

FIRST PERIOD SURVEY

JAN 24 1990 FORM NO. 254

28

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

- Photos
- 31:22 south and west facades
 - 31:26 overhang at center of south facade
 - 31:31 left-hand (west) room, looking south
 - 31:35 summer beam, left-hand room, showing cyma molding
 - 31:36 detail, left-hand room: brace let into log wall
 - 32:2 dovetail joint, logs at northwest corner, outside view of original construction as seen in current closet

Town Rockport 009

Address 188 Granite Street

Historic Name Old Garrison House

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1700

Source Visual assessment

Style First Period, with Second and Third Period alterations and additions

Architect Unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings Barn - 19th c.

two sheds - late 19th c.

Major Alterations (with dates) Ell added c. 1800; north and west extensions 19th c.

Condition Good

Moved No Date N/A

Acreage 14 acres

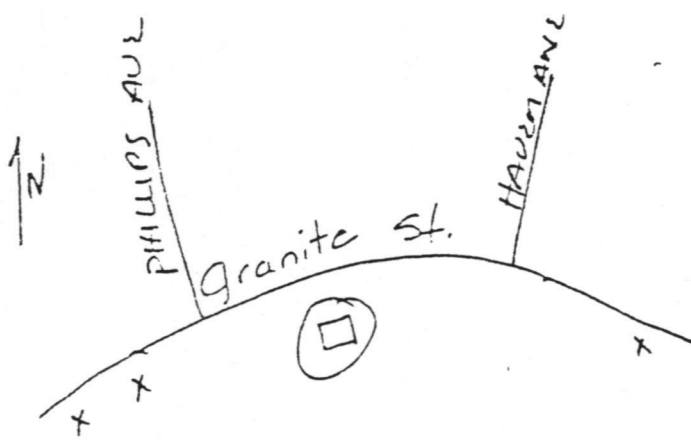
Setting Set back from road. 40 feet above nearby Pigeon Cove Harbor: glacial pond directly west, woodlands beyond. Residential development of mixed date along Granite St.

Recorded by Anne Grady

Organization Boston University

Date March 1996

Sketch Map:



UTM REFERENCE Z E N 19 / 366-600 / 4726-440

USGS QUADRANGLE Rockport

SCALE 1:25,000

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

ROCKPORT

Form No:

28

Property Name: "Garrison House"

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

SIGNIFICANCE

The Old Garrison House retains integrity of setting, location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association. It embodies distinctive characteristics of design and construction in its First Period "logg" structure, meeting criterion C.

The Old Garrison House is the "principle remaining example" of squared log construction in the Massachusetts Bay Colony. 2 The technique, more frequently used in New Hampshire and Maine, had by definition some defensive capacity. It is unlikely, however, that the house was constructed of logs for purely defensive purposes. Rather, dwellings of log were commonly built in newly settled rural and timbering areas of northern colonies. Cape Ann's geographic proximity to New Hampshire suggests diffusion from that region occurred here in the early 18th century. Its mixed use of log-framed overhang and ceiling with second story timber-framing ties and joists reflects similar early 18th century practices in Maine and New Hampshire. [3]

On the basis of style and construction characteristics, the building would seem to date from c. 1700. Features which place construction at the turn of the 18th century, are the delicate cyma moulding on the beams (similar to the c.1700 Haskell House in Gloucester), the use of conventional joist and beam framing of two of the three floors, and the use of hewn rather than sawn logs which were intended from the beginning to be plastered on the interior.

EXTERIOR DESCRIPTION

The Old Garrison House is an L-shaped structure 2 1/2 stories in height in its main part, comprised of the c. 1700 double cell log house facing south, and a c. 1780-1800 single cell addition forming the ell to the north. In the early to mid 19th century, the house was extended by a small wing to the west rear (possibly originally a shed), two stories in height where it abuts the house, one story in the outer part. About 1850, a one story kitchen wing was appended to the north side of the ell. The original south facade has a framed 12 inch overhang. The ends of ten heavy transverse spanning girders project to support the second story log wall of the facade. The lowest log of the second story wall is cut to fit over the girders and lap the sides about one inch. Below the girder at the outer walls and chimney bay an additional support with rounded end has been pieced in, possibly as part of the restoration of the late 1920's. The south facade has by an early (but not original) four panel doorway. There is an overhang on the west end of the house. The original overhang on the north is now buried inside the house and its addition. When the north ell was built, the east facade became the major facade of the house and was updated accordingly. The second story overhang of the east wall of the original house was removed and replaced by a flush stud wall. Five windows were placed symmetrically in the new second story.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

JAN 24 1990	
Community: ROCKPORT	Form No: 28
Property Name: "Garrison House"	

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Above, the gable roof was rebuilt to form a hip at the junction of the old and new roofs. One story bay windows on either side of the east doorway reflect a further updating of the facade in the Victorian period. The central pedimented and pilastered frontispiece was originally part of a house in Essex and was installed on this house during the 1970's restoration. Trim throughout the clapboarded exterior is simple. Fenestration is of several kinds of double hung sash windows. Chimneys include the original central one greatly rebuilt, and those serving fireplaces in the northern ell and western wing.

