

**FINAL REPORT ON THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE EXAMINATION
OF THE ROBERT MURRAY FARMHOUSE COMPLEX
ON THE GORE PLACE SOCIETY PROPERTY,
WALTHAM AND WATERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS**



**Prepared for:
Gore Place Society
52 Gore Street
Waltham, Massachusetts
02154**

**Submitted by:
Leith Smith
Fiske Center for Archaeological Research
University of Massachusetts Boston**

Cultural Resources Management Study No. 20

December 2007

Cover Illustration

Farm house of the former Cookson Farm and home to Robert Murray between ca. 1837 and 1856.

Fiske Center for Archaeological Research

The Fiske Center for Archaeological Research was established in 1996 with a mission that includes research, public service, and educational initiatives. The center maintains archaeology and conservation laboratories and supports research in landscape and environmental history. Center projects often have an applied focus, seeking to promote and protect the cultural heritage and historic landscape of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the surrounding region. As a public service unit of the Department of Anthropology, the FCAR also serves an important educational role at the University of Massachusetts, Boston by creating opportunities for students to participate in public service projects.

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ABSTRACT

The Gore Place Society that owns and manages Gore Place, the 1805-1806 estate of Massachusetts state governor and United States senator, Christopher Gore, is preparing to sell 31.11 acres of its property south of Grove Street in Waltham and Watertown, MA. The Massachusetts Historical Commission holds a preservation restriction on the property and recommended a cultural resource evaluation to identify potentially significant cultural resources prior to the land sale. A portion of this land was owned by Gore and served for agricultural production. Four acres making up the former Cookson Farm were not owned by Gore, but became part of the estate grounds after the estate was purchased by Theodore Lyman in 1834. Due to considerable disturbance of the sale parcel by filling and leveling for parking lot and structure construction, only the core of the former Cookson Farm was available for archaeological investigation. Visible cultural resources included the brick foundation of a late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century farm house that was moved to the former Gore mansion grounds in the late 1930s. This house served as the home of estate gardener, Robert Murray, between 1837 and 1856. Seven members of Murray's family and nine laborers also lived in the house. An archaeological site examination (RC#23723) investigated the former farm core with 29 shovel tests and 1, 1x1 m excavation unit that focused on the farm house site and associated terrace as well as surrounding landscape. Identified features include the house foundation, a possible well, possible raised planting bed, cellar hole and midden area. Deep deposits of mixed later nineteenth- and early twentieth-century materials were found around the house and on the terrace to its west. A buried A-horizon containing late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century artifacts was present in some tests in the area. A deep midden deposit was found immediately south of the house and an additional midden area identified by artifact scatters and low mounds is present south east of the house. All of the midden deposits appear to be associated with the occupation period of Robert Murray, evidenced by the chronological period of the artifacts and by the presence of fragmented planting pots. An elevated area of fine sandy loam west of the farm house site is interpreted as a planting bed due to the unique consistency of the soil and low density of artifacts. The former farm core was found to be in an excellent state of preservation. Due to its association with documented estate manager and gardener, Robert Murray, the site maintains the potential to provide data important to the gardening tradition established by Gore earlier in the century (see Smith and Dubell 2006). In addition the site along with Gore Place has important historic and archaeological research and interpretive values for understanding the vital functional role of staff to maintain the estate as well as the social and physical separation with the owners and their families reflecting the trend in social history to interpret the presence, activities and experiences of domestic managers, servants and laborers at the property. The farm site was recommended to meet the Criteria for Eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and D as a contributing property to Gore Place. It was recommended that the farm core be included under a Preservation Restriction to ensure the site's preservation and to include it in an interpretive trail associated with an adjacent pond.

MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

The Gore Place Society contacted the Fiske Center for Archaeological Research at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, to conduct an archaeological site examination of a small portion (approximately 3 acres) of a 31.11 acre tract of land that the Society plans to sell. The tract lies south of Grove Street and immediately south of the main 45-acre mansion house grounds in Waltham and Watertown, MA. The Massachusetts Historical Commission holds a Preservation Restriction on all of the Gore Place property and is assisting the Society in creating a protective covenant for certain portions of the sale parcel. The majority of the project area has been disturbed by parking lot and structure construction, but the core of a former late eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century farm remains intact and this served as the focus of an archaeological site examination conducted under State Archaeologist Permit #2939. Investigations identified archaeological deposits that can be directly associated with occupation of Robert Murray, who served as the estate manager and gardener under estate owners Theodore Lyman and J.S. Copley Green between 1837 and 1856. The farm core is considered significant under National Register of Historic Places Criteria A and D due to the presence of intact archaeological deposits associated with Murray's occupation and their potential for important historic and archaeological research and interpretive values regarding the work and home lives of the estate staff and their families. Recommendations also call for the site's inclusion under a protective covenant and inclusion in an interpretive trail linked to the adjacent pond.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Since 1935 the Gore Place Society has owned and administered Gore Place, the mansion and estate of Massachusetts Governor and U.S. Senator, Christopher Gore and his wife Rebecca, from 1791 to 1834. The Gore property, located at 52 Gore Street in the towns of Waltham and Watertown, Massachusetts, is a National Historic Landmark because of its historical connections to the Gore Family, its depiction of a Federal-period country estate, the design of the house by French architect, Jacques Guillaume Legrand and its exemplary role in the history of domestic managers, servants and laborers. The mansion with its extant 1793 carriage house and extensive grounds is one of a small number of Federal-period country seats in the greater Boston area that have been preserved for the purpose of public education and enjoyment.

The Gore Place Society is planning to sell 31.11 acres of Gore Place Society property that lie immediately south of Grove Street/Waltham Street and outside of the main estate grounds (Figs. 1 and 2). In following its mission of historic preservation and education, the Gore Place Society contacted the Fiske Center for Archaeological Research (FCAR) at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, to document cultural remains still existing on the sale parcel before their potential disturbance by future construction. Investigation of cultural resources was also necessitated by the fact that the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) holds a Preservation Restriction on the Gore Place Society grounds including the 31.11 acres, and is assisting the Society in placing a protective covenant on the sale property before it is sold. Project review by the MHC, therefore, is being conducted in compliance with the terms of the Preservation Restriction. This process requires the identification of significant historic and archaeological resources so that a determination can be made on the feasibility of incorporating such resources into the covenant.

