along this road in the 19th century (Walling 1856, 1879 map).

The Samuel Arnold III House at 206 Snipatuit Road (MHC 114, 115, ca. 1750) was constructed ca. 1750, possibly by Samuel Arnold III, the grandson of Rochester's minister Samuel Arnold. The building has always served as a residence and there was once a blacksmith shop located on the property (RHS files). By 1856, the property was occupied by M. Sherman (Walling 1856). The property had changed hands by 1879 when Mrs. J.R. Davis was residing there (1879 map). By 1903, the property was occupied by Bartlett M. Bumpus, a mason (Foss 1903:31), who, along with his wife Bessie B., continued to reside there until at least 1941 (1936 and 1941 map). In the 1960s, the house was restored by Percy Parent. The property is currently occupied by Anne Parent (personal communication, Rochester Historical Commission, June 1998).

The Philip Crapo/Grandma Hartley House at 178 Snipatuit Road (MHC 113, ca. 1770) was constructed about 1770 by Philip Crapo (RHS files). Philip was a descendant of Peter Crapo, an early settler in the town. Crapo gave the property to his daughter Sarah, and upon her death, the property was sold to Milburn and Mary Harding who rented it out. In December 1874, the Hardings sold the property to Greenwood Hartley. Born in Colne, England, Greenwood, and his wife Ann Emmet had lived in New Bedford for a time while he worked in the mills. Following Greenwood's death in 1892, the property was left to his son James. James lived there along with his wife Annie and their 15 children, the first born in 1886, and the last in 1911. The Hartleys prospered financially and purchased the Winslow's/Hartley Saw Mill (MHC HA-1), which became

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continued to reside there until at least 1879 (1879 map). By 1916, the property was occupied by Manuel Chartrina, a laborer (Foss 1916:239). Manuel, along with his wife Rose, remained at this address until at least 1941 (1941 map). The property was restored in the 1960s and 1970s by William Deakin (personal communication, Rochester Historical Commission, June 1998).

The Joseph Hammond House at 453 Snipatuit Road (MHC 33, ca. 1770) was constructed about 1770 by Joseph Hammond. Hammond's wife, Rachel Winslow, was the daughter of Captain Edward Winslow (1703-1780) who had originally owned the land. Hammond married Rachel in February 1769, building the house and outbuildings soon after. On February 29, 1776 John Crapo (1758-1831), who later served as a soldier in the Revolutionary War, purchased the property (RHS files). Numerous members of the Crapo family lived along the west side of Snipatuit Road during the mid-19th century (Walling 1856). 453 Snipatuit Road (MHC 33, 117, ca. 1770) remained in the Crapo family until 1889 when it was transferred to the Allen family (MHC B Form, Joseph Hammond House, 1978). George F. Allen, a carpenter, and his wife Lucy lived at the house during the summer and spent the winter months in New Bedford (Foss 1903-1933). The property remained in the Allen family until at least 1936 (1936 map). By 1941, the property had been purchased by R. Hartley Hall (1941 map). The Hall family was responsible for the creation of Camp Snipatuit (MHC 108-112, early 20th c./ca. 1929) which was part of the estate of Miss Margaret D. Hall, the owner of the house in 1978.

Camp Snipatuit (MHC 108-112, ca. 1929) was constructed ca. 1929 for use as a children's camp during the summer months. The first few buildings on the property were constructed by Reginald Allen, a Rochester resident who lived on the property adjacent to the camp. The camp served both boys and girls on vacation from nearby towns as well as those from New York, Connecticut, and Boston, Massachusetts. Activities at the camp included horseback riding, swimming, boating/canoeing, and arts and crafts. The camp was non-denominational and included field trips and lectures on various topics as part of its program. Camp counselors were usually college students from Connecticut and New York with Rochester residents involved as camp cooks. The average cost of attending the camp in the 1950s was \$700 to \$800 a year per each child. In 1969, Miss Hall began to bring in counselors to the camp from other countries. The present-day owner, John Hall, attended the camp from age 4-12 and was a counselor there as a teenager. The camp closed ca. 1985 and remains vacant (personal communication, John Hall, 1998).

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one of the largest businesses and employers in Rochester. James died in 1918 and Annie took care of the farm and mill with her children for 43 years, until her death in 1961. The property became known as "Grandma Hartley's Place," a name it still retains to the present day (RHS files).

The house was inherited by James' unmarried daughter Hannah Ellen ("Nellie"). Early-20th-century directories list numerous members of the Hartley family along Snipatuit and Hartley roads. Among those listed at this address during the period were Nellie E., Greenwood, Allen B. and his wife Pauline, Mary E. Hartley, and James Hartley, Jr. (Foss 1903-1933). The Hartley family remained at this address until at least 1969 when H. Hartley lived there (1969c map). Beside its associations with the Hartley family, the property is known as the starting point for the town's annual boat race. In 1934, James Hartley, Jr., a 4-H leader, started a boat race on the Snipatuit Pond which continues to the present day. Beginning as a race among four homemade boats, the race currently attracts close to 100 boats (RHS files).

The John Clark House at 140 Snipatuit Road (MHC 32, ca. 1710) was constructed about 1710 by John Clark, a member of the Clark family who were early settlers in the town. John left the house to his son Joshua who sold it in 1783 to Samuel Allen, a cordwainer. Samuel sold the property that same year to Ebenezer Lawrence, a yeoman. Lawrence held onto the property for 10 years before selling it to Thomas Whitredge III, a carpenter. By 1796, the property was owned by Zachariah Rider [sic] (RHS files) followed by Mrs. C. Rider [sic] in 1856 (Walling 1856). Ryder Road, in the northeast corner of town, takes its name from the Ryder family, several of which lived along Walnut Plain and Ryder roads in the 19th century (Walling 1856, 1879 map). Elisha M. Bumpus purchased the land in 1866. It remained in the Bumpus family until 1917 (RHS files). By 1933, the property was occupied by James Hartley, Jr. who had lived with his mother at 178 Snipatuit Road (MHC 113, ca. 1770) until the 1920s when he moved to Grove Street. Hartley remained at 140 Snipatuit Road (MHC 32, ca. 1710) (Foss 1933:180) until at least 1969 (1969c map).

Architectural evidence, based on comparisons with buildings of similar size and design, indicates that 278 Snipatuit Road (MHC 116, late 18th c.), known as "the House Down the Lane," was constructed in the late 18th century. Constructed by a member of the Sherman family (RHS files), the house remained in the Sherman family throughout the 19th (Walling 1856, 1879 map) and early 20th centuries. The property passed through marriage to the Corse family and by 1941, was occupied by M. Corse (1941 map).

The Nehemiah Sherman House at 500 Snipatuit Road (MHC 118, ca. 1747) was constructed about 1747 by another member of the Sherman family. Nehemiah Sherman, of Dartmouth, purchased the land from Amassa Thompson in 1745. Thompson's grandfather John was one of three men, including Capt. Joseph Lothrop and Barnabus Lothrop, who had purchased the land from Native Americans. This transaction was commonly referred to as the Lothrop and Thompson Purchase. In 1759, Nehemiah and his wife Experience sold their house and 94 acres of land to Seth Pope (RHS files). By 1856, the property was occupied by C.H. Clark (Walling 1856). The Clarks remained at this address until at least 1879 when Mrs. R. Clark lived there (1879 map). It is unclear who lived in the house after this, since there are no Clarks listed on this road in the directories. By 1941, the property was occupied by a member of the Pierce family (1941 map). Today, Edmund F. Arruda resides there (personal communication, Rochester Historical Commission, June 1998).

Another house associated with the Sherman family, but not built by them, is the William N. Thomas House at 386 Snipatuit Road (MHC 31, 1818). This house was constructed in 1818 by William N. Thomas. Newspapers found in the house's walls confirm its construction date (RHS files). By 1856, the property was occupied by Edward A. Sherman (Walling 1856) who

James Hartley Jr. moved to 140 Snipatuit Rd., not Grove St.

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Commission, Massachusetts State Archives Facility, 1981.

Personal Communication, Rochester Historical Commission, 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.

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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31-33, 108-118**AREA DATA SHEET**

Properties are listed in numerical order by street.

MHC #	MAP/LOT	NAME/ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE/Form	OUT BLDG	TYPE
108-112	38/23, 41/9,10	Camp Snipatuit Snipatuit Road	ca. 1929	Craftsman	multiple	B
32	35/42A	John Clark House 140 Snipatuit Road	ca. 1710	No Style/ Full Cape	1	B
113	39/3D	Philip Crapo/Grandma Hartley House 178 Snipatuit Road	ca. 1770	No Style/ Full Cape	2	B
114, 115	38/43	Samuel Arnold III House and Barn, 206 Snipatuit Road	ca. 1750	No Style/ Full Cape	4	B
116	38/40	"House Down the Lane" 278 Snipatuit Road	late 18th century	No Style/ Full Cape	1	B
31	38/31	William N. Thomas House 386 Snipatuit Road	1818	No Style/ Full Cape	3	B
33, 117	38/2	Joseph Hammond House and Barn, 453 Snipatuit Road	ca. 1770	No Style/ Full Cape	1	B
118	41/7	Nehemiah Sherman House 500 Snipatuit Road	ca. 1747	No Style/ Full Cape	4	B

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PHOTOGRAPHS



PHILIP CRAPO /  
GRANDMA HARTLRY HOUSE  
178 SNIPATUIT ROAD

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PHOTOGRAPHS



JOSEPH HAMMOND HOUSE  
& BARN  
453 SNIPATUIT ROAD



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PHOTOGRAPHS



— SAMUEL ARNOLD III HOUSE  
& BARN —

— 206 SNIPATUIT ROAD —



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PHOTOGRAPHS



"HOUSE DOWN THE LANE"  
278 SNIPATUIT ROAD



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PHOTOGRAPHS



NEHEMIAH SHERMAN HOUSE  
500 SNIPATUIT ROAD





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PHOTOGRAPHS



WILLIAM N. THOMAS HOUSE  
386 SNIPATUIT ROAD



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PHOTOGRAPHS



CAMP SNIPATUIT



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**PHOTOGRAPHS**



MHC # 110  
500 Snipatuit Road

MHC 108-112  
Camp Snipatuit  
Snipatuit Road

MHC # 33, 117  
453 Snipatuit Road

MHC # 31  
386 Snipatuit Road

MHC # 116  
278 Snipatuit Road

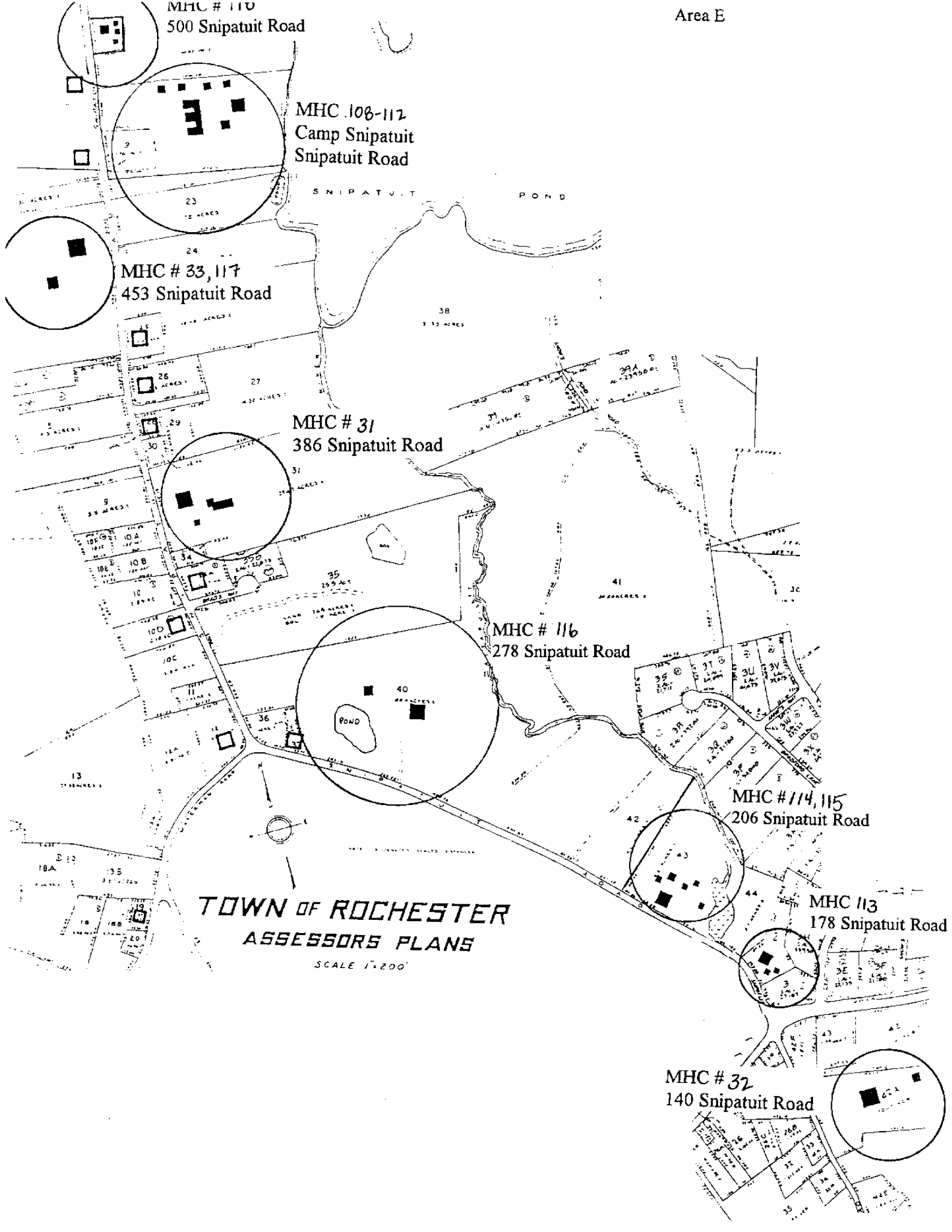
MHC # 114, 115  
206 Snipatuit Road

MHC 113  
178 Snipatuit Road

MHC # 32  
140 Snipatuit Road

**TOWN OF ROCHESTER**  
**ASSESSORS PLANS**

SCALE 1"=200'