MAJOR FIRST PERIOD FEATURES

First Period features are visible in all parts of the original double cell structure except in the east chamber. The most features may be seen in the first floor west room where plaster has been stripped and the log walls exposed in the 1920's restoration. Tamarack logs, carefully hewn square, eight inches thick and varying from nine to nineteen and one half inch high are precisely fitted together and dovetail jointed at the corners (the northwest corner is visible in a rear closet). On the west wall, two diagonal braces are set into the logs. These braces, 4" wide by 3" deep, are nailed into rectangular rabbits sawn and chiseled out of successive logs beginning at the next to the bottom log and extending to the ceiling. At the west end of the south wall, the carpenter did not complete the rabbet, leaving the central portion sawn, but not chiselled. Short pieces of brace are nailed into the finished parts of the rabbet.

The log walls, carefully hewn as they are, are not nearly as smoothly finished as the three hard pine girders 6 inches deep and 17", 17", and 15" wide respectively and c. 30" apart, which span the room from front to back. The beams are finished along the lower surface at both edges with a delicate inch-wide cyma molding. Boards which are laid across the spanning beams as flooring for the second floor are saw mill sawn and heavily whitewashed. A cut out in the logs of the south wall provides evidence of an original window opening (43 3/4 inches from the floor and 26 1/4 inches in height). The fireplace wall, damaged at some point by a fire which caused the firebox to fall in, was rebuilt in the 1920's using the lintel from another house, and First Period shadow molding sheathing and doors from several houses (the First Period material was located by Roger Bacon who helped with the restoration).

The outside of the original north was/is exposed in a rear passageway. The logs were as carefully hewn on the outer surface as the inner one, and were only briefly, if at all, exposed to the weather before being clapboarded.

In the original east room, only the three spanning beams are exposed. These are finished with cyma chamfers like those in the west room and are 15, 18 1/2, and 13 1/2 inches wide.

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INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: ROCKPORT	Form No: 28
Property Name: "Garrison House"	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

In the west chamber, there is a single summer tie beam, 12 inches wide and finished with an inch wide flat chamfer and simple triangular stops, except at one terminus, where there is no stop. The second floor ceilings are conventionally framed. In the west room, joists are spaced 30 inches on centers; in the east room, 15-16 inches on centers. Information from the owner, whose husband, Thomas Williams, restored the house, indicates that the logs of the second story walls are not nearly so carefully fitted together--"Chinks between individual units are quite wide in places".

In the attic, a principal rafter and purlin roof system of moderate slope is visible. There are three purlins per slope.

In the cellar, only under the west room of the original house, an earlier summer beam with three inch wide flat chamfers and taper stops has been reused. Butt cog joists are spaced 19 1/2 inches on centers in the beam.

LATER SIGNIFICANT FEATURES

The east room retains a fine Second Period fireplace wall assemblage of raised-field panelled doors and simple mantelpiece. The ell to the north combines late Second Period trim in the chamber (a paneled chimney breast with crosseted moldings) with simple trim of the Federal Period elsewhere.

The straight run staircase has scrolled, cut out step ends and balusters square in section set diagonally. In the dining room, the chimney breast is embellished with a design of alternating parallel gouges and radiating gouges, perhaps the signature of a local carpenter, for it is found elsewhere in Rockport on a doorway frieze.

The restoration of the late 1920's, in which later finishes were removed, original features carefully preserved, and some material from other buildings brought in, is an example of early 20th century private restoration at its best.

A barn and two outbuildings built in the 19th century south of the house contribute to the historic character of the property. The remains of a terraced garden with granite retaining walls and posts surmounted with turned balusters are preserved south of the house.

HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Two local legends place the construction date earlier, however. One asserts that this was the garrison house on the tip of Cape Ann identified in a 1675 inventory of garrison buildings in the Commonwealth. A second tradition states that Elizabeth Procter, convicted as witch in the Salem witch trials, but released on the condition that she leave Salem and live away from any settled community, was brought to Pigeon Cove by her eldest sons. The sons either built the house for her or installed her in the

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: ROCKPORT	Form No: 28
Property Name: Old Garrison House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

already existing house. There was no permanent settlement in the area at the time although lumber men were regularly harvesting timber. [4]

Documents place Joshua Norwood and his wife in residence in the house by 1702. Francis Norwood, a prosperous ship owner in Annisquam, was deeded the lot on which the house stands in 1688, as an apportionment of the common woodlots on Cape Ann. Norwood eventually amassed sixty acres of land there, and settled his younger son, Joshua, on the property soon after several families homesteaded adjacent lots in the early years of the eighteenth century.

The house is also important for its growth and transformation in the late 18th century. The addition of a stairhall and a file of rooms to the north during the ownership of the house by Moses Wheeler between 1778 and 1824 and the attendant reorientation of the major facade to the east illustrates one means of adapting a First Period building to achieve a Second Period through-hall plan.

The house is representative of the early 20th century preservation/restoration movement. Oliver E. Williams, a Boston banker, purchased the property in 1925. Together with his son Thomas, he undertook to restore the building for his summer house. Thomas Williams, an architect and student of colonial architecture who wrote about Cape Ann houses for Pencil Points, directed the careful removal of later finishes, the sensitive preservation of early features, and the introduction of sympathetic remnants from other houses.

NOTES AND REFERENCES

1. Abbott Lowell Cummings. The Framed Houses of Massachusetts Bay: 1625-1725. Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1979, p. 94.
2. Ibid, p. 93.
- _____. Massachusetts and Its First Period Houses. Boston, The Colonial Society in Massachusetts, 1979. pp. 169-170.
3. Richard M. Candee, Wooden Building in Early Maine and New Hampshire (Ph.D. Thesis, Univ. of PA, 1976), chapter 4.
4. Thomas Williams. "Some Old Houses of Pigeon Cove, Massachusetts". Pencil Points Monograph Series. Vol. XIX, No. 4, pp. 49-60.

Allen Chamberlain, Pigeon Cove, Its Early Settlers and Their Farms, 1940.

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

JAN 24 1990

Community: ROCKPORT	Form No: 28
Property Name: Old Garrison	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Old Garrison House is set back from the road by approximately 200'. The house and its immediate setting of approximately 4 acres includes the frontage on Granite Street and a line of convenience from the road to the pond behind the house. The barns and terraced gardens on the east side of the house are included in the approximately 4 acres within the line of convenience. All of these features are connected visually and are an integral part of the Old Garrison's setting.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Old Garrison House
NAME:

MULTIPLE First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/24/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/07/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/23/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/10/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000254

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/9/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Decrease is indicated as both "4" and as "14"; however, neither appears correct. Please clarify. As discussed with Ann Tait by telephone.

RECOM./CRITERIA Return
REVIEWER Savage
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 3/9/90

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

count resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

historic current

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification
 materials
 descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph
 completeness
 clarity
 applicable criteria
 justification of areas checked
 relating significance to the resource
 context
 relationship of integrity to significance
 justification of exception
 other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage verbal boundary description
 UTMs boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone (202) 343-9540

Signed Betty L. Savage

Date 3/9/90

JAN 24 1990

FORM NO. 254

28

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

Photos

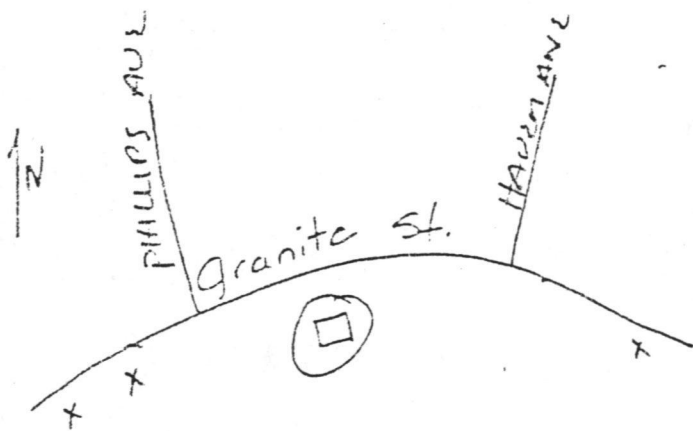
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Town Rockport 009.
Address 188 Granite Street
Historic Name Old Garrison House
Use: Present Residence
Original Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1700
Source Visual assessment
Style First Period, with Second and Third Period alterations and additions
Architect Unknown
Exterior Wall Fabric Clapboards
Outbuildings Barn - 19th c.
two sheds - late 19th c.
Major Alterations (with dates) Ell added c. 1800; north and west extensions 19th c.
Condition Good
Moved No Date N/A
Acreage part of a 14.12 acre parcel
Setting Set back from road. 40 feet above nearby Pigeon Cove Harbor: glacial pond directly west, woodlands beyond. Residential development of mixed date along Granite St.
Recorded by Anne Grady
Organization Boston University
Date March 1986