The proposed sale property is composed of several parcels of land that were held by various owners until they were incorporated into the estate, first by Gore and then by subsequent estate owners. Land at the west end of the parcel (southeast of the intersection of present Grove and Gore Streets) was originally part of the Ward Farm until it was purchased by Gore to serve for agricultural fields. Gore's purchase included a small wetland further east that was modified as early as the 1840s to create a pond. The present sale parcel also contains a small 4-acre farm complex immediately east of the wetland that was never owned by Gore, but became part of the estate soon after Gore's death and has remained part of the estate grounds to the present. This portion of the sale parcel contains structural and archaeological remains associated with a small farm complex that came to be the home of estate gardener, Robert Murray between the late 1830s and mid 1850s. Additional land further east and south became part of the estate after its ownership by Marshall Spring and his heirs in the 1830s and 40s. Today the site of Gore's former fields at the northwest end of the parcel consists of an extensive asphalt parking lot. The southeast portion of covered with factory buildings, while the south and east portions have also been modified and paved for parking. The pond has been modified to varying degrees by filling during the twentieth century, leaving the north central portion of the parcel where the farm was once located to be the least disturbed. Most of the former farm site has also been filled and paved, but the area of the farm core is now wooded and remains in a good state of preservation with the farm house foundation clearly visible on the ground surface. The farm house itself remains intact on the main grounds of the former Gore estate where it was moved by the Gore

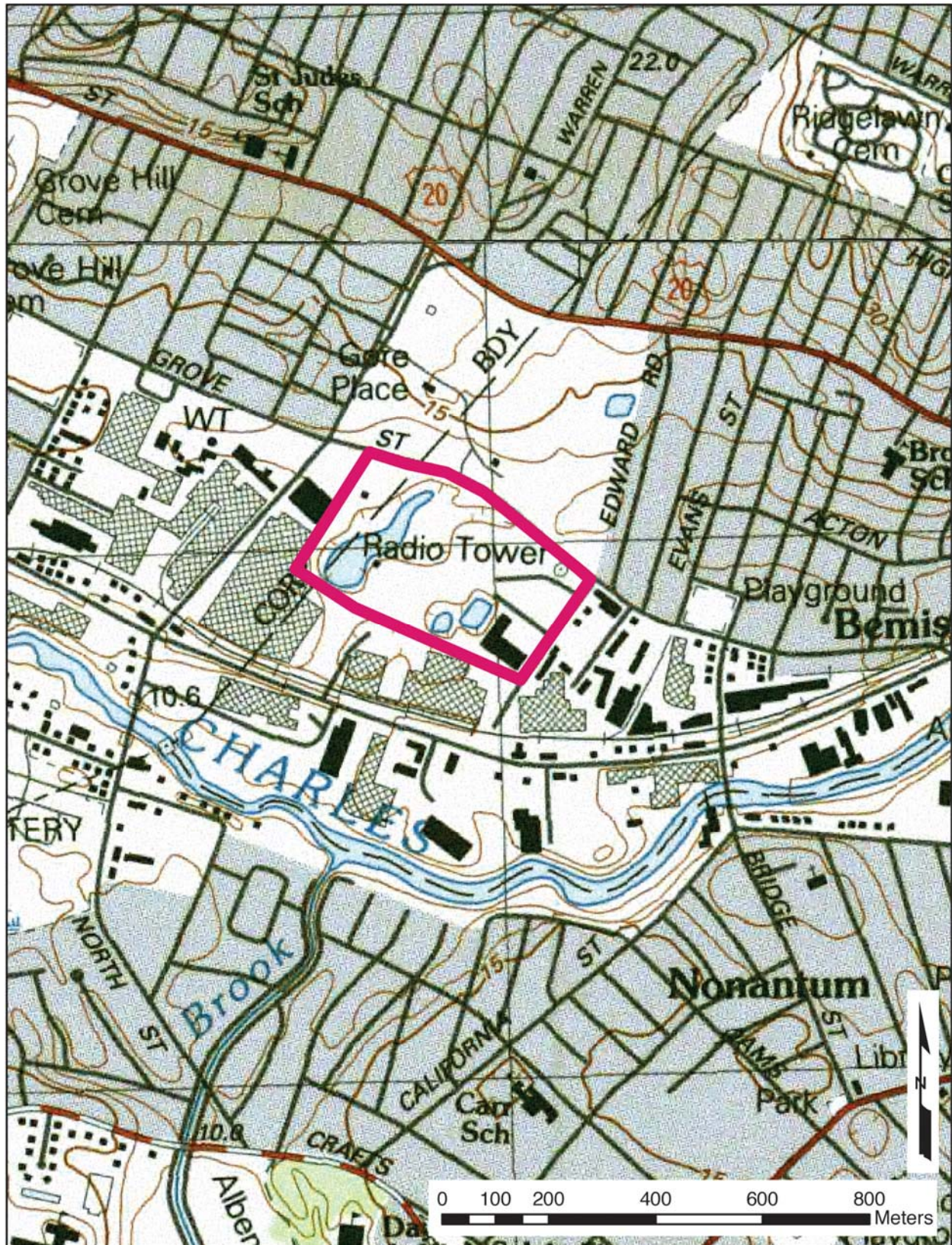
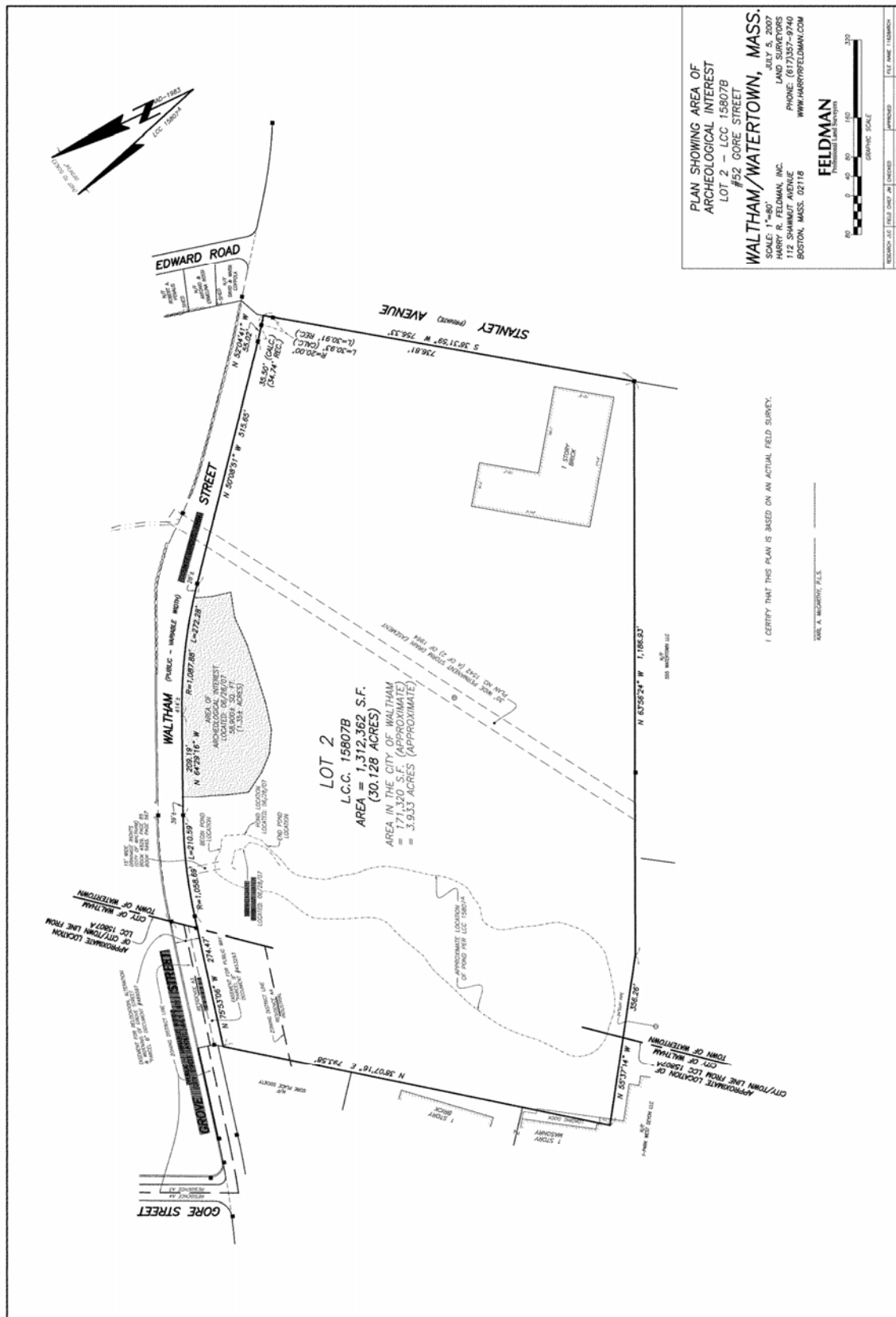


