



essor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Plymouth

A

163

Town Kingston

Place (neighborhood or village) Trail

Address 2 Cross Street

Historic Name

Uses: Present residence

Original residence

Date of Construction c.1850

Source maps

Style/Form Greek Revival style

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation granite block

Wall/Trim wood clapboards

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

Major Alterations (with dates)

1-1/2 story barn removed c. 1950

Condition good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes

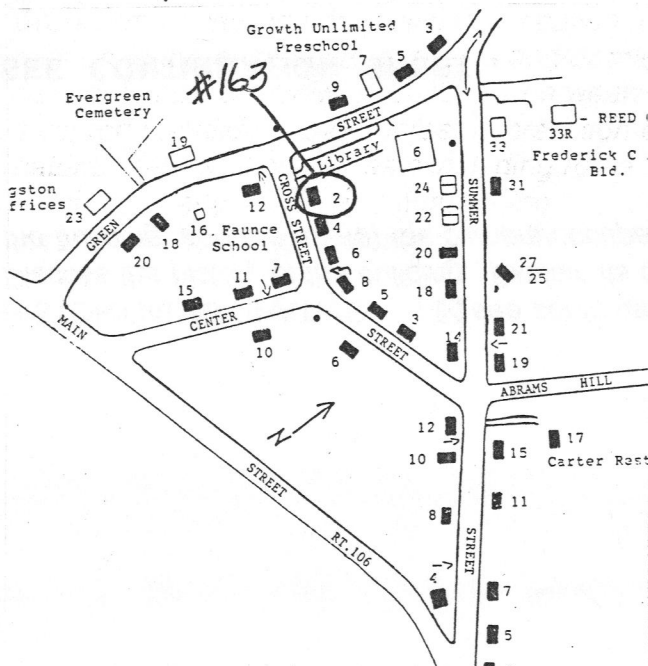
Date

Acreage .5 acres

Setting

residential/commercial village

Sketch Map



Recorded by Deirdre Brotherson

Organization Kingston Historical Commission

Date (month/year) May 1998

RECEIVED

AUG 25 1998

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions when completing this form.

MASS. HIST. COMM

BUILDING FORM

KIN. 163

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

☒ *see continuation sheet*

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

☒ *see continuation sheet*

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

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

☒ *see continuation sheet*

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

If checked, you must attach

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s) FormNo.

A

163

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The residence at 2 Cross Street was built c.1850 in the Greek Revival style. This 3x5 bay, wood frame, 2 story, rectangular plan building sits on a granite block foundation. The building is clad with wood clapboards (the owner stated that they planned to install vinyl siding in the summer of 1998). The front gable roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Two brick chimneys are located on the east slope of the main block and on the ridge of the rear ell. The sidehall entrance contains a six panel wood door flanked by half-sidelights and topped by a decorative pediment. The windows contain 2/2 wood sash with flat surrounds. The cornerboards are thin and flat. The cornice is boxed with returns. A triangular window with tracery is centered in the front pediment. A side porch with a shed roof runs along the length of the east elevation. The half of the porch is open and supported with fluted Doric columns. The back half of the porch is enclosed with a full length window on the porch side. The rear ell is a utilitarian building void of style.

Greek Revival was the dominant style of American domestic architecture during the interval from about 1830 to 1860. The final years of the 18th century brought an increasing interest in classical buildings to both the United States and western Europe. This was first based on Roman models, but archaeological investigation in the early 19th century emphasized Greece as the Mother of Rome which, in turn, shifted interest to Grecian models. Two additional factors enhanced Greek influence in this country. Greece's involvement in a war for independence (1821-30) aroused much sympathy in the newly independent United States; at the same time, the War of 1812 diminished American affection for British influence, including the still dominant Federal style in domestic architecture. Features of the Greek Revival style include a gable roof with a cornice line emphasized with wide band of trim, most have porches supported by prominent square or rounded columns, typically Doric style; a front door surrounded by narrow, often full length sidelights with a rectangular line of transom lights above. An important enduring legacy of the Greek Revival to American domestic architecture is the front-gable house. Placing the narrow end of the building on the street enabled more buildings to be built on increasingly crowded streets and city blocks.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE:

The 1830/31 map does not show a building on this lot. In 1876 George Holmes owned this house. The 1879 map records the owners as "heirs of G. Holmes". The 1896 Bird's Eye view of Kingston illustrates the house in the same form as it stands today. To the rear of the main house stood a 1-1/2 story barn until c.1950 when it was removed. By 1903 A. Pratt owned the building and it was in the same form as it appears today.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Hurd, Hamilton (editor). History of Plymouth County. Philadelphia, PA., 1884. [KPL]
Melville, Doris Johnson. Major Bradford's Town: A History of Kingston: 1726-1976. Kingston, MA., 1976. [KPL]
Peckham, Rev. Josia. History of Kingston in Plymouth County Directory. 1867.
Thompson, Elroy S. History of Plymouth, Norfolk, and Barnstable Counties, Massachusetts. New York, NY. 1928.
McAlester, Virginia & Lee. A Field Guide to American Houses. New York, Knopf, 1991.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community
KingstonProperty Address
2 Cross Street

KIN. 163

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s) FormNo.

A

163

MAPS:

1726 Kingston. John Gray [MHC]

1795 A Plan of the Town of Kingston. John Gray. [MHC]

1820-30 Five School Districts [KPL]

1876 Town of Kingston. Boyden (w/directory). [KPL]

1876 Town of Kingston, Enlargement of Village. Boyden. [KPL]

1879 Atlas of Plymouth County. George E. Walker. [MHC]

1896 Bird's Eye View of Kingston [KPL & MSL]

1903 Atlas of Plymouth County. George E. Walker. [KPL]

Sandborn Insurance Company Maps:

Plymouth: 1896 June

1901 April (1896, 1901, 1906 include Kingston Village

1906 Feb. and Factories in Kingston)

Kingston: 1912 (6 sheets)

1925 (7 sheets)

1943 (7 sheets)

1954 (8 sheets)



Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Blvd.
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community Property Address
Kingston 2 Cross Street

Area(s) FormNo.

A 163

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 Deirdre Brotherson

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

This property is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building to a Historic District (Area A). This district is eligible under Criterion A (associated with events that have made a contribution to the broad pattern of our history) as a building in the civic district of Kingston and also as the area which was first settled in Kingston. This building is also eligible under Criterion C (the building embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction) as a contributing architectural member of this district.