

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
46/71

USGS Quad
Plymouth

Area(s)

Form Number
92

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

Town Kingston

Place (neighborhood or village) Jones River Village

Address 193 Main Street

Historic Name George Cushman Store

Uses: Present commercial

Original commercial

Date of Construction ca. 1900

Source Drew annotation of Bartlett 1942

Style/Form No Style, Queen Anne

Architect/Builder _____

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim wood shingle/wood

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures small shed to the rear (E) (mid to late 20 c.)

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition good

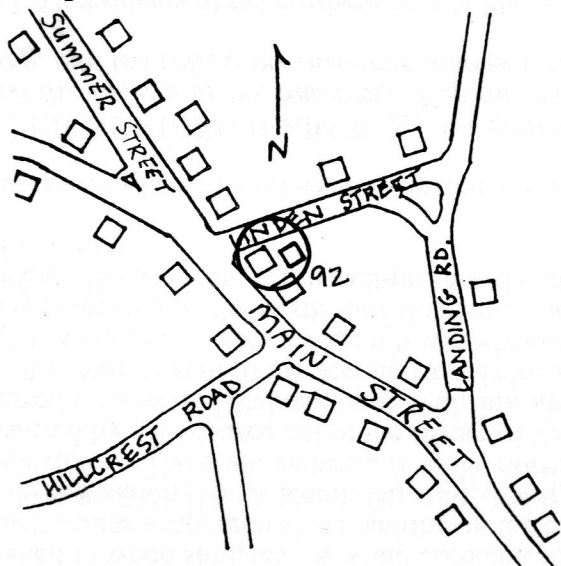
Moved X no yes Date _____

Acreage less than 1 acre

Setting set back approx. 10 feet from Main Street; corner of Main and Linden Streets; paved parking to rear (E); minimal planting.



Sketch Map



Recorded by V. Adams, N. Avery, M. Harrington, C. Meagher, J. Snow

Organization The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.

Date (month/day/year) June 1997

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.

193 Main Street is a rectangular, 2½-story, 5-by-6 bay, end-gable, building which rests on a stone foundation and is sheathed in wood shingles. A wood cornice and cornice returns are located under the building's deep eaves. A flared belt course wraps around the building at the top of the first story level. A 2-story, cross-gable wing is located on the rear elevation (E). A small, flat-roof, 2-story projection is located to the east of the cross-gable wing on the south elevation. The main entrance is in the northwest corner of the facade (W) under a projection of the second story caused by a 45 degree cut in the corner of the building. The multi-light, wood door with beaded surrounds is accessed by a wood handicap ramp with simple wood railings. The facade bows in the middle to form a wide angle. An exterior stair to the second story is located on the south elevation and 2 vehicle bays are located on the rear (E) elevation. Windows are 6/6 and 9/9 double-hung sash with simple wood surrounds. An interior brick chimney is located on the north roof slope and another interior brick chimney is located on the ridge of the cross-gable wing. 193 Main Street is a well-preserved example of early 20th century commercial architecture, rare in this part of Kingston.

A small (mid-to-late 20th c.) shed is located to the south of the building.

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 George Cushman Store at 193 Main Street sits on land that Major John Bradford sold to Charles Little in 1713 (Drew 1942 annotation of Bartlett 1879:54). In 1714 Charles Little built a house on the property, Little's Tavern, 191 Main Street, (MHC 90,1714). Mr. Little died in 1724 and his wife married Reverend Nicholas Sever, the first member of the Sever family to live in Kingston. Reverend Sever's grandson, Colonel John Sever, of 192 Main Street, (MHC 92,1824) built a store on the property at the corner of Landing Road, which he and James N. Sever ran until it was taken over by H.L. Collamore. The store burned down in July of 1857 and the lot stood empty

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X see continuation sheet

- 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.
- Board of Registrars. *Persons Listed by the Board of Registrars in the Town of Kingston for the Year 1953*. Board of Registrars, Kingston, Massachusetts, 1953.
- Drew, Emily. *Kingston: the Jones River Village*. 1944 (Edited and annotated by Doris M. Johnson, 1995).

— 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 SHEET**Community:**
Kingston**Property Address:**
193 Main Street

KIN.92

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92**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** *(continued)*

for the rest of the 19th century (Bartlett 1879:54).

In the early 1900s, George E. Cushman purchased the triangle of land on the corner of Main and Linden Streets from Mr. Robert Eager, who had owned the land and occupied the house at 191 Main Street since purchasing it from the Sever family. George Cushman, who lived on Green Street, had kept a store for many years at 196 Main Street, (MHC 94,1785). He rented out the house at 191 Main Street to various tenants and before 1903 he built a new store building on the empty lot at the corner of Main and Linden Streets (1903 Walker Map). After Mr. Cushman stopped keeping a store in the building, it became the second location for Ye Kynge's Towne Sweetes, which was originally located at 215 Main Street, (MHC 108, 1804). After the confectioners left the building, it was left vacant until 1936, when Charles Cushman, son of George, converted the building into four apartments (Drew 1942 annotation of Bartlett 1879:52). In 1953 the building was occupied by Richard Balboni, a 20 year old student, Robert H. Balboni, a 21 year old enlisted in the army, and Norman A. Clifford, an employee of the Plymouth Cordage Company (Board of Registrars Directory 1953). By 1972, the Cushman Store building and Little's Tavern, 191 Main Street, (MHC 90, 1714) were both owned by Edward Thorne (Johnson 1972 annotation of Bartlett 1879:15). The building is currently (1997) owned by a real estate agency and occupied by a social service agency (Town Database Records 1997).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *(continued)*

- Drew, Thomas Bradford. "History of Kingston," in D.H. Hurd, *History of Plymouth County, Massachusetts*. Philadelphia, 1884.
- 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

- 1820-1830 *Five School Districts*. Anonymous.
- 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.