Figure 1. Gore Place Society sale parcel on USGS Boston South Quadrangle.



Place Society in the early part of the twentieth century to ensure its preservation. The house today serves as the home of the resident overseer and farm manager (Fig. 3). Cultural resource investigations focused on the undisturbed core area of the historic farm south of Grove Street. The margins of the existing pond were not assessed due to significant historic and more recent disturbance to the area and due to the fact that the pond and its margins will be protected under a preservation covenant.



Figure 3. Farm house as it appears today in the southeastern portion of the contiguous 45-acres. The original farm house foundation lies in the woods south of Grove Street that can be seen beyond the house (facing south).

At the outset of this project, little was known of the history of the farm, other than the fact that it served as the home of Robert Murray, the gardener for the estate while it was owned by Theodore Lyman Jr. and J. S. Copley Greene between ca. 1837 and 1856. The farm house is depicted on maps as early as 1830 (Fig. 4) and this may be the structure mentioned by Gore in an 1823 record of a walk on his property, even though he did not own the farm property. Depiction of the “farm lot” on an 1841 plan of the Greene estate (Fig. 5) shows this area to contain a “gardeners cottage,” barn, two additional outbuildings of substantial size and possibly a garden or fenced animal corral (Fig. 6). An additional structure interpreted as an icehouse is depicted south of this complex and immediately east of the pond. Nothing is known of the use of the farm

lot during the second half of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries when Robert Murray no longer cared for the estate grounds. Archaeological investigations were performed in compliance with the terms of the Preservation Restriction and the Massachusetts State Archaeologist's permit regulations (950 CFR 70). University of Massachusetts staff and students who worked on the project included Leith Smith, Peter Mogaard, Ashley Peles and Stephanie Tice.