Sketch Map:



Z E N

UTM REFERENCE 19 / 366-600 / 4726-440USGS QUADRANGLE RockportSCALE 1:25,000

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Office of the Secretary, Boston

JAN 24 1990	
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Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: ROCKPORT	Form No: 28
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: ROCKPORT	Form No: 28
Property Name: Old Garrison	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Old Garrison House is set back from the road by approximately 200'. The house and its immediate setting of approximately 1.25 acres which includes frontage on Granite Street and a line of convenience from the road to the pond behind the house. The barns and terraced gardens on the east side of the house are included in the approximately 1.25 acres within the line of convenience. It is part of a larger parcel of 14.12 acres. However, it is the 1.25 acres with house, barns, and immediate setting that is included in the nomination. These features are connected visually and are an integral part of the Old Garrison's setting.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

1/24/90

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
State _____

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

- 5166 61. Newman--Fiske--Dodge House **Substantive Review** *sr* Keeper Beth L. Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____
- 62. ~~W~~oyes, James, House Entered in the National Register *sr* Keeper Melrose Byrum 3/9/90
Attest _____
- 5166 63. Old Farm **Substantive Review** *sr* Keeper Beth L. Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____
- 64. Old Garrison House **Substantive Review** Keeper ret. R
Attest _____
- 65. Osborne, Prince, House Entered in the National Register *sr* Keeper Melrose Byrum 3/9/90
Attest _____
- 66. Osgood, Col. John, House **Substantive Review** *sr* Keeper Beth L. Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____
- 5166 67. Paine--Dodge House **Substantive Review** *sr* Keeper Beth L. Savage 3/9/90
Attest _____
- 68. Patch, Emeline, House Entered in the National Register *sr* Keeper Melrose Byrum 3/9/90
Attest _____
- 69. Perkins, John, House Entered in the National Register *sr* Keeper Melrose Byrum 3/9/90
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- 70. Proctor, John, House Entered in the National Register *sr* Keeper Melrose Byrum 3/9/90
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY Old Garrison House
NAME:

MULTIPLE First Period Buildings of Eastern Massachusetts TR
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Essex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/19/91 DATE OF PENDING LIST:
DATE OF 16TH DAY: DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/05/91
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000254

NOMINATOR: STATE

DETAILED EVALUATION: Y

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 3/4/91 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

The residence is architecturally significant as the principle surviving example of squared log construction in the Massachusetts Bay Colony.
The acreage problem has been sufficiently clarified.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept C
REVIEWER Savage
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 3/4/91

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y N see attached SLR Y N

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

- ___summary paragraph
- ___completeness
- ___clarity
- ___applicable criteria
- ___justification of areas checked
- ___relating significance to the resource
- ___context
- ___relationship of integrity to significance
- ___justification of exception
- ___other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