AREA F

MACEDONIA - MATTAPOISETT RD

**FORM A - AREA**

Assessor's Sheets

USGS Quad

Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

3,4,31,32

Marion

F

160-166

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



**Town** Rochester

**Place (neighborhood or village)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name of Area** Mattapoissett Road Area

**Present Use** residential, agricultural

**Construction Dates or Period** \_\_\_\_\_

ca. 1740 -- early 19th century

**Overall Condition** good

**Major Intrusions and Alterations** \_\_\_\_\_

some infill construction

**Acreage** approx. 50 acres

**Recorded by** M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus

**Organization** The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

**Sketch Map**

**CHURCH HOMESTEAD**

see attached map

**139 MATTAPOISETT RD.**

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Community:**  
Rochester

**Property Address:**  
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160-166

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Community:**  
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**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

The Mattapoissett Area is an L-shaped area comprised of four 18th- and 19th-century houses along Mattapoissett and New Bedford roads. Three of the buildings are Capes, the Cape form being the predominant building type in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Mattapoissett Road is a relatively rural street, with large tracts of land separating houses from one another. New Bedford Road, although more densely built-up, still retains its rural feel due to the distance between house lots and vegetation between each.

Moving north through the area, beginning at the southern-most property, is the Church Homestead at 139 Mattapoissett Road (MHC 160-162, 1772), a 2½-story, Colonial-style, residential building. It is notable for its delicate detailing such as its slender cornice returns and dentils below the eaves. 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 one bay in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade within a projecting vestibule and is flanked by 4-light sidelights. A 1-story, hip-roof, full-facade porch with plain rail and slender, turned posts spans the east elevation. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with flat and splayed wood lintels and simple wood 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. Attached to the rear is a 2-story, gable-roof ell (early-mid-19th c.) and a 1-story, side-gable ell (early 20th c.) set on a concrete foundation is attached to the south elevation. A large, interior, brick chimney is centrally located on the center ridge of the main roof. Two additional brick chimneys are located at the center ridge of a side ell and on the rear ell. The property is good condition. A 1½-story, gable-roof, wood shingle barn/shop (MHC 161, early-mid-19th c.) is located to south of the house. Across the street stands a large, 1½-story, side-gable barn (MHC 162, late 19th/early 20th c.) set within an open field bordered by a low, stone wall. This barn is in poor condition.

North of this, on the opposite side of the road, is the R.B. Cowen House at 240 Mattapoissett Road (MHC 163, early 19th c.), a 1½-story, Federal-style, Full Cape, residential building. 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 and has a simple wood surround with fluted pilasters. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with plain wood lintels and sills. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the south elevation of the house is a 1-story, side-gable ell (1820) with a small deck attached to its west side. A 1½-story, gable-roof ell (mid-20th c.) and a 1-story, shed-roof ell (mid-20th c.) are attached to the rear of the house. Two brick chimneys with concrete skim coating are located on the center ridge of the main roof and side slope of the side ell (the date "1820" appears on this chimney). The property is in good condition and also includes a 1½-story, gable-roof, wood shingle barn (MHC 164, 19th c.) with a 1-story, shed roof addition to the north of the house.

Located at the north corner of the intersection of Mattapoissett and New Bedford roads, is the Hatch House/Jenkins Homestead at 355 New Bedford Road (MHC 165, 18th c./ca. 1740), a 1½-story, Full Cape, residential building. The building is set back approximately 40 feet from the road, on a slight rise with a stone wall at front. The building has been altered by the addition of an extra bay on its west side and a large, front-facing cross-gable dormer on its facade. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The main block has a six-bay facade (south elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centered below the dormer on the facade and is surrounded by a flat-roof overhang and lattice work. Fenestration consists of 2/2 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular and square openings with simple wood molding. The structural



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system is timber 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 on the center ridge of the roof. A small, 1-story, gable-roof ell is attached to the west elevation. A large, 1½-story, side-gable shop (mid-late 19th c.) is attached to the northeast corner of the house by a 1-story, gable-roof hyphen. Attached to the east elevation of the shop is a 1-story, side-gable garage (late 19th c.). The property is in fair condition.

To the northeast of 355 New Bedford Road (MHC 165, 18th c.) is the N. Parlow House at 403 New Bedford Road (MHC 166, early 19th c.), a 1½-story, Full Cape, residential building. 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 consists of a vertical wood plank door with a simple wood surround. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with 2/2 storms. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard (facade) and wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Two brick chimneys are centrally-located on the ridge of main roof. A 1-story, side-gable ell (late 19th c.) is attached to the east elevation of the house. Attached to the south side of this ell is a long, 1-story, side-gable addition (20th c.). Other notable exterior architectural features include cornerboards on the main block and an oriel window on the south elevation of the east ell. The property is in good condition and also includes two modern sheds to the rear of the house.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued)**

The area surrounding Mattapoisett and New Bedford roads, while sparsely settled, had developed to include several stores, a school, and several mills by the mid-19th century. By the 1930s, Mattapoisett Road remained relatively undeveloped, with only a few houses. New Bedford Road, however, was dotted with numerous buildings, especially near the intersection with Mattapoisett Road (1936 map). Several of the same families who lived along these two roads in the 19th century, continued to reside there well into the 20th century. The Mattapoisett Road Area continues to preserve its rural feel to the present day.

The corner of Mattapoisett and New Bedford roads is known locally as "Wheel of Fortune Corner" for the "grog" shop which once stood there (1775-1870). At the time, Rochester was a dry town but the laws were not strictly enforced. The shop, owned by Constant Mendall, consisted of a small rectangular room with a partition at the back closing off a small room. In this partition was a wheel on which the patron would place his money, turn the wheel, the innkeeper at back would take the money and in its place put a glass of alcohol, then turn it back (RHS 1970:3). Apparently this was done so that no-one could be convicted of selling the liquor since money did not actually "change hands."

All four properties surveyed as part of the Mattapoisett Road Area have had long associations with the families that occupied them. The Church Homestead at 139 Mattapoisett Road (MHC 160-162, 1772) was constructed in 1772 by Earl Church (1759-1834). This was the second house on the site, the first was constructed ca. 1750 by Lemuel Church (RHS files). Lemuel was the first Church family member to be born in Rochester (Committee of the Town of Mattapoisett 1907:60). Lemuel's father, Richard, had purchased the property, referred to as "Macedonia," in 1725 and built the first saw mill in town (not extant) to the southwest of the house. Lemuel died in 1772 and his wife, Bethiah, ran a tavern in the house to support their 10 children. This earlier house burned down. The present-day house was left to Earl's nephew Joseph W. Church (RHS files) who is identified on the 1856 map. Another member of the Church family, C.H. Church, lived in a house to the south of this property, along Mattapoisett Road (Walling 1856). Joseph continued to reside at this address and also operated a saw mill, the "Church & Smellie Saw Mill," to the southwest of his house, along a dirt road (1879 map). The property was left

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FForm No.  
160-166

to Joseph's son, Henry W., in 1884 who then left it to his nephew, George F., in 1904 (RHS files). George occupied the house and continued to run the mill, under the name of "Church & Bumpus," into the 1920s (Foss 1926). In 1948, the property passed into the hands of George's son, George E., who lives there to the present day (List of Residents 1997).

The R.B. Cowen House at 240 Mattapoissett Road (MHC 163, 164, early-mid-19th c.) was constructed in the early-to-mid-19th century. In 1856 the property was occupied by R.B. Cowen and a house to the south, along the same side of the road, was occupied by S. Cowen (Walling 1856). A school stood just opposite of the R.B. Cowen House in the mid- and late 19th century (Walling 1856, 1879 map). By 1879, the house was occupied by Mrs. R.B. Cowen (1879 map). By 1903, the property was occupied by Raymond McGilveray who ran a grocery store there (Foss 1903:37; Gurney 1990:52). McGilveray continued to operate a store out of the house until at least 1907 (Foss 1907:134). The first telephone in Rochester was at this store, allowing customers to call in their orders (Gurney 1990:52). By 1933, the property was occupied by William H. Randall, a farmer, and his wife Phebe (Foss 1933:185). The Randalls continued to reside at this address until at least 1941 (1936 and 1941 maps).

The Hatch House/Jenkins Homestead at 355 New Bedford Avenue (MHC 165, 18th c./ca. 1740) was constructed in the 18th century, probably around 1740, by the Hatch brothers. The original house had only two rooms (on the east side of the house) and no cellar. There have been two additions to the original, one to the west with a dormer, the other, with two large rooms, added to the north (RHS files). Samuel T. Braley lived there in 1856 (Walling 1856) and sold the property to William Jenkins in 1873 (RHS files). William's son Walton H. Jenkins and his wife Mary C. Smellie raised their seven children there. The additions may have been added while Walton lived there with his large family. Walton, a carpenter, continued to reside at this address until at least 1941 (Foss 1903-1933, 1941 map). Also at this address were his wife Mary, Harriet J., Granville F., and Harry W. Jenkins. By 1969, the property was occupied by D. Jenkins (1969c map). The property remains in the Jenkins family to the present day (List of Residents 1997).

The N. Parlow House at 403 New Bedford Road (MHC 166, early 19th century) was built in the early 19th century, prior to 1856 when N. Parlow lived there (Walling 1856). By 1879, the property was occupied by A.B. Parlow (1879 map). Hannah A. Parlow lived there in the early 20th century to at least 1910 (Foss 1903-1910). Following this, the house was occupied by Charles Wolfe and his wife. The house is locally known due to the fact that in 1921 Wolfe shot his wife then himself while living there (RHS files). By 1936, the property was occupied by Olive Winslow (1936 map) who remained there to at least 1969 (1969c map).

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)**

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

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Rochester

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Mattapoisett Road Area

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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.

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

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**AREA DATA SHEET**

Properties are listed in numerical order by street.

MHC #	MAP/LOT	NAME/ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE/Form	OUT BLDG	TYPE
160, 161, 162	3/14	Church Homestead 139 Mattapoisett Road	1772	Colonial	2	B
163, 164	4/9	R. B. Cowen House and Barn 240 Mattapoisett Road	early 19th century (1820 on chimney of ell)	Federal/ Full Cape	1	B
165	32/16	Hatch House/ Jenkins Homestead 355 New Bedford Road	18th century; ca. 1740	Greek Revival/ Full Cape	attached garage	B
166	31/11	N. Parlow House 403 New Bedford Road	early 19th c./ before 1856	No Style/ Full Cape	2	B

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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PHOTOGRAPHS



R. B. COWEN HOUSE / BARN  
240 MATTAPOISETT ROAD



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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PHOTOGRAPHS



— HATCH HOUSE / JENKINS  
HOMESTEAD —  
355 NEW BEDFORD ROAD



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PHOTOGRAPHS



FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no. <u>A-F</u>	Form no. <u>55</u> 160
---------------------------	------------------------------

1. Town Rochester

Address 39 Mattapoisett Rd.

Name: Church Homestead

Present use Home

Present owner George Church

3. Description:

Date 1750 1772

Source Family Records, Ply. Co. Reg. c

Style 2 story Cape w/ additions  
*1 large 1 small Deeds*

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric wood shingles

Outbuildings (describe) barn, across street

Other features site of <sup>one of</sup> town's first saw mill is part of this property. building gone but stonework remains.