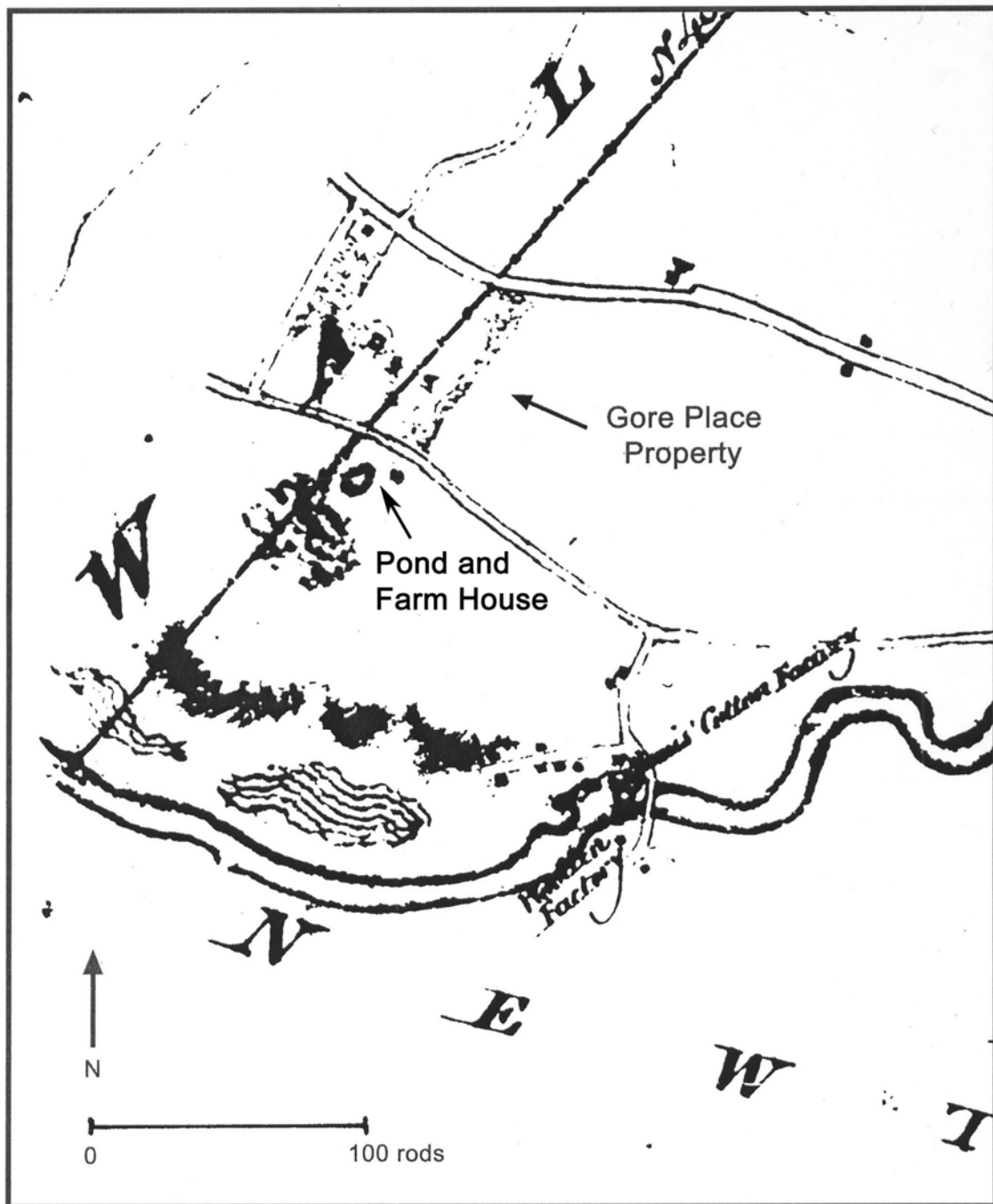
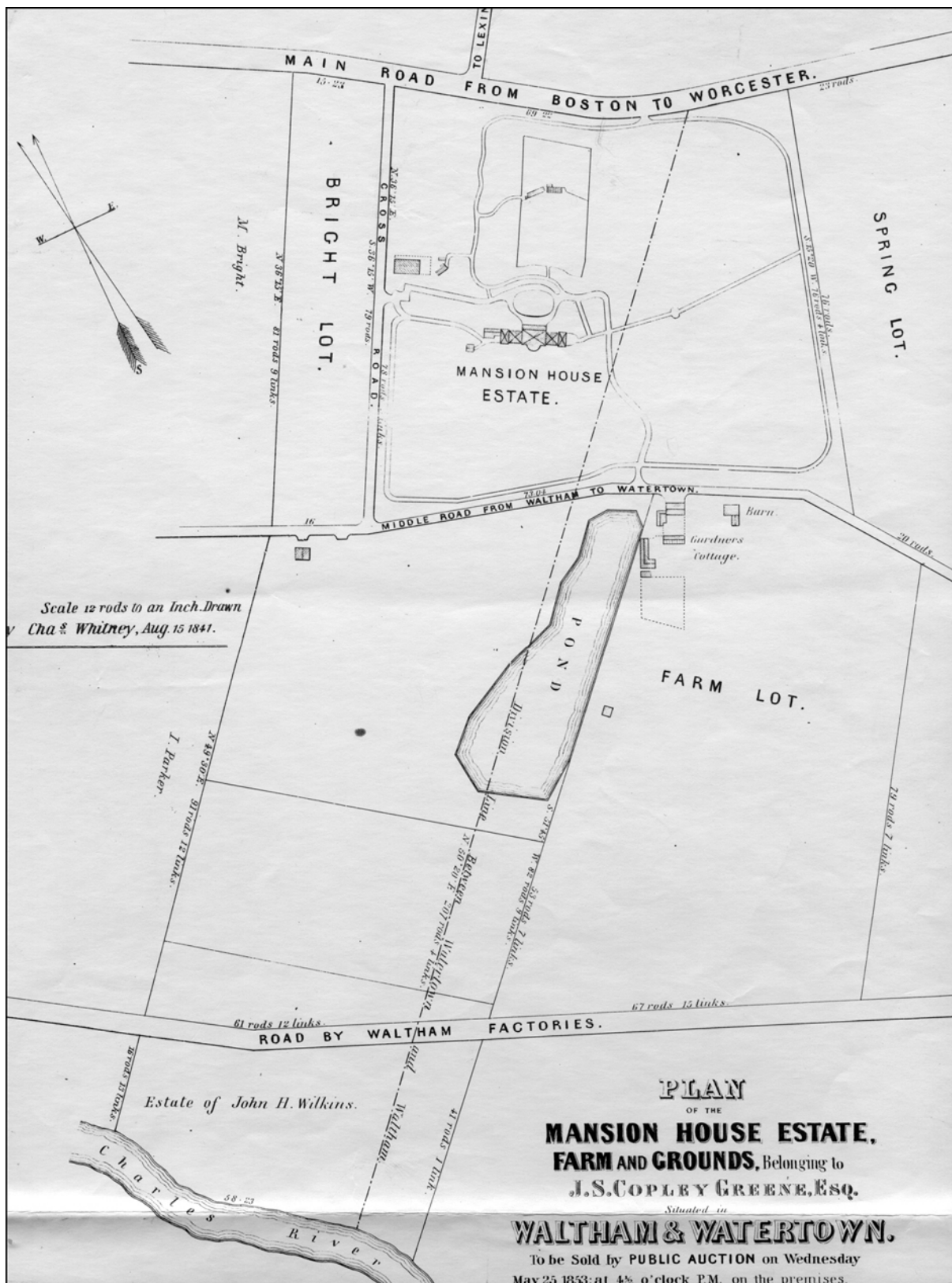


Figure 4. Pond and farm house depicted on detail of 1830 Plan of Watertown.