Rockport, ITA
Old Garrison
1888 Granitz Street
Italian facade
1985

1st Row Buildings of E. May, TR



Old GARRISON
188 GRANITE ST.
Rockport

1985

S & W FACADES

1st Floor Buildings of E. Ma., TR

31:22



Old Garrison

188 Granite St.

Rockport, MA

1985

Overhang S. facade

1st Period Buildings of T. May, TR

31:26



Old Garrison
188 Granite St.
Rockport, MA
1985

W. (left-hand) room
facing South

2nd Period Buildings of E. May, TR

31:31



Old Garrison
188 Granite St.
Rockport, MA

1985

cyma along beams

1st Porch Buildings of E. May, TR

31:35



Old Garrison
188 Granite St.
Rockport, MA
1985

Left room:
hose let into
log wall

21:36

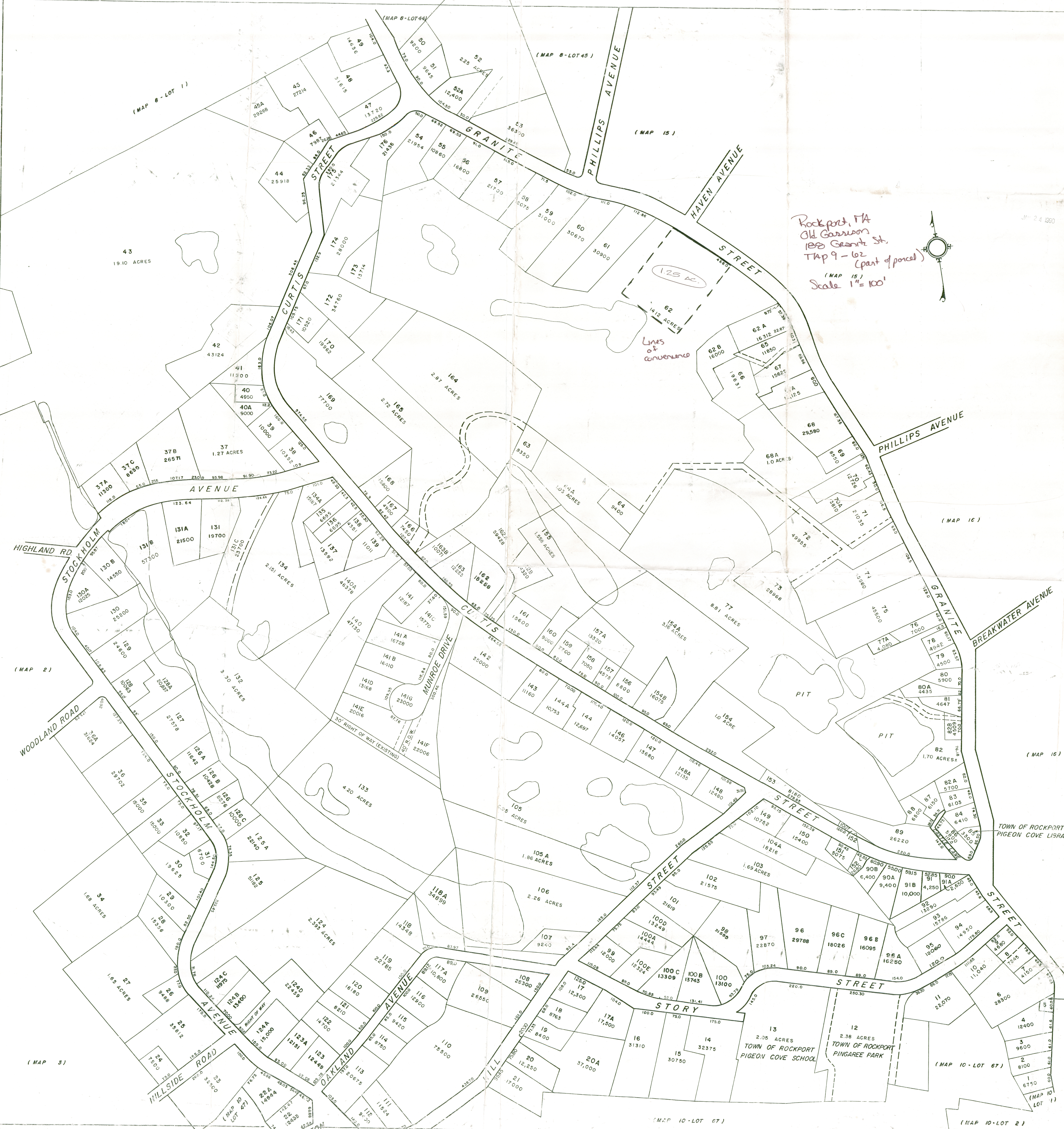


Old Garrison
188 Granite St.
Rockport, MA
1985

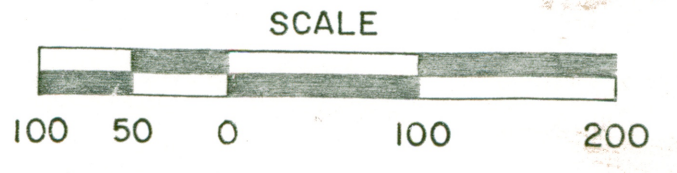
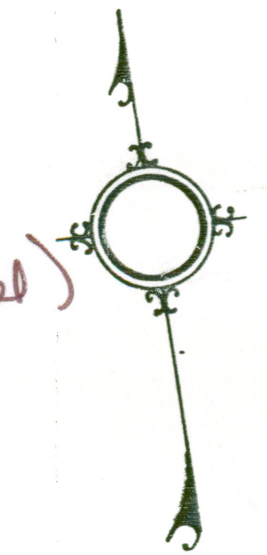
Log door fails at
NW corner

1st Period Buildings of E. Mo., TR

32'.2



Rockport, MA
 Old Garrison
 188 Granite St.
 TAP 9 - 62
 (part of parcel)
 (MAP 15)
 Scale 1" = 100'





11' long
 12' wide
 15' high
 (temp. temp)
 10' x 11' block

12' x 12'

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000281