Altered additions \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre \_\_\_\_\_ Over one acre X  
*each side*

Approximate frontage 2000' of street

Approximate distance of building from street  
20'

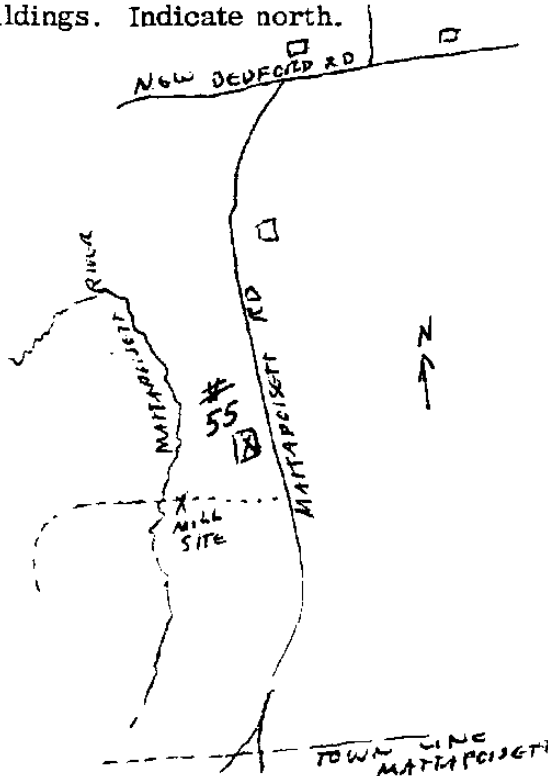
6. Recorded by Martha J Gifford

Organization Rochester Hist. Comm.

Date June 26, 1973

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
Staple to left side of form  
Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

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 _____
MHC Photo no. _____



7. Original owner (if known) EARL Blaney Church  
 Original use home  
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates home and tavern

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

1725 Richard Church bought large tract of land (called Macedonia) and built the first saw mill in town. The house, built by his son, Lemuel, and the mill, were always kept in the family.

		Richard	1725-25	built mill	<i>original</i>
		Lemuel	circa 1750	built house	
		Earl	1772 -	built <u>present house</u>	<i>1750-1877 UNM.</i>
left to	nephew	Joseph	1843		
	son	Henry W.	1884		
	nephew	George F.	1904		
left to	son	George	1948-present		

Local lore: Lemuel died young and his wife Bethia ran a tavern here to support their ten children. He died at the age of 100. *in original house*  
 Original house burned down.

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

- Family records.
- Proprietors Records.
- Memoirs
- Ply. Co. Registry of Deeds *Book 49 Page 33*
- "Mattapoisett and Old Rochester"

## MACEDONIA

This old name was given to this area by the first settlers. I believe it was because the area is "between two rivers" as was the Macedonia of the Bible.

A-F #55 Church Homestead.. (attached) 139 Mattapoissett Rd. *M. Abner Braier complete*  
#56

#57 McGilveray's Store, the first telephone in Rochester was here so Mr. M. could call his customers (when they got phones)  
Not Researched

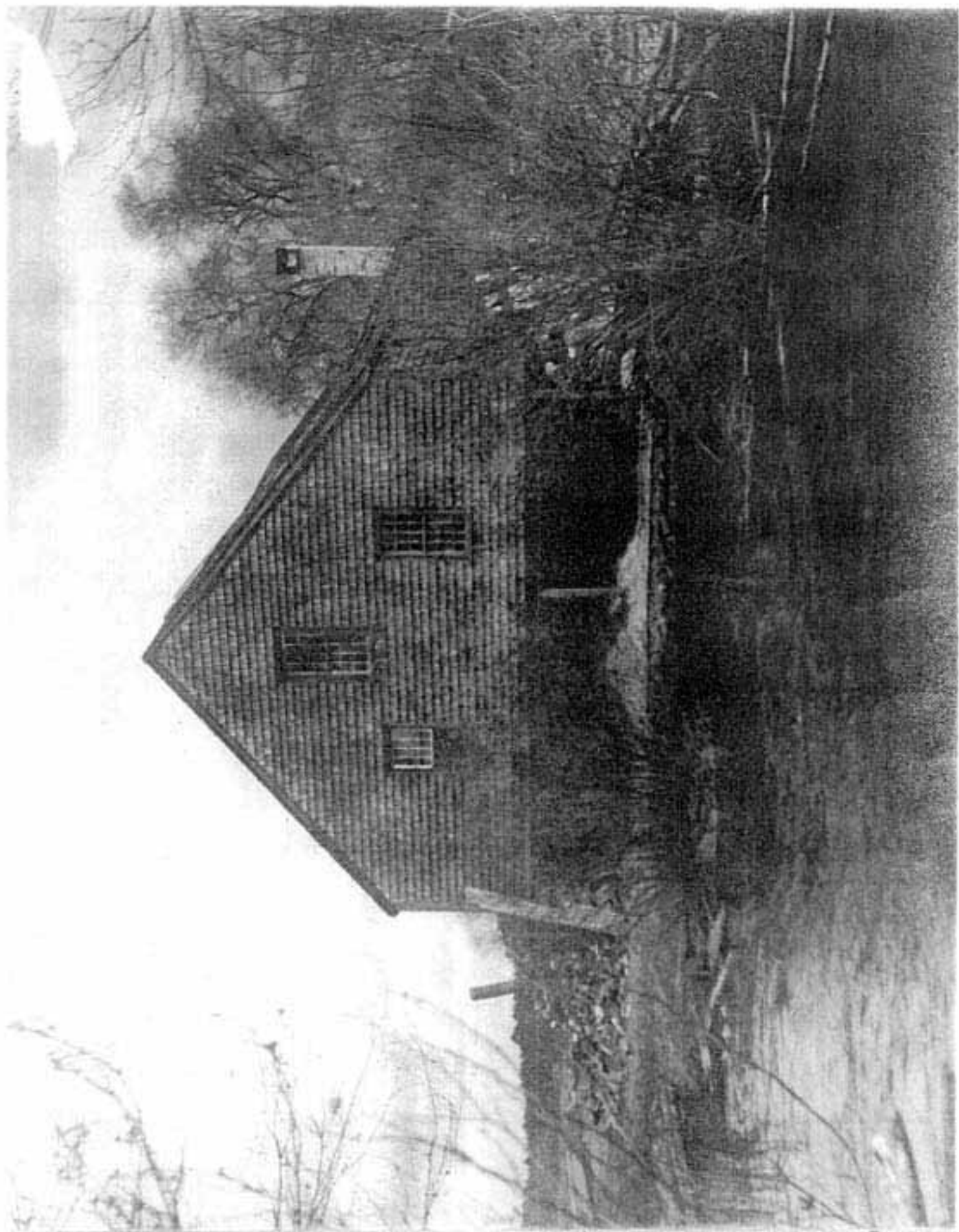
#58 Wheel of Fortune 281 Mattapoissett Rd.  
This was a home and business belonging to Clement Mendell, who ran a tavern, but since liquor was illegal then, it was kept out of sight in a back room. The client placed his money on a lazy susan, which took the money to the back room, and sent out a drink during the 1850, 60s.

Tavern now gone, it is a home

#59 The Hatch brothers built this house very early perhaps 1740. research needed, also talk to owner, Eunice Jenkins *(Judge Abner Braier)*

#60 Old Parlow house. Research needed.

People today remember a murder/suicide there in 1921 when Charles Wolfe shot his wife, then himself.



Chuck & Sawmill  
both sawmills on Matthews with Adams  
Dennis & Richard Church 1948

AREA G

WINSLOW MILL - HARTLEY MILL  
ROUNSEVILLE RD.

FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets

USGS Quad

Area Letter Form Numbers in Area

32,33,35,36,37

Marion

G

34-37, 119-130, HA-1, HA-6

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
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Sketch Map

see attached map

Town Rochester

Place (neighborhood or village) \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Area Winslow's Mill Area

Present Use residential, industrial, civic

Construction Dates or Period \_\_\_\_\_

1702 -- early 20th century

Overall Condition good

Major Intrusions and Alterations \_\_\_\_\_

some infill construction

Acreage approx. 110 acres

Recorded by M.K. Harrington, E. Paulus, M. Kierstead

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1998

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET****Community:**  
Rochester**Property Address:**  
Winslow's Mill Area**Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
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Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)**  
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34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *(continued)***

The Winslow's Mill Area is a roughly triangular-shaped area in the western part of town close to the Acushnet line. Located to the southwest of the Snipituit Area (MHC Area E), this area is defined by Rounseville Road to the south, Quaker Lane to the north, Pine Street to the east, and Cushman and Hartley roads through its center. The area is comprised of mostly 18th-century and 19th-century houses with a few examples of 20th-century architecture. Also included are 2 former mill sites, several cranberry bogs, and Hartley Mill Pond, which comprises roughly one-third of the entire area.

The northernmost property within the area is the Tisdale Winslow House at 94 Quaker Lane (MHC 36, 1784), a 1½-story, Federal/¾ Cape, residential building. It is an excellent and well-preserved example of the Federal style. The building has a rectangular plan with a side-gable roof. The main block has an asymmetrical, four-bay facade (north elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is located in the west bay on the facade within a wood entablature with 4-light sidelights. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is timber frame with a brick foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. An interior brick chimney rises from the ridge at the east end of the house. Attached to the southwest elevation is a 1½-story, gable-roof ell (early-mid-19th c.) set on a brick foundation. A 1-story, gable-roof ell (late 19th c.) set on a stone foundation is attached to the rear (south) of the 1½-story ell. The property is in excellent condition and also includes a 1-story, gable-roof shed (late 20th c.).

To the southeast of this property, along Pine Street, is the Sherman Cemetery (MHC 812), located on the west side of the road. The grounds are bordered by a low, stone wall along the east side and the entrance is accessed by an opening in the stone wall and marked by 2 wood posts and a sign. An iron water pump sits just inside the north side of the entrance. The north and south sides are bordered by a new, vinyl, post and rail fence while the west side is bordered by tall, mature trees. The southwestern corner (the original section of the cemetery) contains the older stones, most of which are marble and in need of cleaning and repair. Approximately 10 stones are broken or leaning over and are in need of maintenance. The western area contains newer stones and has room for expansion.

The stones are mainly 3 to 4 feet in height and materials consist of marble and granite. Eight polished granite, large, family obelisks, standing approximately 6 feet tall, are scattered throughout the cemetery. The elaborate Bumpus family stone is the focal point within the grounds and appears to be cast rather than carved. Landscape elements include a flowering dogwood and 3 evergreens that stand in the center of the grounds as well as shrubs that are scattered throughout.

Across the street from the cemetery, at the northeast corner of the intersection of Pine Street and Hartley Road, stands the Waterman School/ Rochester Fire-Police Station (MHC 122, 1883), a 1½-story, civic building. The building is notable as a former school building which was highly altered in 1959 for conversion as a fire and police station. The building has an unusual, cross-shaped plan, consisting of two intersecting gable-roof blocks with several shed-roof additions. The northern block has an asymmetrical, five-bay facade (south elevation) and is six bays in depth. This block has been altered with the addition of a 1-story, shed-roof ell (early-mid-20th c.) on its west elevation and a larger, 1-story, shed-roof ell (early-mid-20th c.) on its east elevation, providing additional bays for vehicular access. The south elevation of this block contains five, roll-top garage doors. A single cornice return remains to provide some sense of the original proportions of the building. A small bell tower is located at the southern end of this block, at the ridge. The main pedestrian entrances are located on the west elevation of the rear block, which was the original Waterman School. This block is notable for its cornerboards, cornice

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returns, and entrances on each side, typical of 19th-century New England school houses. Fenestration consists of 6/6 and replacement 1/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with aluminum surrounds. The building has been further altered by the addition of a 1½-story, gable-roof ell on its northeast end. The structural system is wood frame on a concrete block foundation. The exterior walls are clad with aluminum siding and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the center of the roof ridge. The property is in good condition and includes a 1-story, gable-roof, rectangular building (early 20th c.) to the rear (north) of the station.

At the south intersection of these two roads stands the P. Parsons House at 50 Hartley Road (MHC 121, mid-19th c./before 1856), a 1½-story, Victorian Eclectic-style, residential building. It is a good example of the Victorian Eclectic style, incorporating elements of the Gothic, Greek, and Italianate styles. The most prominent features of the building are its large, steeply-pitched cross-gable on the facade and a triangular, louvered panel in the cross-gable end. The building has a rectangular plan with a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (north elevation) and is three bays in depth. The primary entrance is centrally-located on the facade below a door hood with decorative brackets. A secondary entrance is located on the west elevation below a simple entablature and flanked by slender, fluted pilasters. 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. To the east of the cross-gable sits an interior, brick chimney at the ridge. Other notable architectural features include cornerboards and cornice returns. Attached to the rear of the house is a 1-story, gable-roof ell (late 19th c.). The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, saltbox-roof garage (early-mid-20th c.) set on a concrete foundation to the east of the house.

Located on the north side of Hartley Road are the ruins of the former mill known as Winslow's Mill/Hartley's Mill (MHC HA-1, 1725-1964). The site includes the mill dam, foundation, spillway, raceway, and the major components of the mechanical power generation and transmission infrastructure. The earth dam includes slag from the ca. 1723 ironworks. The foundation consists of fieldstone walls to the east and west, and is open to the south. The north foundation includes a raceway opening, and a concrete turbine pit and spillway. The wheelpit and spillway are concrete, which is consistent with a 1920s installation. The vertical drive shaft and bevel gear for a vertical turbine protrudes from the wheelpit adjacent to the spillway. Adjacent to the turbine, the main belt drive shaft rests on the ground between rows of heavy support posts. This iron shaft links a variety of lineshaft pulleys, including sheet-steel, cast iron, and laminated wood pulleys for leather belting, and cast iron pulleys for multiple V-belt drives. This arrangement indicates use of multiple machines. No secondary lineshafting or machinery remains, nor does any evidence of steam power.