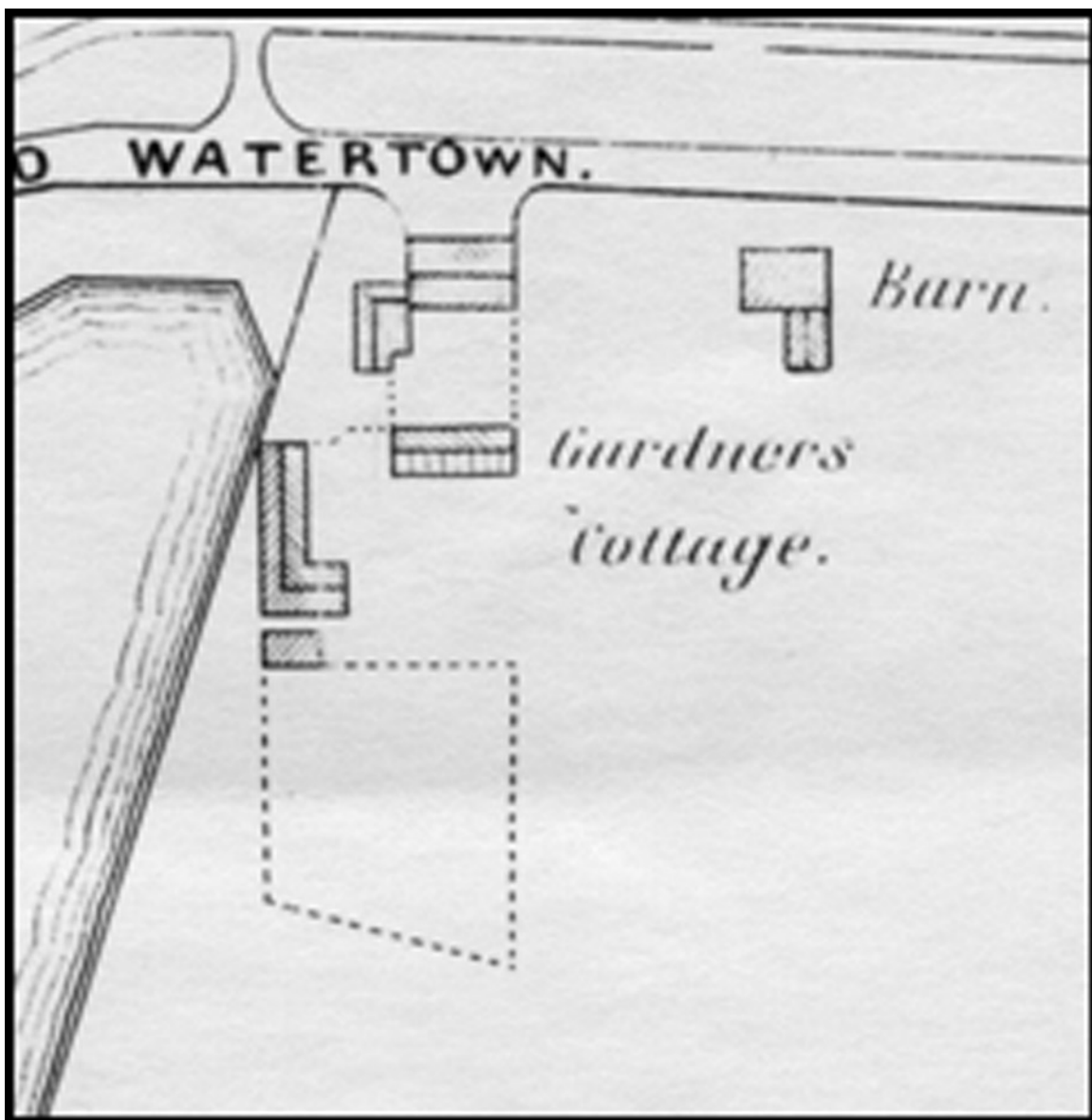


Figure 6. Detail of J. S. Copley Green estate map (1841) depicting the farm core.
The farm house is mistakenly labeled as "barn."

II. PROJECT LOCATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTEXT

The Gore Place Society property consists of 45 contiguous acres bordered by Main Street (Route 20) on the north, Edward Road on the east, Grove Street on the south and Gore Street on the west. The additional 31.11 acres planned to be sold are located immediately south of the contiguous property and are bounded by Grove Street on the north, Seyon Street on the west and Stanley Avenue on the east. The south boundary consists of rear lot lines of businesses adjacent to Pleasant Street (see Fig. 2, Fig. 7). Both parcels are situated on the boundary between the towns of Waltham to the west and Watertown to the east in Middlesex County. The sale property is approximately 2000 ft (609.6 m) north of the Charles River and lies at the upper extent of the upper Charles River flood plain and just south of the northern upland. The sale parcel consists of very gently rolling landscape, much of which has been filled and leveled by structure and parking lot construction. The area of the farm core is elevated along a portion of Grove Street and immediately northeast of the pond. The remainder of the area drops in elevation and rises slightly along the parking lot that creates an artificial south border to the core. Drainage in the area is toward the pond (former wetland) to the west, but eastward drainage has been cut off by landscape modification. The original drainage pattern would have been eastward toward a small stream that originates north of Main Street and crosses the eastern portion of the contiguous acreage. Its course appears to have been altered by filling and channeling and has been completely piped south of Grove Street. Drainage south and westward originally would have been toward adjacent wetland that now consists of filled land and the man-made pond. Thus, the farm as it once existed was probably bordered by low wetlands to the east, south and west, while the farm house was situated on a small area of higher ground that represented an extension of elevated terrain from further north. All of the farm core area is lightly wooded with the exception of a grass and brush covered field immediately east of the pond.

A. Soils

Soil in the southern portion of the contiguous Gore Place acreage is composed of Hinckley Loamy Sand with 3-5% slopes (USDA 1995). The Hinckley series ranges from a friable and gravelly or very gravelly sandy loam to a loamy coarse sand, both of which have rapid permeability making them excessively drained. The substratum at 12-30 in. consists of stratified sands and gravels. These soils form on gravelly and cobbly, coarse-textured glacial outwash plains, terraces, kames and eskers. This soil type extends across Grove Street to the farm core project area, but according to the USDA soil maps, the entire sale parcel including the shore of the pond consists of Udorthents Wet Substratum. Udorthents soils characterize areas that have been excavated or contain redeposited soils from construction activities. This soil type clearly characterizes much or all of the area surrounding the farm core, but much of the core itself remains within the Hinckley series although some of this area has been modified by historic occupation.

