

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
46/27

USGS Quad
Plymouth

Area(s)

Form Number
110

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

Town Kingston

Place (neighborhood or village) Jones River Village

Address 222 Main Street

Historic Name Unitarian Parsonage

Uses: Present residential

Original residential

Date of Construction 1846

Source Bartlett 1876

Style/Form Greek Revival

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim wood shingle/wood

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures none

Major Alterations (with dates) ell to the south (late 19th c.), garage to the south (early 20th c.)

Condition good

Moved X no yes Date _____

Acreage 8.36 acres

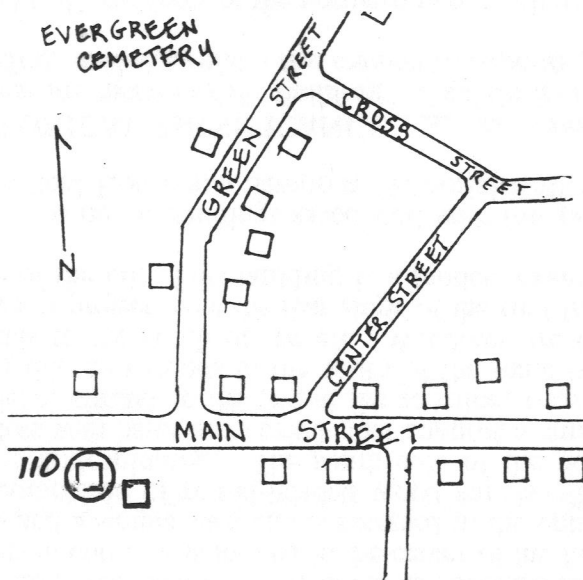
Recorded by V.Adams, N.Avery, M.Harrington, C.Meagher, J.Snow Setting set back approx. 100 feet from Main Street;

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc. grass, mature trees, shrubs; circular drive from street

Date (month/day/year) June 1997 to the north, asphalt driveway to the east.



Sketch Map



JUL 22 1997

MASS. HIST. COMM.

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION — *see continuation sheet*

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

The Unitarian Parsonage is a 2½-story, 3-by-2 bay, rectangular, side gable, Greek Revival building which rests on a stone foundation. The house is sheathed in wood singles with simple wood corner boards and cornice. The main entrance is located in the center of the facade (E). A paneled wood door with two round-headed fixed lights and a simple surround is recessed in the entrance alcove of the enclosed porch. The walls of the alcove are comprised of round-headed wood panels. The full-facade porch has a shallow, hipped-roof with metal lattice underpinning. The south side of the porch is enclosed with shingles and embellished with square pilasters with bases and capitals that support a simple entablature. The north side of the porch is screened in. A frieze, similar to the one at the roofline, runs under the cornice of the entire porch. A 2-story, shingled, side-gable ell extends to the south of the main block and a 1-story, side gable garage with two vehicle bays extends to the south of the ell. Windows are 6/6 double-hung sash with simple wood trim. Three brick chimneys project from the rear slope of the roof line; two along the ridge of the main block and one along the ridge of the ell. This building is a modest example of the Greek Revival style in this part of Kingston.

There are no outbuildings associated with this property. The Unitarian Parsonage is located on the same lot as the Beal House and Sampson Memorial Hall, 222 Main Street, (MHC 111, ca. 1930s/ca. 1962).

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE X *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.

In 1717, 41 residents of the northern part of Plymouth petitioned the General Court to be set off from Plymouth as a separate township or a precinct. They were allowed to become the north precinct of Plymouth on the condition that they maintain a suitable minister (Bailey 1920:33). At that time, the central part of the present town of Kingston belonged largely to Major John Bradford who gave the precinct fourteen acres of land in 1717. This land was to be used for the town woodlot, the Training Green, a burying ground, and a meetinghouse (Bailey 1920:36). In 1726, the north precinct, after having been a part of the town of Plymouth for 106 years, acquired its independence and became the town of Kingston (Bailey 1920:41).

The lower portion of today's Main Street was known as the Boston Road from the Plymouth line northward to "the Point" at Summer Street, and then north on Summer Street to the Duxbury town line. Today's Main Street from "the Point" westward was known as the Bridgewater Road (Melville 1976:377). It was around this intersection, on the slight hill which rises from the Jones River below, that the Kingston town center developed.