To the west of this mill site, at the corner of Hartley and Cushman roads, stands the Hartley's Mill Office Building (MHC 120, ca. 1920), a 1½-story, Dutch Colonial Revival-style, building. It is notable as the only extant building associated with the once thriving Harley Mill. The building is rectangular in plan and has a side-gambrel roof. The building is set back approximately 5 feet from the road and sits almost directly at the edge of the mill pond to the rear (north). The building is comprised of two blocks, both three-bays long and two bays wide. The western block contains a centrally-located entrance, which is comprised of a simple wood door within a plain wood surround on its south elevation. Located directly above this entrance is a shed-roof dormer with a simple wood door. The eastern block, set at an angle, contains entrances in the west bay of its south elevation and on its east elevation. This second entrance is set below a wood sign which reads "OFFICE." Fenestration consists of 6/6 and 2/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with simple wood surrounds. The structural system is wood frame on a stone and concrete foundation. The exterior walls are clad with wood shingles and the



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roof is covered with asphalt shingles. A brick chimney rises from the north slope of the roof. The property is in fair condition. There are no outbuildings associated with this property.

To the west of this property is the Edward Winslow III and IV House at 105 Robinson Road (MHC 35, 1750), a 2½-story, Colonial-style, residential building. The building is rectangular in plan with 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 centrally-located on the facade, within a 1-story, gable-roof vestibule and has a simple entablature and 5-light sidelight surround. 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. Two, small, 1-story, gable-roof ells are attached to the rear of the building. A 1-story, shed-roof porch which once appeared on the east elevation and a large barn that was once associated with the property have been removed since 1976 (MHC Form, 105 Robinson Road: 1976). An interior, brick chimney is centrally-located at the ridge of the main block and an exterior, brick chimney is located at the end of the western ell on the rear. The property is in good condition and also includes two, small sheds (late 19th c./early 20th c.) and a 1-story, end-gable garage (early 20th c.) to the rear.

To the west of this property, on the opposite side of the street, is the Edward Winslow I and II House at 84 Robinson Road (MHC 34, 1707), a 1½-story, residential building with Greek Revival-style elements. The building is rectangular in plan with a side-gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (north elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centrally-located on the facade below a wood entablature with 4-light sidelights. A 1-story, hip-roof, full-facade porch which was once attached to the facade has been removed since 1976 (MHC Form, 84 Robinson Road: 1976). Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set within 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. Two interior, brick chimneys are located on the east and west ends at the ridge. Attached to the west elevation of the building is a lower, 1½-story, side-gable ell (early-mid-19th c.) set on a stone foundation. A secondary entrance is located on the west bay of this ell, below a single-light transom and flanked by slender, fluted pilasters. The property is in excellent condition and contains three, 20th-century sheds and a 1-story, one-bay, end-gable garage (early 20th c.) to the rear of the house. The house is bordered by a large, open field with a stone wall at front and two granite posts marking the entrance to the drive at the end of the property.

"Elm Farm" at 31 Robinson Road (MHC 124, late 18th/early 19th c.) is a 2-story, Federal-style, residential building with associated farm buildings. It is notable for its delicate Federal details including splayed wood lintels and entrance entablature with transom. The building is rectangular in plan and has a hip roof. The main block has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (south elevation) and is one bay in depth. The primary entrance is centered on the facade and consists of a single, wood, multi-panel door flanked by louvered shutters, set below a wood entablature with transom. Fenestration consists of 12/1 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with splayed wood lintels, simple wood sills, and 2/2 storms. 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. Attached to the rear (north) elevation is a 1½-story, gable-roof ell (early-mid-19th c.) set on a stone foundation. A 1-story, gable-roof ell set on a stone foundation is attached to the east elevation of the rear ell. Two interior, brick chimneys are located on the north slope of the main roof and a third rises from the roof of the side ell addition. The property is in good condition and also includes a shed-roof chicken coop (early 20th c.), a silo (20th c.), a gable-roof barn (late 19th c.), a gable-roof shed (early 20th c.), and a gambrel-roof shed (early 20th c.) to the rear of the house.

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To the west of this property, close to the Acushnet town line, is the J.L. Braley House at 9 Robinson Road (MHC 123, mid-19th c./before 1856) is a 2½-story, Greek Revival-style, residential building. The building is set back approximately 10 feet from the road, with open fields to the east, and a low stone wall at front. Notable architectural features include cornice returns, splayed wood lintels, and a blind, round-arch fanlight below the front gable. The building is rectangular in plan and has a front-facing gable roof. The main block has a symmetrical, three-bay facade (south elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is offset on the facade and consists of a single, wood multi-panel door flanked by fluted pilasters supporting a wood entablature. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set in rectangular openings with splayed wood lintels and simple wood sills. The structural system is timber frame on a stone foundation. The exterior walls are clad with clapboard and the roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the rear elevation of the building is a 1½-story, gable-roof ell (mid-late 19th c.) which connects to a small, 1-story, flat-roof hyphen that joins the house with a 1½-story, end-gable barn (late 19th c.). An interior, brick chimney pierces the roofline of the west slope of the main block. Two other brick chimneys are located at the north and south ends of the rear ell. The property is in good condition and also includes a 1-story, end-gable barn/shed (ca. 1992) and a 1-story, saltbox-roof shed (20th century).

- \* Heading back east on Hartley Road, south along Cushman Road, stands the William Bryant House at 319 Cushman Road (MHC 119, early 19th c./before 1856), a 1½-story, Federal-style/Full Cape, residential building. The building is set back approximately 30 feet from the road with a low stone wall at front. 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 below a 3-light transom with pilaster surround. 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 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 ridge. The property is in good condition and also includes a large, 1½-story gambrel roof barn (mid-20th c.) on a concrete foundation connected to the house by a 1-story, open hyphen.

At the southeast corner at the intersection of Cushman and Rounseville roads, is the C. Sherman House at 2-4 Rounseville Road (MHC 125, early 20th c./ before 1916), a 1½-story, Craftsman-style/ Bungalow, multi-family dwelling. It is a good example of its type and period within the survey area and is unusual as one of only a few 20th-century houses in the immediate area. The building is set back approximately 20 feet from the road and has large shrubs that partially obscure the front entrance. The building has a rectangular plan with a side-gable roof. The main block has an asymmetrical, three-bay facade (north elevation) and is three bays in depth. The primary entrance is located in the east bay of the facade within a 1-story, integral, full-facade porch with tapered supports and exposed rafters. Fenestration consists of 1/1 and 4/1 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. A large, gable-roof dormer with paired 1/1 windows is centrally-located on the facade. The rear (south) of the building includes a large, gable wall dormer, which breaks the cornice line and provides access to an attic apartment. A wood deck with decorative rail leads up to this dormer from the rear yard. A brick chimney rises from the south slope of the roof. Other notable exterior architectural features include large, plain brackets below overhanging eaves and a 1-story, shed-roof bay window on the building's west elevation. The property is in good condition and also includes a shed-roof chicken coop (early-mid-20th c.) to the south of house.

Located on the north side of Rounseville Road are the ruins of the Rounseville Mill (MHC HA-6). The site includes large, rectangular, fieldstone mill foundations; raceways; and the major components of the mechanical power generation and

- \* **Incorrect information:** William Bryant House was located on the opposite side of the street and demolished in 1986.

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transmission infrastructure. The foundation consists of fieldstone walls of varying heights. A vertical-shaft turbine is located in its wheelpit, and includes its speed regulating mechanism and drive shaft and bevel gear. The remains of the lineshafter and belt drive system lie scattered within the foundation, and include pulleys and bearings. A large firetube steam boiler is also located within the foundations.

The A. Rounseville House at 71 Rounseville Road (MHC 126-128, early 19th c./ before 1856) is a 1½-story, Full Cape, residential building. The building is set back approximately 15 feet from the road with trees and shrubs bordering the house and outbuildings. The main block 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 below a 5-light transom with simple wood surround. 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 brick 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 ridge. Attached to the west elevation of the building is a taller, 1½-story, side-gable ell (mid-19th c.) set on a stone foundation. The property is in good condition and also includes three outbuildings. A 1½-story, end-gable barn (MHC 127, late 19th c.) set on a stone foundation is located to the northeast of the house. To the north of this barn is a 1-story, side-gable cottage (late 19th c.) and a 1½-story, end-gable barn (MHC 128, late 19th c.).

Continuing east on Rounseville Road, is the William Whittredge House at 123 Rounseville Road (MHC 37, 1702) is a 1½-story, Full Cape, residential building. It is a typical example of its type and period, the Cape form being the predominant building type in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries, and is notable for its slightly bowed roof. The building is set back approximately 20 feet from the street with a low stone wall at front and a large, open field to the south. The house is rectangular in plan and has a side-gable roof. The building has a symmetrical, five-bay facade (southeast elevation) and is two bays in depth. The primary entrance is centrally-located on the facade within a plain, wood surround. Fenestration consists of 6/6 double-hung sash windows set within 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 massive, interior, brick chimney is centrally-located at the ridge. The property is in good condition and also includes a three, small, 20th-century outbuildings to the rear.

177 Rounseville Road (MHC 129, 18th c.) is a 1½-story, Full Cape, residential building. It is a typical and relatively unaltered example of its type and period. 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 consists of a vertical wood plank door set below a four-light transom. Fenestration consists of 12/12 and 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. A large, interior, brick chimney is centrally-located at the ridge of the main block. A 1-story, side-gable kitchen ell (19th c.), with an interior, brick chimney on its south roof slope, is attached to east end of the house. A 1-story, shed-roof porch (ca. 1944) is located on the rear of the main block. The property is in good condition and also includes four outbuildings. A large, 1½-story, gambrel-roof barn (MHC 130, late 19th/early 20th c.) set on a fieldstone foundation is located across the street, set close to the road. This barn is clad in wood shingles and has several, 1-story, shed-roof additions on its west elevation. Also on this side of the street, set within a large, open field, is a 1-story, saltbox-roof chicken coop (early 20th c.). Three 1-story, rectangular chicken coops (1930s) and a 1-story, gable-roof outhouse (early 20th c.) sit to the northeast of the house.

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**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (*continued*)**

The mill industry in Rochester began to develop in the late 17th century with the establishment of the first mill at the junction of Sippican River and Marys Pond Road in the 1680s. This area was also the site of several other mills such as an early-18th century gristmill and an 18th-century iron forge. Several of the earliest mills were erected south of Rochester Center, including Winslow's Mill at Hartley Road (MHC HA-1, 18th c.). In the early 19th century, the Mattapoissett, Sippican, and Weweantic rivers provided water power for numerous sawmills, which supplied white oak to shipbuilding concerns in communities, and a number of gristmills and forges. During the mid-to-late 19th century, Rochester's principal economic base was agriculture and lumber. By the 1870s, thirteen sawmills were operating in the town. Most were box board and shingle manufacturers. By 1930 only two sawmills, the Hartley Sawmill Company and Rounseville Brothers (MHC HA-6), remained (MHC 1981:5-10).

The Winslows Mill Area was an early industrial center in this part of town. Dams were built for the iron forges leading to the establishment of several mills in the area. Four of the houses within the Winslow's Mill Area were the homes of mill owners.

The streets that run through the area have changed names several times and are presently named for early settlers in the area. Rounseville Road, or Route 105, serves as a west/east connector from Cushman Road southeast to Mary's Pond Road, into Rochester Center. Rounseville Road was known as the Country Road in the early 18th century (1704 Map). Following this, and up until ca. 1936, the eastern portion of Rounseville Road, between Vaughan's Hill Road and Mary's Pond Road, was known as Locust Street and Taunton Road. The road was named for the Rounseville family, members of which lived along this road and operated a mill at Mattapoissett River (1879 map). 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, which had a saw mill along its edges, is also named for this family (1936 map). The western portion was renamed Long Plain Road by 1926 (Foss 1926) and then Robinson Road. Cushman Road was known as Grove Street prior to 1941 when it had been renamed (1941 map) in honor of J.M. Cushman who lived along this road in the 19th century and operated a store at the intersection of Grove and Rounseville Road (Walling 1856, 1879 map).

The earliest extant house within the area is the William Whittredge House at 123 Rounseville Road (MHC 37, 1702), constructed in 1702 by William Whittredge. Whittredge ran one of the first grist mills in town near this house (MHC Form, 123 Rounseville Road:1976). Whittredge also lived in a nearby house, along this same road, which was constructed in 1695 and taken down in 1906 (Committee of the Town of Mattapoissett, 1907:54). By 1856, the property was occupied by A. Gillmore (Walling 1856). It is unclear who lived there after this date, since the 1879, 1936, and 1941 maps do not identify an occupant. By 1969, the property was occupied by E. Tripp (1969c map). Stephen F. Tripp, a teamster, had resided along Rounseville Road in the early 20th century, although it is unclear if he resided at this address.\*By 1976, Ralph Rounseville resided there (MHC Form, 123 Rounseville Road:1976).