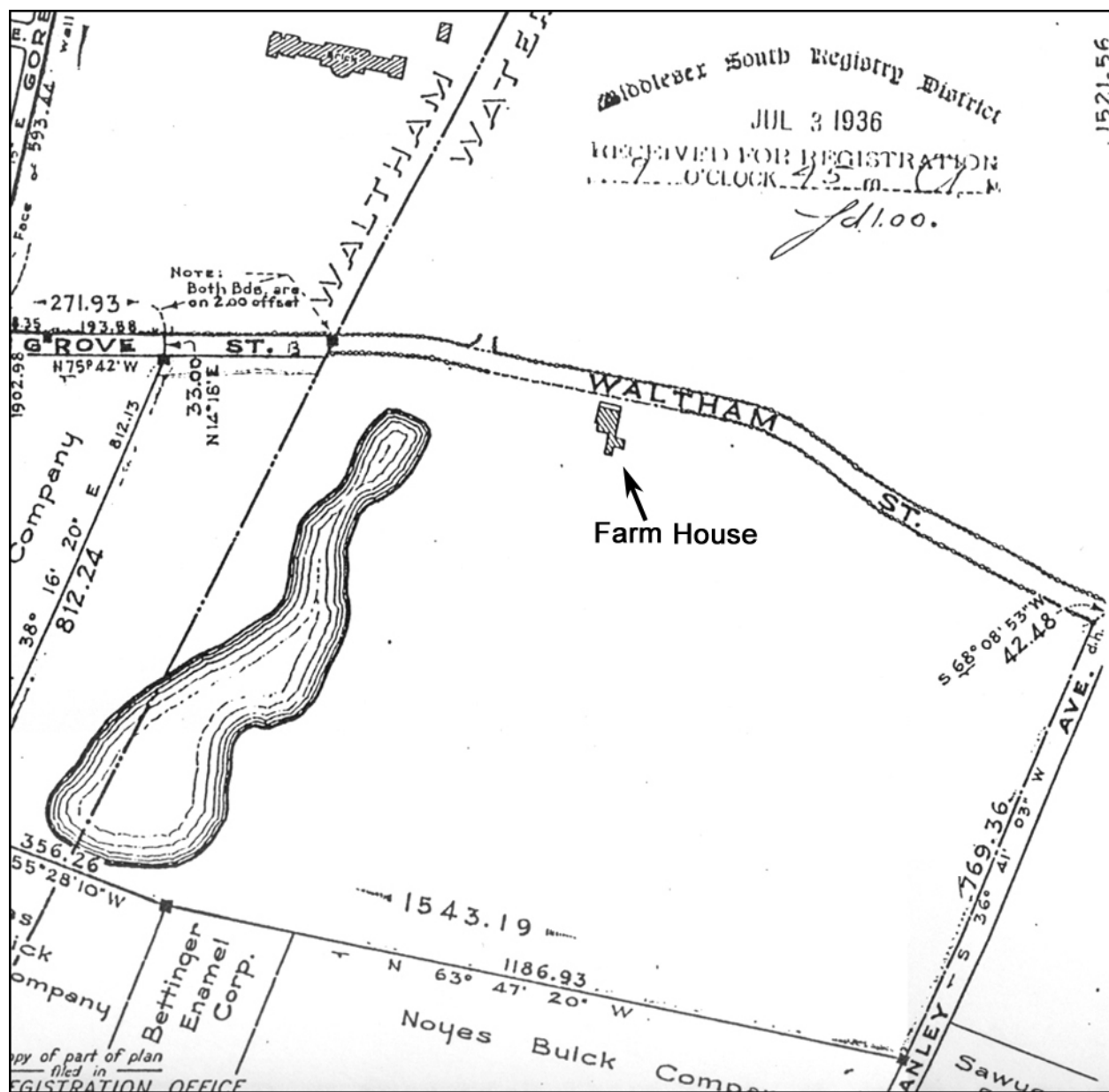


Figure 7. Detail of Gore Place Society property in 1936 depicting the farm house location.

III. BACKGROUND

A. Summary History of the Gore Place Property

1. Seventeenth- and Early Eighteenth-Century Ownership/Occupation

Much of the present Gore Place property was originally part of a tract of land granted to the Reverend George Phillips, co-founder with Sir Richard Saltonstall of Watertown, as early as the 1630s. In 1651 the parcel was sold by Phillips' heirs to Edward Garfield. The lands were sold by Samuel Garfield to Samuel Brown of Leicester, Massachusetts in 1742. Over the remainder of the year ownership passed through several hands, ultimately, ending with John and Hannah Brown who purchased "the mansion house and barn with 12 acres of plowing and pasture land." In 1744 the property was sold to James Davenport together with a "mansion house and barn and other buildings." Davenport kept an inn known as "Davenports Corner" that was located on the southeast corner of Main and Cross (renamed Gore) Streets. The property again changed hands in 1752 when Davenport sold to John Gould, "with the mansion house, barn, and all other buildings." Gould held the property for investments, renting the inn to Thomas Wellington Jr., who ran it until 1769. The lands and inn were sold to Jonathan Brewer in 1770. The inn was known as "Brewer's Tavern" and according to an oral account by Benjamin Worcester and William Farwell in 1904, the tavern was built ca. 1745, was divided in half, and in 1834/5 one half was moved across Main Street and became the residence of Isaac Farwell. The remnants of that structure survived on the southeast corner of Gore and Main Streets until after 1922 (Hammond 1986). The widening of Gore Street in the late 1960s likely impacted much of the tavern site.

2. Gore Occupation ca. 1786-1834

The history of the Gore family in Waltham began in 1786 when Christopher and Rebecca Gore purchased 50 acres of land from Aaron Dexter. This transfer consisted of a 33-acre parcel, known as the "mansion house lot," that contained a mansion house, barn and other outbuildings, and a separate parcel of 18 acres with no improvements. Additional acreage purchased by the Gores in 1791 included the 34 acre "homestead lot" or "forty acre lot" to the north and the 75-acre "Ward Farm" that bordered the Charles River to the south. The acquisition of additional wood lots created a total of 197 acres owned by the Gores by 1834. The mansion house lot and an adjacent 12 acre parcel that was not actually owned by the Gores together make up the contiguous 45-acre Gore Place estate, while a portion of the "Ward Farm" makes up the western part of the sale parcel.

The presence of an existing mansion house at the time of Gore's 1786 purchase suggests that he may have rehabilitated the old structure for his own mansion and at the same time (1793) constructed a new carriage house at the west end of the entrance drive. The mansion house consisted of a central block plan with flanking wings (Brockway 2001:23) situated on the crest of a glacial flood plain terrace of the Charles River. From 1796-1804, while the Gores were living in London, Rebecca Gore's brother, William Payne, served as caretaker of the mansion house and grounds, and he later claimed to have "laid out many of the present walks" (Hammond 1986). Waltham tax records for 1798 list a number of tracts of land owned by Christopher Gore as well as a barn, paper mill and house. The grapery/fruitwall that was located approximately 130 m (427 ft.) north of the mansion house was either present or constructed

around this time as was the flower garden since both landscape features are aligned with the pre-1805 mansion house. A greenhouse was attached to the end of the east wing and it was there that a fire started in 1799 that destroyed all of the house but the west wing.

The Gores constructed a new brick mansion on the same site between 1805 and 1806. Other improvements made to the property around this time were construction of a greenhouse (probably located adjacent to the east end of the carriage house), a vegetable garden north of the carriage house (this may have existed previously), ice house and other support buildings (Brockway 2001:23). In addition, a 10-acre field was present northeast of the house and a twelve-acre field was to its south. The main farm complex lay across Main Street to the north, leaving much of the grounds surrounding the mansion house to be used for pleasure.

Actual occupation of the property by the Gores was intermittent between 1793 and 1834, during which time they also stayed in Boston, Paris and London. As noted, William Payne stayed at the house beginning in 1796 when the Gores left for seven years in London. William was living in the house at the time of the 1799 fire and may have remained on the property until the new house was completed in 1806. Other potential occupants of the property included house servants, gardeners and farm managers. Occupation by Rebecca after the death of Christopher in 1827 is unclear, but by the time of her death in 1834, Judge Charles Jackson was renting the property.

3. Lyman Occupation ca. 1834-1838

The parcel containing the “mansion house, stable, vinery and sheds” was purchased by Theodore Lyman Jr. in the same year (1834). Theodore immediately enlarged the size of the estate by purchasing 46 acres of the former Ward Farm. In 1835 he purchased the 8-acre Bright Lot west of Gore Street, and in 1836 purchased a 4-acre tract with a dwelling house and barn, known as the Cookson Farm, situated south of Grove Street and east of the former Ward Farm parcel owned by Gore and then owned by Lyman (Fig. 8). Land east and south of the Cookson Farm lot that was included in the 31.11 acre sale lot continued to be owned by the heirs of Marshall B. Spring until it was sold, possibly in the 1840s or 50s. Theodore and his wife, Mary, maintained a keen interest in scientific agriculture and in further developing the pleasure gardens on the property. A farm manager and gardener, Robert Murray, was hired around 1836 to oversee garden improvements and he, his family and a group of laborers occupied the recently acquired farm house. Changes brought about by Murray and the Lymans included redesigning the formal flower garden north of the house following a modern European style that stressed curves over the earlier rectilinear forms of the eighteenth century. Greenhouse facilities and the grapery may also have been improved around the same time that the house was painted white. Mary Lyman died in 1836 prompting Theodore to put the property up for auction.