The land which now constitutes 222 Main Street was originally part of a lot that extended from Elm Street to the south side of the Beal Meeting House and Sampson Memorial Hall which Major John Bradford traded to Jacob Mitchell in the early 18th century. Jacob Mitchell later sold the land to Benjamin Sampson, who subdivided it into smaller lots (Melville 1976:393). The lot on which the present Beal Meeting House, Sampson Memorial Hall, and Unitarian Parsonage now stand was once three separate lots. The lot to the west contained

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X *see continuation sheet*

- Bailey, Sarah Y. *The Story of Jones River in Pilgrim Plymouth, 1620-1726*. Kingston, MA, 1920.
 Bailey, Sarah Y., and Emily F. Drew. *The Civic Progress of Kingston [and] A History of Her Industries, Two Hundred Years, 1726-1926*. Kingston, 1926.
 Bartlett, Cornelius A. *Houses, Occupants, etc. in Kingston, Massachusetts (Between the Forge Bridge and the Great Bridge): 1867-1879*. Annotations of 1942 by E.F. Drew and of 1972 by Doris M. Johnson, Kingston, Massachusetts, 1879.
 Drew, Emily. *Kingston: the Jones River Village*. 1944 (Edited and annotated by Doris M. Johnson, 1995).
 Drew, Thomas Bradford. "History of Kingston," in D.H. Hurd, *History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia, 1884.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEETCommunity:
KingstonKIN. 110
Property Address:
222 Main Street**Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Facility
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125**

Area(s)

Form No.
110**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** *(continued)*

Bildad Washburn's 1808 home; the lot in the middle was inherited by Mr. Joseph Sampson Beal and was undeveloped pasture; the lot to the east contained Bildad's brother, Abial's, 1808 home which was very similar to Bildad's home (Drew 1944:58). Abial Washburn was a cordwainer and ran a hardware store (Bartlett 1879:9). The Washburns moved to Akron, Ohio in 1830 (Melville 1976:114). Mr. Alexander Holmes purchased Abail Washburn's home for \$1500 in 1831. Mr. Holmes continued to run the store and resided in the house until he sold it to Mr. Charles Fuller in 1859 (Bartlett 1879:9). Mr. Fuller lived in Abial Washburn's house and moved the store across the street (Drew 1944:58). The Post Office was located in the store from June to September of 1861.

In May of 1864, Joseph Sampson Beal, a lawyer, purchased the Washburn estate for \$3500 at auction, which enlarged his adjoining property. In 1846, he built a house (the Unitarian Parsonage), which he later made many alterations and additions to, for his family on his inherited land (Drew 1944:58). Mr. Beal dismantled the 1808 Bildad Washburn house, as it was structurally unsafe, and reused the timbers to construct a barn (not extant) to the rear of his home (Drew 1944:58). The store was moved back to the eastern part of the lot and finished as a dwelling for Mr. Trebandt, the Beals' coachman and "general man" (Drew 1944:58). Mr. Beal built a small office for himself to the east of his house (Drew 1942 annotation of Bartlett 1879:29). In 1870, the 1808 Abail Washburn house was sold to Captain Theodore B. Cunningham and moved to 200 Main Street, (MHC 97,1808).

After Joseph Beal's death, his widow, Pamela Holmes Beal, occupied the house. When she died in the late 19th century, the house and property were willed to the First Parish [Unitarian] Church (MHC 71,1851) for use as a parsonage. Reverend C.Y. DeNormadie was the first occupant who lived there until his death in 1910. A small fund was established through Mrs. Beal's will which provides for the necessary repairs and maintenance of the house. Since Mrs. Beal's death, the house has always been used as a parsonage for the Unitarian Church. Reverends Sidney Robins, G.F. Andrews, and L. Gordon Adamson all occupied the parsonage at different times throughout the early 20th century. The barn built from material from Bildad Washburn's home was taken down in 1937 due to structural problems (Drew annotation of Bartlett 1879:29). The house, built by Joseph Beal in 1846, is owned and used by the Unitarian Church as a parsonage to the present day (1997).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

Massachusetts Historical Commission. *Reconnaissance Survey Report: Kingston*. Boston, 1981.
Melville, Doris Johnson. *Major Bradford's Town: A History of the Town of Kingston, 1726-1976*. Kingston, 1976.
The Plymouth County Directory. Stillman B. Pratt & Co., Middleboro, Massachusetts, 1867.
Thompson, Elroy S. *History of Plymouth, Norfolk, and Barnstable Counties, Massachusetts*. New York, 1928.
Town Database Records. Assessor's Office, Kingston Town House, Kingston, Massachusetts, 1997.
Vertical Files located at the Local History Room of the Kingston Public Library.

Maps

1831 *Map of Kingston*. John Gray.
1876 *Map of the Town of Kingston, Plymouth County, Mass.* E.N. Boyden.
1879 *Atlas of Plymouth County*. George E. Walker.
1903 *Atlas of Plymouth County*. George E. Walker.
1928 *Map of Kingston with Key*. Anonymous.

MHC INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MHC Inventory scanning project, 2008-2012

MACRIS No. KIN-110