Another early house is the Edward Winslow I and II House at 84 Robinson Road (MHC 34, 1707), which was constructed in 1707 by Edward Winslow I. Winslow was the founder of the large Winslow family in Rochester and was a civic leader, lawyer, and captain in the militia. Edward built a dam on the west branch of the Mattapoissett River and a forge, the town's second oldest and the first in this part of town. His son, Edward Winslow II, also lived in this house (MHC Form, 84

\* By 1976, Ralph Rounseville owned the house, but did not reside there.

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Robinson Road: 1976). By 1856, the property was occupied by Thomas L. Clark, a farmer (Walling 1856, Foss 1903), who remained at this address until at least 1926 (Foss 1926:199). By 1933, Sumner Allen, a farmer, and his wife Maria lived there (Foss 1933:175). The Allens remained at this address until at least 1936 (1936 map). The property is currently occupied by Conrad and Anita Bernier (List of Residents 1997).

The Winslow's Mill/Hartley's Mill on Hartley Road (HA-1), located on Hartley's Mill Pond, off Route 105 was originally developed by Major Edward Winslow as an iron forge in 1725. This iron forge was one of many developed in Southeastern Massachusetts after 1700. Winslow's operation was a bloomery forge where local bog iron ore, and possibly later, magnetite ore from New Jersey, was smelted to make wrought iron bars for the nail works in Tremont. This bloomery forge likely closed sometime after the Revolutionary War. Like many regional ironworks, the valuable water power privilege was later converted to another purpose, and a grist mill was located on the site as early as 1823. The mill was owned by Elisha Ruggles ca. 1823, followed by David Peckham, Sr., and David Peckham, Jr., Hiram Waldron (1853), Josiah Pierce and William T. Bryant (1856), and Eudora and Charles West (1871) (MHC Form, Winslow's Mill: 1981). The mill is identified as a grist mill on the 1856 map and as a box board, shingle and grist mill in 1879. It was purchased by James Hartley in 1888 and was operated until 1964.

The mill was presumably powered by at least one water wheel when Hartley purchased the mill. Hartley first installed a 25 horsepower Acushnet Iron Foundry-built, turbine-type water wheel for power. A steam engine and boiler were installed by the turn of the century. In the late 1920s, James Hartley, Jr. and Malachai White replaced the horizontal water wheel with a vertical-shaft-drive turbine (extant) (MHC Form, Winslow's Mill: 1981). These power-generation improvements were consistent with small-mill improvements of the period. The Hartley Saw Mill Company was typical of regional industries such as box wood and shingle mills, as well as turpentine manufacturers, which capitalized on the abundant supply of softwood, coniferous trees in the region. At one time the Hartley operation owned 2,400 acres of wood lots. Business for the mill boomed in the early 20th century and from the 1920s to the 1950s, the mill was Rochester's largest industry. The mill produced cordwood, house and boat lumber, and box boards which were hauled by oxen and horse-drawn wagons to Marion to be loaded onto schooners. Production slowed in the 1950s and the mill closed in 1964. The mill buildings have all collapsed except for the almost 80-year old office on the corner of Hartley Road and Cushman Road (MHC 120, ca. 1920). The site was cleaned up in 1980, with the Rochester Fire Department removing and burning much of the rotted structure (Gilmore 1980:8).

Winslow's descendants continued to reside in the area and run the mill. The Edward Winslow III and IV House at 105 Robinson Road (MHC 35, 1750) was constructed in 1750 by Edward Winslow III who lived there and operated the mill [Winslow's Mill/Hartley's Mill (MHC HA-1)] just east of the property, on Forge Pond. The house remained in the family until 1777 and when it was sold to Joseph Pierce. Upon his death in 1797, the property was left to Joshua Pierce, followed by Reuben Swift and George and June King. In 1852, the property was deeded to by Hiram Waldron (RHS files) who also ran the mill, followed by Charles G. West in 1859 (RHS files). Charles resided here and ran the mill until ca. 1903, by which time he had moved to Vaughn's Hill Road (Foss 1903:43). The property was then left to Miss Eudora West who was joined by two boarders, Abram F. and Edward G. Reed, in 1916 (Foss 1916:247). Abram, a stone mason, remained at this address with Eudora until 1926 (Foss 1926:207-209), following which, her name does not appear in the directories. The property remained in the Reed family until 1959 when Otis Tripp and his wife Claire purchased it. The property then passed into the hands of their son Frederick and his wife Catherine (RHS files)

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The Tisdale Winslow House at 94 Quaker Lane (MHC 36, 1784) was constructed in 1784 by Tisdale Winslow on land his father, Edward Winslow III, sold him. Tisdale and his wife Jane sold the house soon after its construction and built a second house on the same lot. This second house burned in 1789, taking the lives of four of their five children. Several mill owners owned this house, operating a mill on the small pond now known as Gifford Pond (RHS files). Gifford Pond was named for A. Gifford who lived at this address in the mid-19th century (Walling 1956). Gifford also ran a box board and shingle mill to the south of the house (1879 map). The property may have been occupied by Obediah A. Gifford, a lumber manufacture, and his boarder, Abbie J. Gifford, as early as 1903 (Foss 1903:34). Obediah remained there until at least 1919 (Foss 1919:203). By 1936, the property was occupied by a member of the Bradford family (1936 map). Alan Parker lived there as early as 1969 (1969c map), remaining through to the present day (List of Residents 1997).

Architectural evidence, based on comparisons with buildings of similar size and design, indicates that 31 Robinson Road (MHC 124, late 18th/early 19th c.) was constructed in the late 18th/early 19th century. By 1856, the property was occupied by William Sears (Walling 1856). The Sears family remained there until at least 1879 when F. Sears lived there (1879 map). By 1916, the property was occupied by James F. Schultz, a farmer, and his wife Sarah (Foss 1916:248). A member of the Schultz family remained at this address until at least 1936 (1936 map). By 1941, the property was identified as belonging to a member of the Bronson family (1941 map).

177 Rounseville Road (MHC 129, 130, 18th century) may also have been constructed in the 18th century, although it does not appear on maps until 1856 when E.K. Gammons lived there (Walling 1856). Gammons remained at this address until at least 1879 (1879 map). Apparently this was Ephraim Gammons who was followed by A. Rounseville (L.C. Humphrey 1941) and then Arthur D. Lionberger, a poulterer, in 1933 (1933:182). The Lionbergers were responsible for the addition of the rear porch and the installation of bathrooms on the interior. They ran the farm and constructed the numerous chicken coops on the property. The Lionbergers remain there to the present day (List of Residents 1997) and have left the land across the street to the town following their deaths (personal communication with owners).

\* The William Bryant House at 319 Cushman Road (MHC 119, early 19th century/before 1856) was constructed in the early 19th century, prior to 1856 when William Bryant lived there (Walling 1856). By 1879, the property was occupied by T. Sherman who is probably the same Thomas A. Sherman who appears in early-20th century directories on this street (1879 map, Foss 1903-1919). Thomas remained at this address until his death on January 1, 1918 (Foss 1919:209). The property was then occupied by a member of the Cobb family (L.C. Humphrey 1941), followed by Charles L. Lawrence by 1936 (1936 map). By 1941, the property was occupied by a member of the Benner family (1941 map) who remain there until the present day (List of Residents 1997).

\*\* The A. Rounseville House at 71 Rounseville Road (MHC 126-128, early-19th century/prior to 1856) was constructed in the mid-19th century, prior to 1856 when A. Rounseville lived there (Walling 1856). The property's association with the Rounseville family has continued through to the present day (List of Residents 1997). Alden Rounseville, an early-20th-century occupant, was a box board, long lumber, and shingle manufacturer who operated the Rounseville Mill on Rounseville Road (MHC HA-6). By 1926, the property was occupied by Ralph L. Rounseville, a laborer, who remained at this address, with his wife Winifred, until at least 1969 (1969c map).

\*\*\* The Rounseville Mill (MHC HA-6) was an important local industrial site. Maps indicate a sawmill on this site as early as 1856, although general regional industrial water privilege use history supports the possibility of a much earlier grist and/or

\* **Incorrect information: William Bryant House was located on the opposite side of the street and demolished in 1986.**

\*\* See Continuation Sheet following Bibliography.

\*\*\* See Continuation Sheet following Bibliography.

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET****Community:**  
Rochester**Property Address:**  
Winslow's Mill Area**Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)**  
G**Form No.**  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

sawmill at this site (Walling 1856). Written evidence suggests that this was a significant, horizontally-integrated local industry. An 1879 map indicates a "box board, shingle, saw, grist, and shingle mill" at this site (1879 Map). Industrial records for 1897 indicate that Alden Rounseville's mill was by far the most heavily capitalized and suggest that it may have been the most productive. The total valuation of machinery on hand was \$3100.00, just over twice the next highest valuation, and the valuation of stock-on-hand was \$4895.00, with the next-highest valued at \$3360.00 (Rochester Industrial Data 1897). The Rounseville Mill remained in operation until at least 1910, producing box board and lumber (Foss 1910:138). Later directories do not list the mill or any other along this road (Foss 1919-1933). The mill was powered by both a water turbine and a steam engine, typical of small-mill power improvements of the period. The Rounseville Mill was typical of regional industries such as box wood and shingle mills, as well as turpentine manufacturers, which capitalized on the abundant supply of softwood, coniferous trees in the region.

The J. L. Braley House at 9 Robinson Road (MHC 123, mid-19th century/before 1856) was constructed in the mid-19th century, before 1856 when J.L. Braley lived there (Walling 1856). Several members of the Braley family, many of which were farmers, resided in the western section of town throughout the 19th and 20th centuries. Braley Hill Road was named for this family. By 1879, the property was occupied by Mrs. Cornelia C. Church (1879 map), the widow of Charles H.T. Church, who remained at this address until at least 1926 (Foss 1926:199). By 1936, the property was occupied by George Taber (1936 map).

Across from the Waterman School (MHC 122, 1883) stands the P. Parsons House at 50 Hartley Road (MHC 121, mid-19th c./before 1856) which was constructed in the mid-19th century, before 1856 when P. Parsons lived there (Walling 1856). By 1879, the property was occupied by G.W. Palmer (1879 map). It is unclear as to who lived there in the early 20th century, although by 1933, the property was occupied by Isaiah H. Snell, a carpenter, and his wife Lillian (Foss 1933:208). Two other members of the Snell family, Mrs. Emily C. and Ralph W., are listed along this road and may have resided at this address. The Snell family remained at this address until at least 1941 (1941 map). By 1969, the property was occupied by A. Chadwick (1969c map). The Chadwick family continues to live there to the present day (1997 List of Residents).

\*\*\*\*  
An early-20th-century house within the area, the C. Sherman House at 2-4 Rounseville Road (MHC 125, early 20th century/before 1916), was constructed before 1916 when Charles E. Sherman lived there (Foss 1916:248). Charles, a carpenter, and his wife Annie remained at this address until at least 1969 (1969c map). Several other members of the Sherman family lived along this road in the early 20th century, including John W., Julia L., Lillie M., Herbert W., Nellie, and William Sherman (Foss 1903-1933).

Many members of the Sherman family are buried nearby at Sherman Cemetery on Pine Street (MHC 812). The original section of the cemetery was 1.4 acres and located at the eastern end of the present-day lot. An adjacent 1.5 acre lot to the west, that doubled its size, was given to the cemetery by Winslow's Mill/Hartley's Mill (MHC HA-1). The Sherman Cemetery was turned over to the town of Rochester at the 1954 Annual Town Meeting (Article 16 per Acts of the Legislature, Chapter 671-1954). The cemetery's major period of use was from 1850 through the early 1900s. The ancestors of old Rochester families are buried here. Besides the Sherman family, for whom the cemetery was named, other family names include Rounseville, Hartley, Snell, Dexter, Cushman, Howland, Bumpus, West, Bolles, Ryder, Jenney, Randall, Crapo, McComb, Bassett, Reed, Tripp, Bettencourt, Weigel, Vaughn, Douglas, and Mary. The oldest stone is that of George Douglas, who died March 10, 1843 at age 80.

\*\*\*\*See Inventory Form Continuation Sheet following Bibliography.

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET****Community:**  
Rochester**Property Address:**  
Winslow's Mill Area**Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125****Area(s)**  
G**Form No.**  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

Residents of the area were served by the Waterman School at 59 Hartley Road (MHC 122, 1883) which was converted for use by the Rochester Police and Fire departments in 1959. The Waterman School was constructed in 1883 near the residence of George Waterman (1805-1883) for \$1,342.91 on a lot purchased from Calvin H. Randall for \$60.00 (Town Report 1983-84:2). This new school was built to accommodate the growing Cushman and Davis school districts on Cushman and Hartley roads, respectively. In 1907 a one-room addition was added to the building for \$2,282.12. Teachers at the school in 1910 included Sybil K. Collins and Caroline W. Parker (Foss 1910:121). The school district continued to expand, and in 1932, the North Rochester School building was moved, renovated and attached to the easterly end of this building. In 1941 the Stuart School building was moved and joined to the easterly end of the North Rochester building. A large outhouse stood on the property until 1954, the same year that the Rochester Memorial School was constructed on a lot to the north. In 1956, the Waterman School was given to the Rochester Fire Department, which renovated the building in 1959.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)**

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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.
- 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.