4. Green Occupation ca. 1838-1856

John Singleton Copley Greene purchased the estate on October 23rd, 1838 and continued to employ Robert Murray, who maintained plantings in two greenhouses as well as the general pleasure garden character of the property. Murray may have moved out of the farm house when the estate was sold in 1856, but it is possible he continued working at the estate.

5. Walker Occupation ca. 1856-1907

The Greens sold the mansion house lot in 1856 to Theophilus Walker, and it is he and his family who occupied the estate for 34 years before conveying it to his nieces, Mary Sophia and Harriet Sarah Walker in 1890. A number of changes appear to have been made to the property during this period that include removal of the vegetable garden north of the carriage house and removal of the greenhouse east of the carriage house.

6. Episcopal Church Ownership ca. 1907-1911

Mary Sophia bequeathed the property to the Episcopal Church on October 10th, 1907. The church sold the property after only four years, but not before a company based in Colorado to whom the property had been leased, caused considerable damage by removing trees and household furnishings. The company set up a sawmill on the estate to cut down some of Copley Greene's "tasteless plantations" (Hammond 1986).

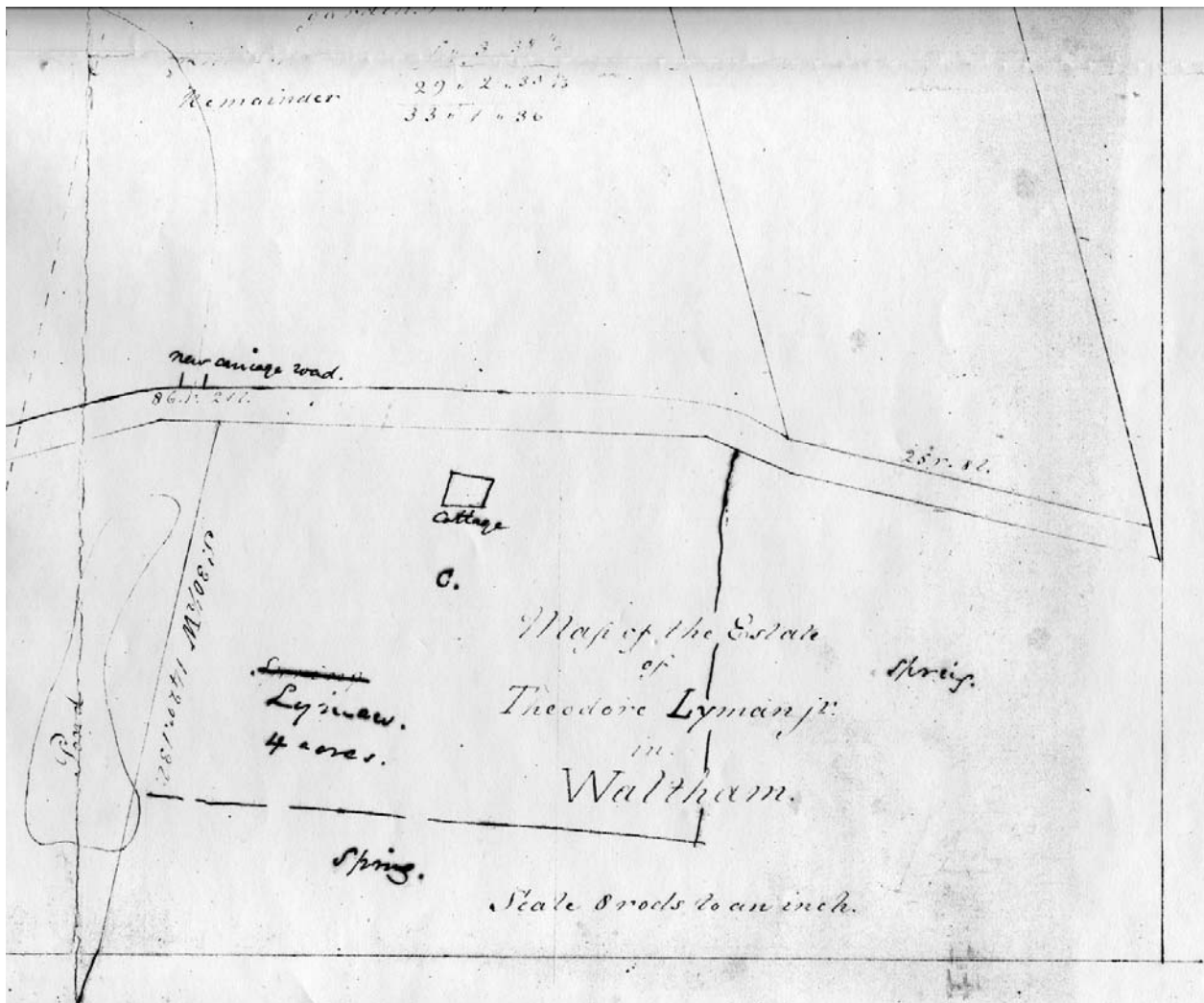


Figure 8. Detail of map of the estate of Theodore Lyman drawn between 1834 and 1838 depicting the 4-acre Cookson Lot purchased in 1836.

7. Metz Occupation ca. 1911-1921

The estate was purchased in 1911 by Charles H. Metz, who used the house for office and living space. Metz was one of the 1894 founders of the Waltham Mfg. Co. that produced bicycles, namely the “Orient” at the Rumford Avenue Plant. He later experimented with motorcycles and in 1909 incorporated the Metz Co. that produced automobiles in a new facility on Seyon Street until 1926. It was during Metz’s ownership that the neighborhood surrounding the estate saw significant change through the development of residential housing and the expansion of industrial buildings, including his own that occupied a portion of the old Ward Farm parcel that includes the southwestern portion of the 31.11 acre sale parcel. Thus the very southeast corner of the sale parcel was covered with Metz’s factory buildings, while the land north of these that formerly served as Gore’s farm fields may have been paved for automobile parking and storage. The eastern portion of the sale parcel by this time probably began to be subdivided for home construction.

8. Waltham Country Club Occupation 1921-1935

On July 11th, 1921 “the old Gore estate” was sold to Henry Beal and the trustees of the Waltham Country Club (Hammond 1986). Substantial changes were made to the property during this period as much of the landscape was transformed into a golf course with additional recreational facilities.

9. Gore Place Society Occupation ca. 1935-Present

The Waltham Country Club went bankrupt in 1935 and the estate was sold to the newly formed Gore Place Society that has preserved and maintained the estate to the present. The following year a Historic American Buildings Survey plan of the estate included the farm house (Fig. 9).