**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Community:**  
Rochester

**Property Address:**  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

**Area(s)**  
G

**Form No.**  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

- 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:  
RochesterProperty Address:  
Winslow's Mill AreaMassachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125Area(s)  
GForm No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

MHC #	MAP/LOT	NAME/ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE/Form	OUT BLDG	TYPE
HA-6	32/6	Rounseville Mill Rounseville Road		n/a	none	D
125	33/48	C. Sherman House 2-4 Rounseville Road	early 20th century/ before 1916	Craftsman	1	B
126-128	35/19	A. Rounseville House and Barns 71 Rounseville Road	early 19th century/ before 1856	No Style/Full Cape	3	B
37	35/19D	William Whittredge House 123 Rounseville Road	1702	No Style/Full Cape	3	B
129, 130	35/37	House and Barn 177 Rounseville Road	18th century	No Style/Full Cape	6	B

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**Community:  
RochesterProperty Address:  
Winslow's Mill AreaMassachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125Area(s)  
GForm No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6**AREA DATA SHEET**

Properties are listed in numerical order by street.

MHC #	MAP/LOT	NAME/ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE/Form	OUT BLDG	TYPE
* 119	36/6	William Bryant House * 319 Cushman Road	early 19th c./ before 1856	Federal/Full Cape	1	B
120	37/28	Hartley Road/Cushman Road <i>Hartley Mill Office</i>	ca. 1920	Dutch Colonial Revival	none	B
HA-1	37/28	Winslow's Mill/Hartley's Mill Hartley Road (north side)	1725	n/a	1	D
121	35/21	P. Parsons House 50 Hartley Road	mid-19th c./ before 1856	Gothic Revival	1	B
122	37/36	Waterman School/ Rochester Police and Fire Station 59 Hartley Road	1883	No Style	1	B
812	37/17, 18, 19	Sherman Cemetery Pine Street	ca. 1843-present	n/a	none	E
36	37/5	Tisdale Winslow House 94 Quaker Lane	1784	No Style/3/4 Cape	1	B
123	37/4	J.L. Braley House 9 Robinson Road	mid-19th century/ before 1856	Greek Revival	2	B
124	37/31,11	31 Robinson Road	late 18th/ early 19th century	Federal	5	B
34	36/2A	Edward Winslow I and II House 84 Robinson Road	1707	Greek Revival	4	B
35	37/31	Edward Winslow III and IV House 105 Robinson Road	1750	Colonial	3	B

\* Wrong information -home no longer exists

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town Rochester Property Address  
71 Rounseville Road

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

Area(s)	Form No.
G	

- \*\* The A. Rounseville House at 71 Rounseville Road (MHC 126-128, early-19th century/ prior to 1856) was constructed in the mid-19th century, prior to 1856 when A. Rounseville lived there (Walling 1856). The property's association with the Rounseville family has continued through to the present day (List of Residents 1997). Alden Rounseville, an early 20th-century occupant, was a box board, long lumber and shingle manufacturer who operated the Rounseville Mill on Rounseville Road (MHCHA-6). By 1926, the property was occupied by Ralph L. Rounseville, the last owner/operator of the mill, who remained at this address with his wife Winifred, until his death in 1988. Winifred died in the 1990's but the property remains in the Rounseville family to the present time.
- \*\*\* The Rounseville Mill (MHC HA-6) was an important local industrial site. Maps indicate a sawmill on this site as early as 1856, although general regional industrial water privilege use history supports the possibility of a much earlier grist and/or sawmill at this site. (Walling 1856). Industrial records for 1897 indicate that Alden Rounseville's mill was by far the most heavily capitalized and suggest that it may have been the most productive. The total valuation of machinery on hand was \$3100.00, just over twice the next highest valuation, and the valuation of stock on hand was \$4,895.00, with the next highest valued at \$3360.00 (Rochester Industrial Data 1897). The Rounseville Mill remained in operation until the early 1950's, and was operated intermittently after that date by Ralph Rounseville and his son, Alden, turning out special orders until the mill burned in 1964. (Personal Communication, Lincoln Rounseville, current owner of Rounseville property.) The mill was powered by both a water turbine and a steam engine, typical of small-mill power improvements of the period. The Rounseville Mill was typical of regional industries such as box wood and shingle mills, as well as turpentine manufacturers which capitalized on the abundant supply of softwood, coniferous trees in the region.
- \*\*\*\* An early-20th-century house within the area, the C. Sherman House at 2-4 Rounseville Road (MHC 125, early 20th century/before 1916), was built in 1923/24 by Clifford L. & Margaret Sherman. C.L. Sherman was a grocer, and for many years as his father, Allen, had before him, he ran a neighborhood grocery store at the intersection of Cushman Road and Rounseville Rpad. the same site as the store of J . M. Cushman, for whom Cushman Road was named.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

Area(s)  
G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



TISDALE WINSLOW HOUSE  
94 QUAKER LANE



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

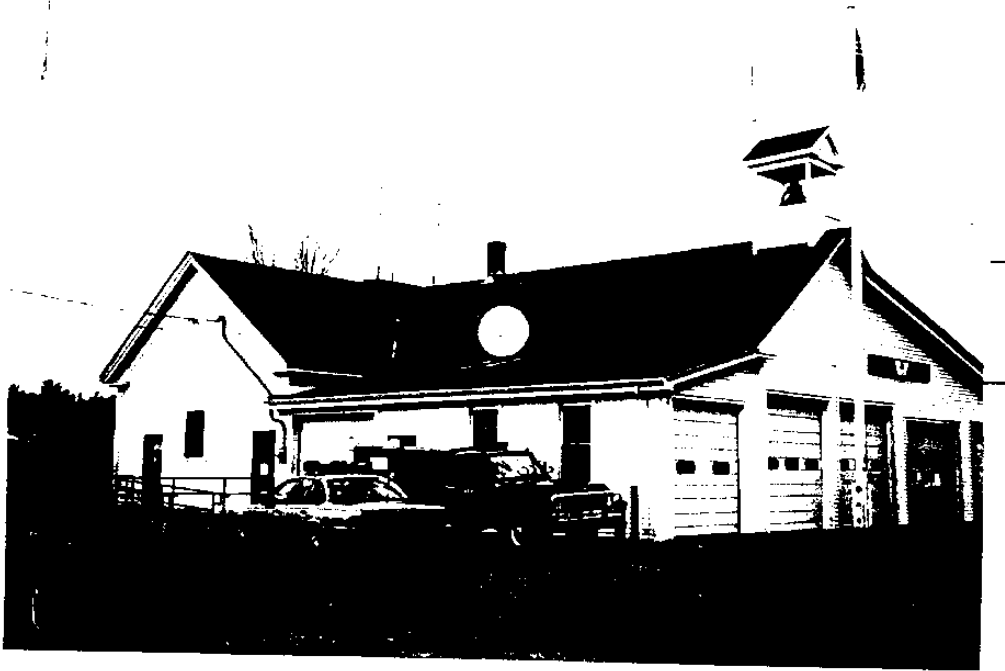
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Winslow's Mill Area

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

Area(s)  
G

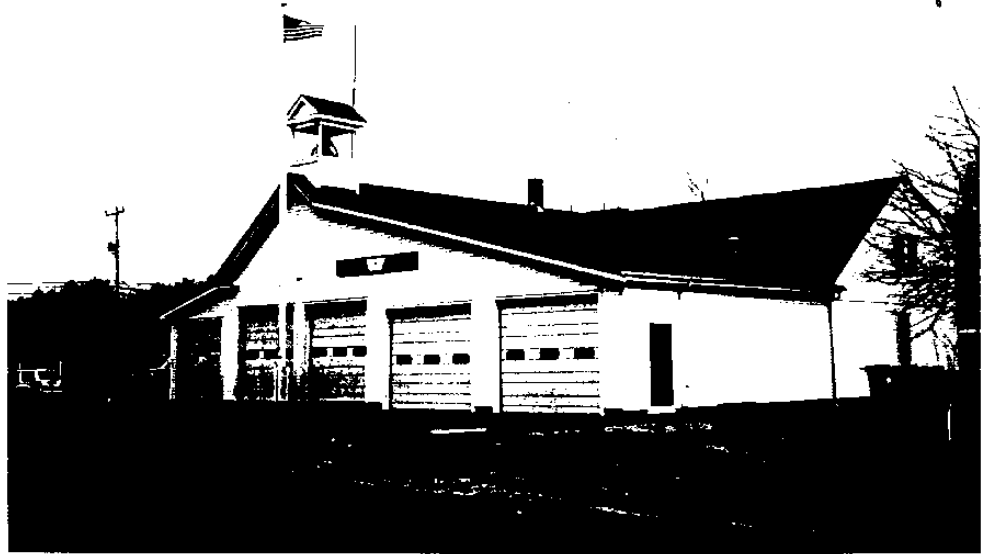
Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



WATERMAN SCHOOL  
ROCHESTER POLICE & FIRE  
STATION

59 HARTLEY ROAD



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

Area(s)  
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Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



J. L. BRALEY HOUSE  
9 ROBINSON ROAD



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

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Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



*ELM FARM*  
31 ROBINSON ROAD





INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

Area(s)  
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Form No.  
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PHOTOGRAPHS

— EDWARD WINSLOW III & IV —  
HOUSE  
105 ROBINSON ROAD



— EDWARD WINSLOW I AND II —  
HOUSE  
— 84 ROBINSON ROAD —

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
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Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)  
G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



P. PARSONS HOUSE  
50 HARTLEY ROAD



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

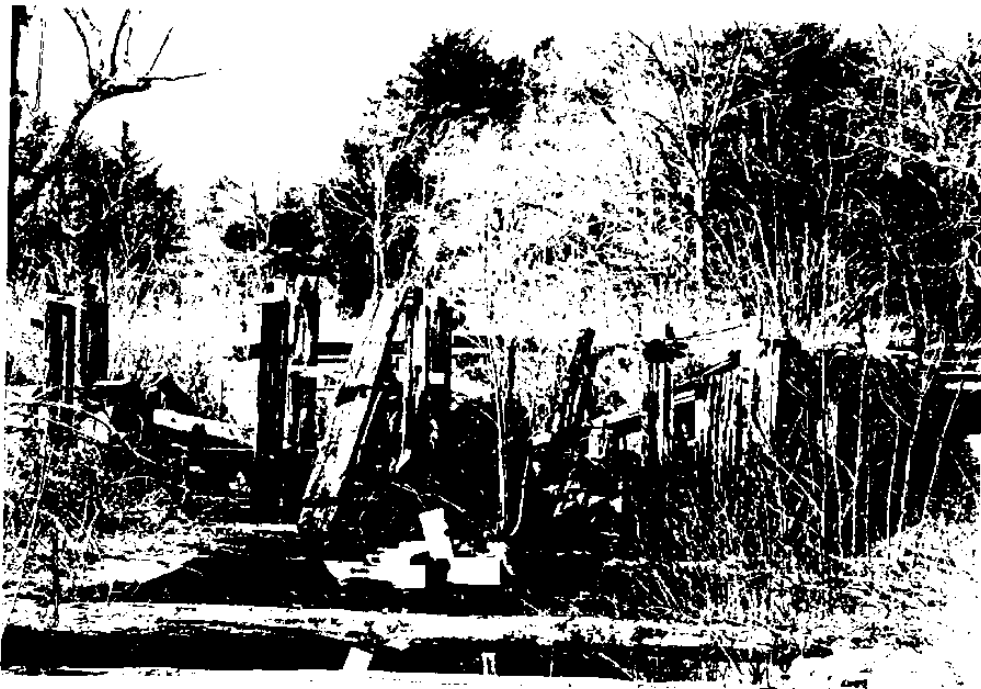
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Winslow's Mill Area

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

Area(s)  
G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



WINSLOW'S MILL /  
HARTLEY'S MILL  
HARTLEY RD. (north side)



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

Area(s)  
G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



— WINSLOW'S MILL /  
HARTLEY SAW MILL —  
HARTLEY ROAD (north side)



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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Massachusetts Archives Facility  
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Area(s)  
G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



C. SHERMAN HOUSE  
2-4 ROUNSEVILLE ROAD —



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

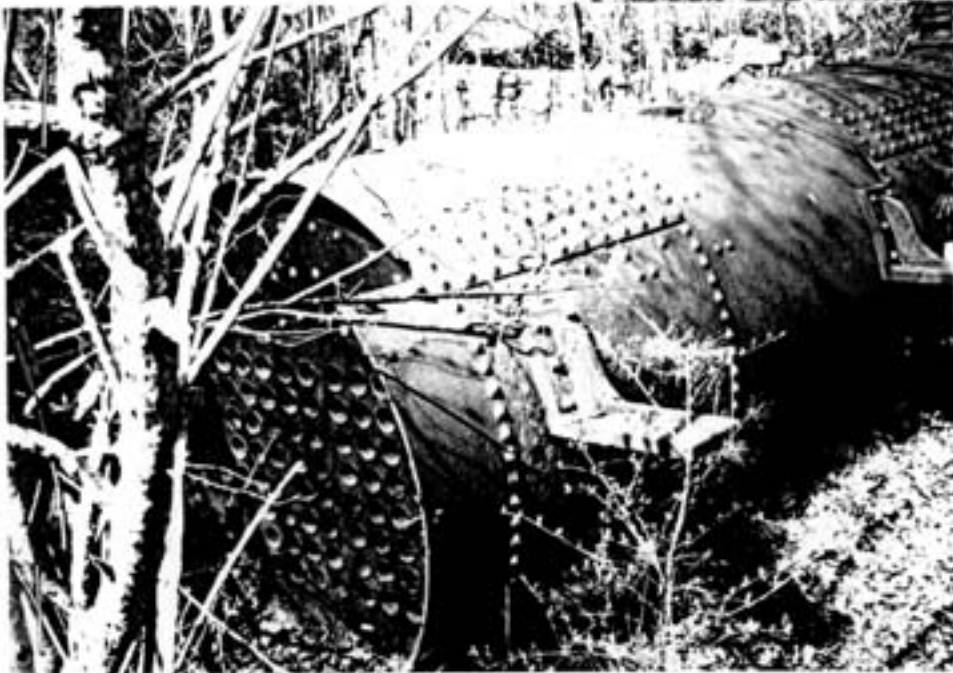
Area(s)  
G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



ROUSEVILLE MILL



**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Community:**  
Rochester

**Property Address:**  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

**Area(s)**  
G

**Form No.**  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winalow's Mill Area

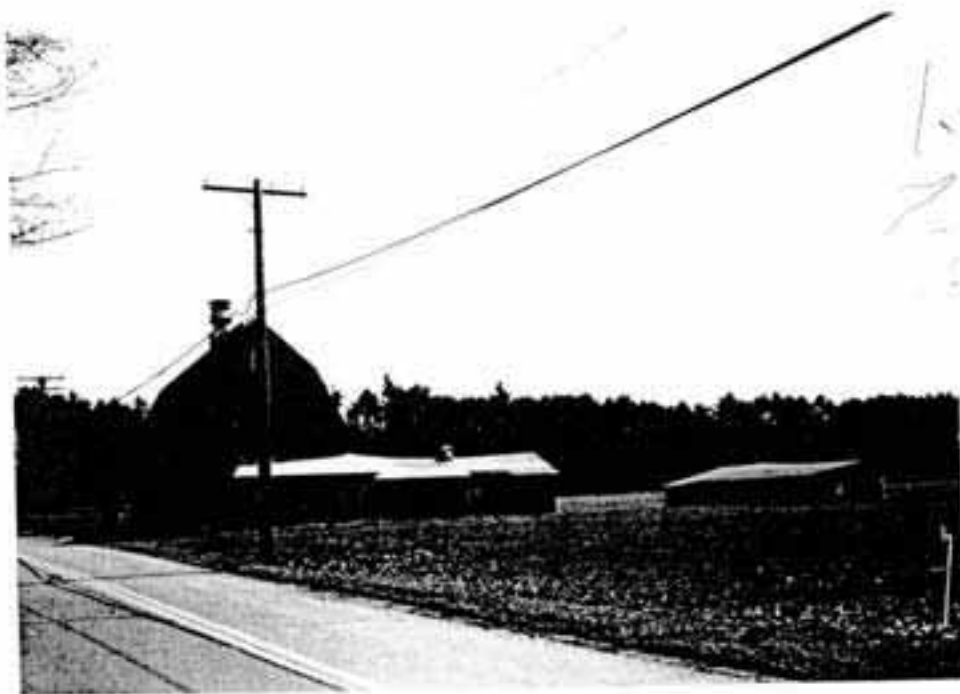
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

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G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

177 ROOSEVELL RD.

PHOTOGRAPHS





**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

**Community:**  
Rochester

**Property Address:**  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

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**Form No.**  
34-37, 119-150, 812, HA-1, HA-6

**PHOTOGRAPHS**



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

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

Area(s)  
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Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

PHOTOGRAPHS



A. ROUNSEVILLE HOUSE &  
BARN  
71 ROUNSEVILLE ROAD



INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community:  
Rochester

Property Address:  
Winslow's Mill Area

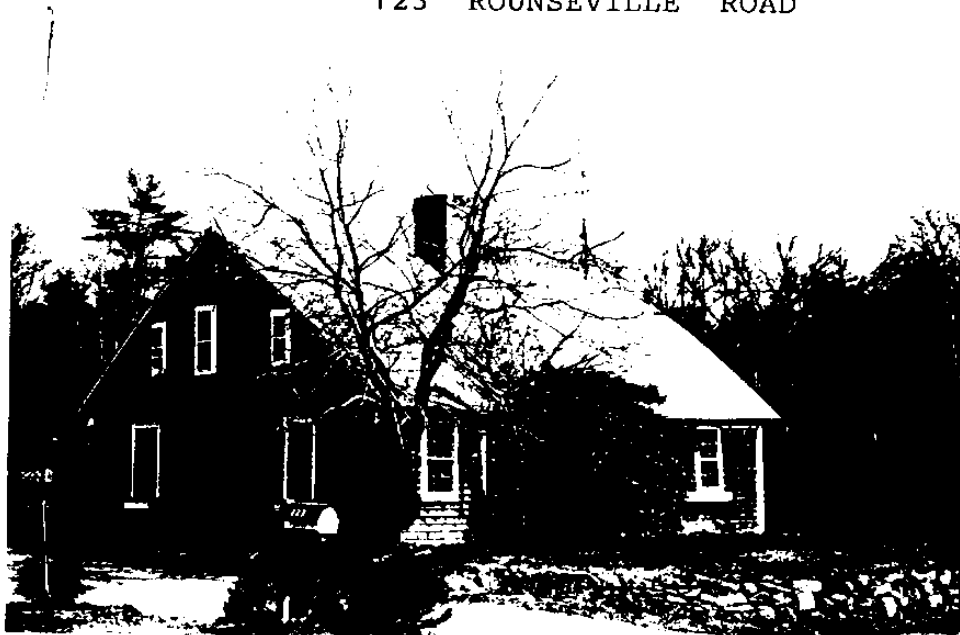
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Massachusetts Archives Facility  
220 Morrissey Boulevard  
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)  
G

Form No.  
34-37, 119-130, 812, HA-1, HA-6

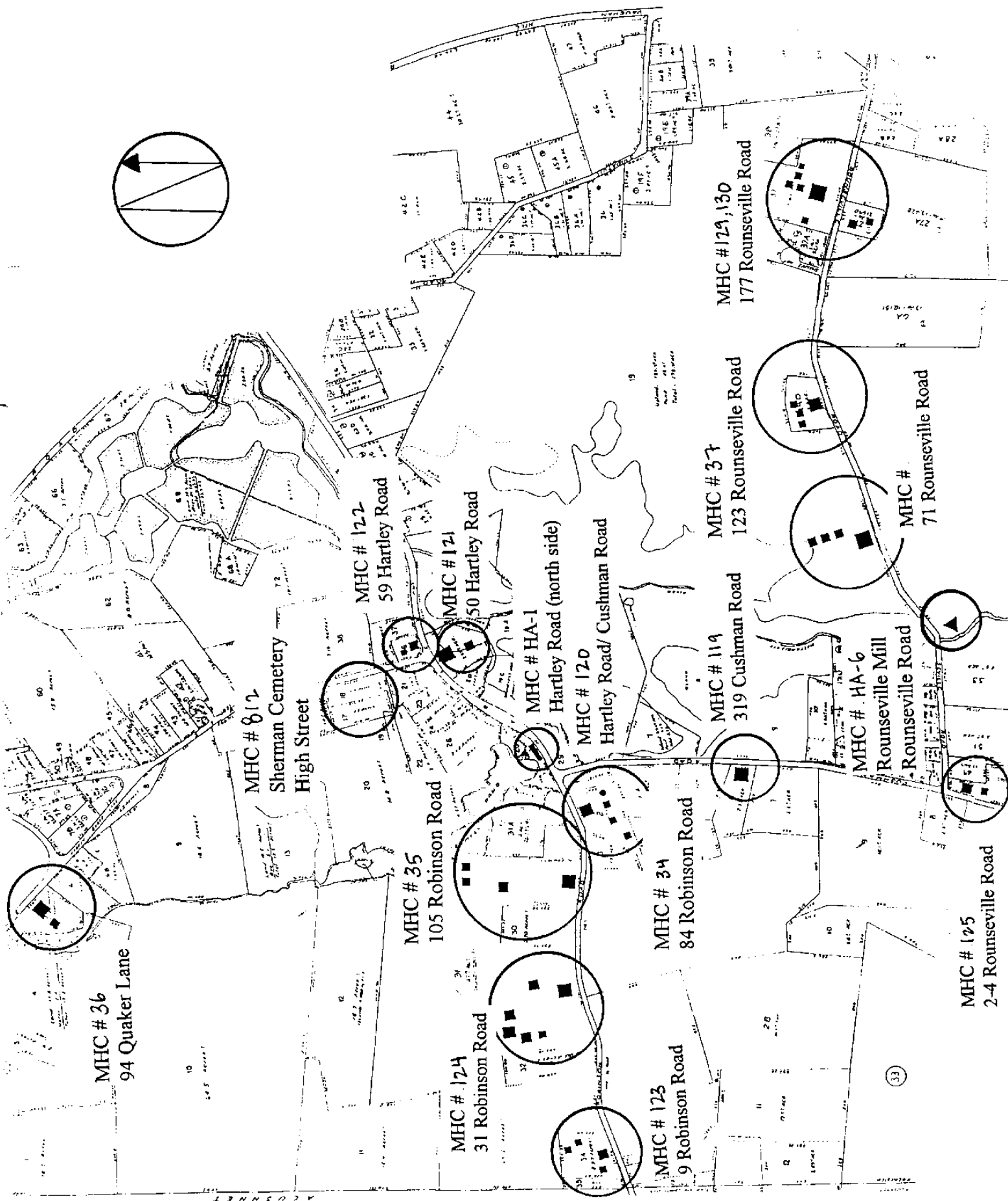
PHOTOGRAPHS

WILLIAM WHITTREDGE HOUSE  
123 ROUNSEVILLE ROAD



HOUSE AND BARN  
177 ROUNSEVILLE ROAD





MHC # 36  
94 Quaker Lane

MHC # 811  
Sherman Cemetery  
High Street

MHC # 122  
59 Hartley Road

MHC # 124  
50 Hartley Road

MHC # HA-1  
Hartley Road (north side)

MHC # 120  
Hartley Road/ Cushman Road

MHC # 37  
123 Rounseville Road

MHC # 121, 130  
177 Rounseville Road

MHC # HA-6  
Rounseville Mill  
Rounseville Road

MHC #  
71 Rounseville Road

MHC # 105  
2-4 Rounseville Road

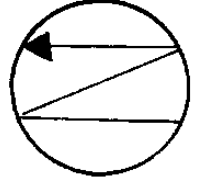
MHC # 35  
105 Robinson Road

MHC # 124  
31 Robinson Road

MHC # 34  
84 Robinson Road

MHC # 123  
9 Robinson Road

MHC # 114  
319 Cushman Road



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

Community  
Rochester

Property Address:  
123 Rounseville Road

Area(s)	Form No.
G	37

## 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: The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

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

The William Whittredge House is locally significant as an excellent example of one of the earliest extant examples of the Cape-type, a form that dominated in Rochester throughout the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. The house was constructed for William Whittredge, who ran one of the first grist mills in Rochester. The William Whittredge House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association and meets criteria A and C of the NRHP in the areas of exploration/settlement and architecture. Additional historical research will be required to complete the nomination.

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

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

Form numbers in this area 61, 62, 63, 64	Area no. E
---------------------------------------------	---------------

1. Town Rochester

Name of area (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

WINSLOW'S MILL AREA

3. General date or period \_\_\_\_\_

1702-1750

4. Is area uniform (explain):

in style? No

in condition? No

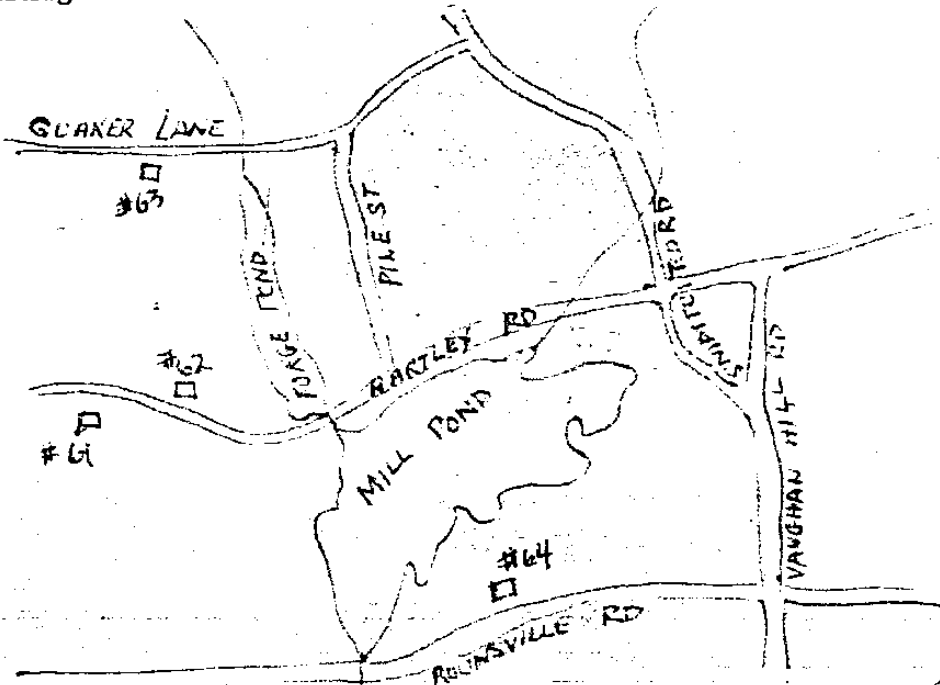
in type of ownership? No

in use? No

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")  
-Staple to left side of form  
Photo number \_\_\_\_\_

*copy sent 8/25/76*

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



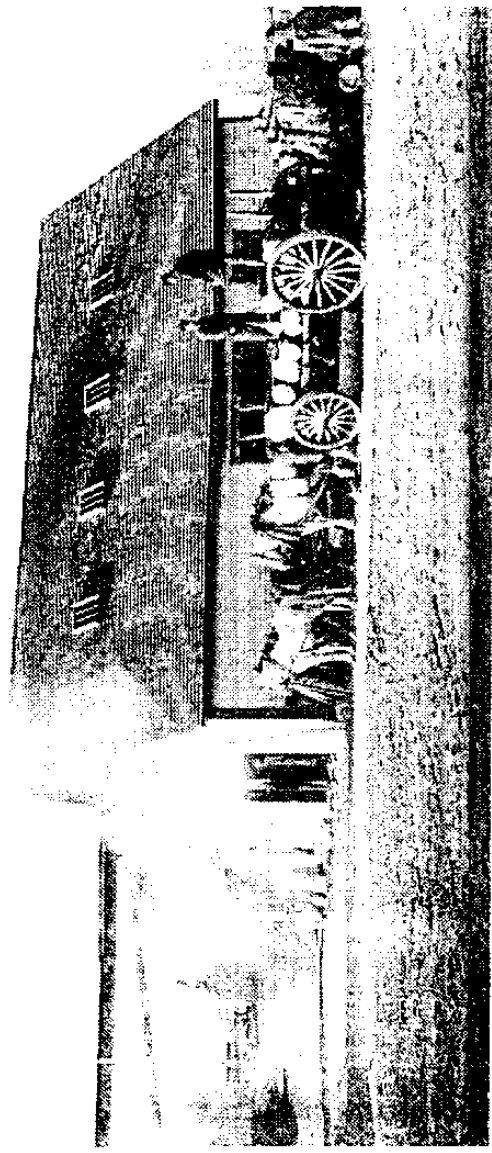
DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_  
MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by MARTHA J. GIEFERD

Organization ROCHESTER HISTORICAL COMM.

Date 3-24-76

(over)



**Box mill** — This is how the mill looked in the early 1900s heading west along Rounseville Road. The short logs leaning against the part of Rounseville Mill referred to as the "box mill" were used to make, what else, boxes. (Photo courtesy Lincoln Rounseville.)

# Rochester's Rounseville saw mill had a long history

By Tom Shire  
Staff writer

Albert Rounseville may have threatened to close his sawmill off Route 105 in Rochester if a Republican was elected (*Sentinel*, page 1, Jan. 27), but he didn't, or at least not for very long, according to family members.

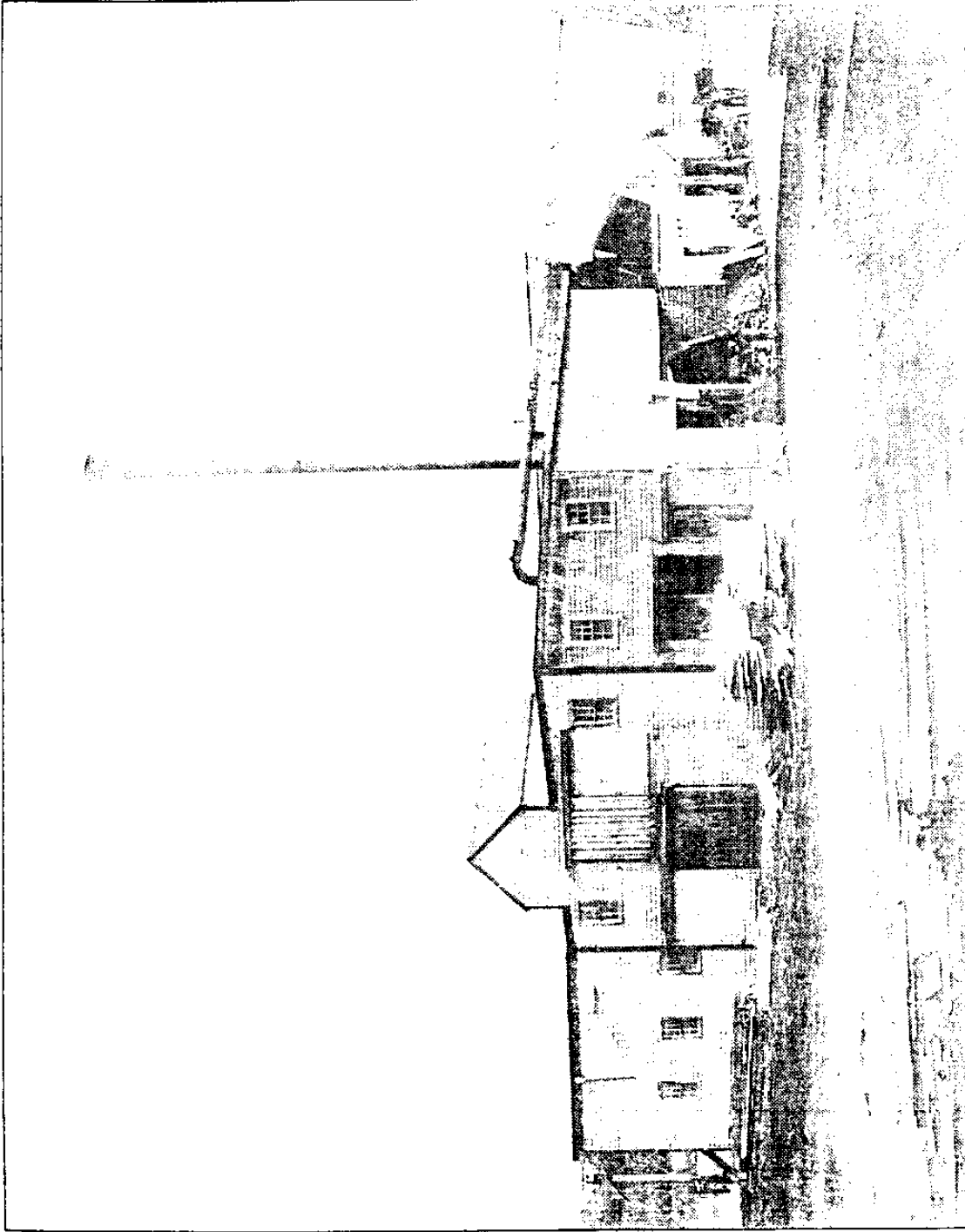
Lincoln Rounseville said his grandfather was "a state senator, a probation officer ... I guess you could say he was one

Albert Rounseville may have been disappointed when, in 1933, Franklin Delano Roosevelt ended 12 years of Republican control of the presidency. It would be another 20 years before the Democrats released their hammerlock on the office to Dwight Eisenhower.

Lincoln Rounseville's sister, Ann Rounseville Poland, remembers helping out at the mill when she was a little girl at around the time FDR was first elected president in 1933. Until

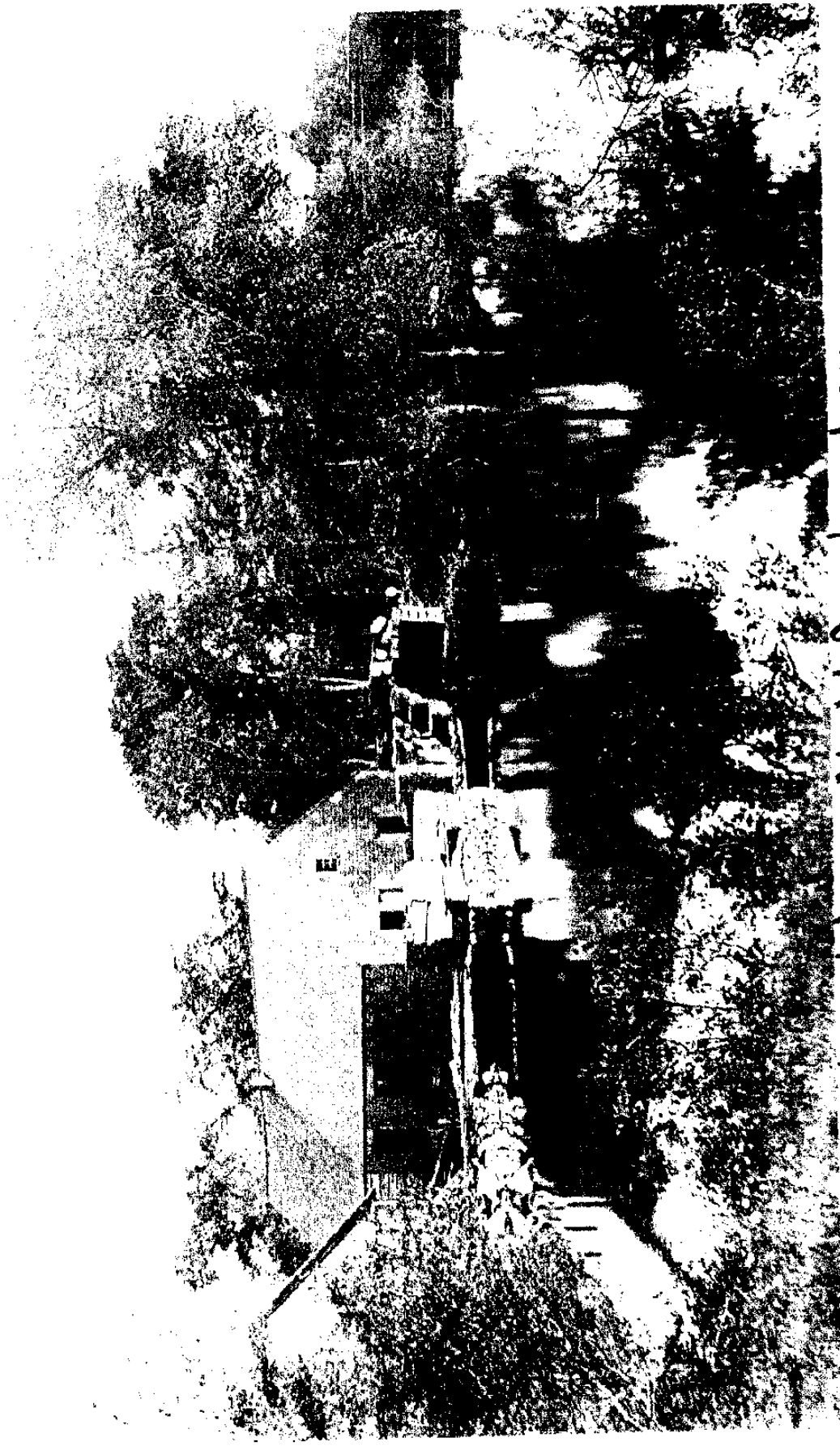
"Usually Shorty because he was the quieter one. I would run out of the house like crazy, keeping an eye out for my dad because he didn't like me riding and Jim would hoist me up on the horse ... That started me on a love I've had for life," said Poland.

Rounseville said his father and brother were still running the mill when it burned but the amount of business it was doing didn't warrant rebuilding. Plus, the mill wasn't insured.



**Long mill** — Rounseville Sawmill looking east along modern day Route 105. The long section of the mill where big logs were sawn was referred to as the "long mill." Lincoln Rounseville estimated this photo was taken in the early 1900s. See story on page 5. (Photo courtesy Lincoln Rounseville.)





Hartley's Mill Rochester.