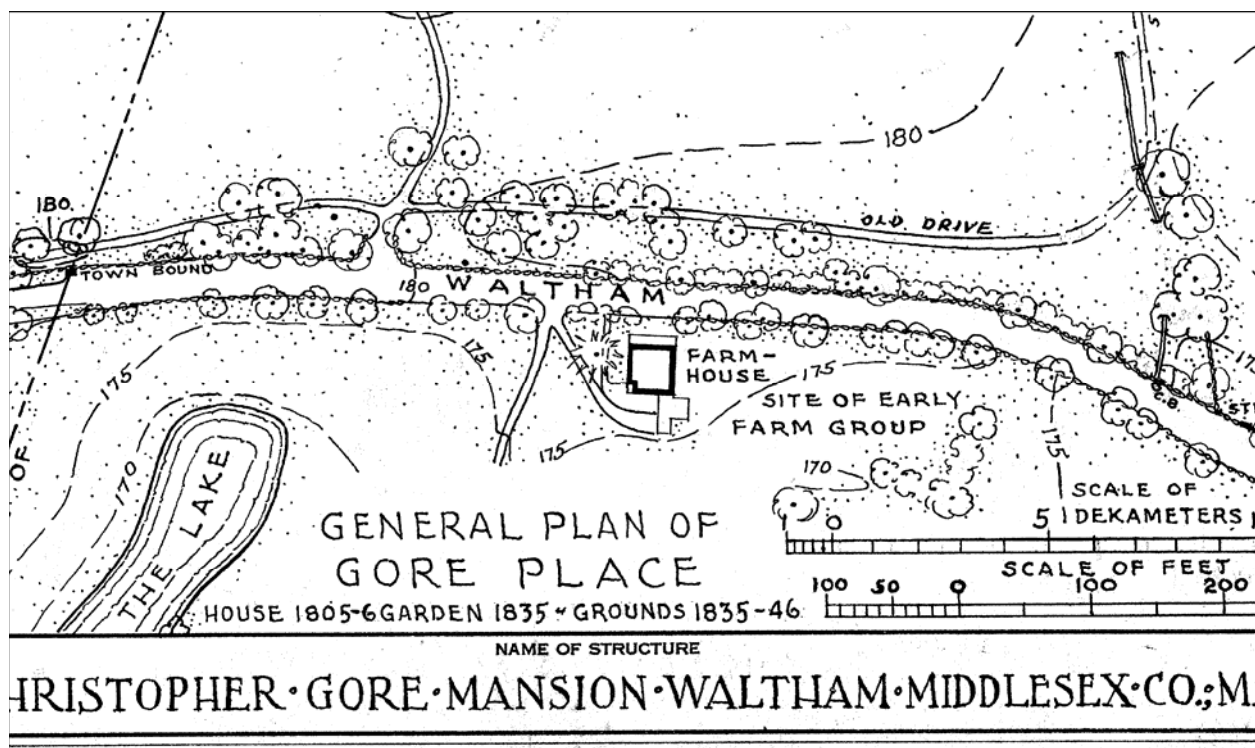


Figure 9. Detail of 1936 HABS plan of Gore Place depicting the farm house.

B. History of the Four-acre Farm Lot

The farm is generally referred to as the Cookson farm or lot, presumably from an eighteenth-century owner since the Cookson name appears only in Middlesex deed listings for the eighteenth century and is absent from the nineteenth century. The earliest definitive record of occupation of the farm lot dates to 1825 when Marshall B. Spring died, leaving all of his real estate including this property to his four minor children (Middlesex Probate D21133). It is clear that Spring was very wealthy and would not have occupied the farm himself, but rather held it as one of many investment properties. Spring's chosen guardian for his children, Edward M. Robbins Jr., managed Spring's estate, but by 1830 Robbins petitioned the Probate Court to be relieved of his guardianship due to extreme hardship. The court appointed William Minot as new guardian and he wasted no time in putting accounts in order. A complete list of properties was drawn up the same year and the Cookson Lot was valued at \$625.00. The renter of the farm house was Moses Bright, who paid \$100 on August 6, 1830, presumably for back rent payment. At the same time, Bright was paid \$20.00 for repair of the fences.

One of Minot's duties as guardian was to dispose of the real estate to the benefit of the minors. To this end, an intention of sale of the 4-acre property was presented to the Probate Court on September 1, 1836, and public notice of the sale was published in the Independent Chronicle and Boston Patriot between Oct. 11th and November 16th. The reason given to the court for the sale was that "the buildings on said lot of land are very old and much decayed and the act of repairing the same would be so great as to make the working of the same unprofitable to said Minors..." (MP D21133:21). The property went to public auction and was purchased by Theodore Lyman Jr. for \$1200.00 with the premises "subject to a lease to H. Gibson to April 1, 1837" (MD L378:214). The property was described in the Probate Court petition as "a certain lot of land on the south side of the back road leading from Watertown Bridge to Waltham Factories, [the northeast corner is at the bridge] bounded northeasterly on said road thence measuring about thirty five rods; southeasterly on other land of said Minors about twenty five rods; southwesterly on other land of said Minors about thirty rods; and northwesterly on land late of C. Gore Esq. due about twenty rods containing four acres with a dwelling house and barn standing thereon."

It is likely that Robert Murray moved in following the departure of the tenant and after repairs were completed sometime in 1837. Murray was born around 1807 in Scotland and at the age of 27 departed the town of Leith on the brig Dalmarnock. He arrived in New York on May 27, 1834 and listed his occupation as "Gardner." Whether he came to a prearranged job or happened to find his way to Lyman's estate is not known. It is also not known if he arrived as a married man, but by 1836 he was married to Esther from England and their first child was born the same year. By 1850 Robert (aged 43) was employed as a gardener and living at the former Cookson Farm with his wife (aged 42) along with six children:

Mary, age 14	Esther, age 10
Robert, age 13	Ma...., age 8
William, age 10	Henry, age 5

Surprisingly, the Murray family was joined in the same household in 1850 by nine other residents, potentially recent immigrants from Ireland and one from Scotland. With the exception of the one woman, all are listed as laborers and include:

George Cruckshanks, age 22 (Scotland)
Patrick Cannon, age 24
Patrick McAlastor, age 24
Patrick Hogan, age 23
John Welsh, age 22

Patrick Farney, age 25
Hugh Gilson, age 21
Judy Ryan, age 22
Jeremiah Sullivan, age 21

Robert and his family likely occupied the house until at least 1856 when the former Gore estate was sold by the Greens to the Walkers. By 1870 Robert, aged 64 and Esther (aged 62) were living in the East Lexington area of Waltham along with their oldest daughter, Mary (then aged 30) and possibly with a renter, William Coburn, aged 23, who worked in the watch factory. Robert's occupation was listed as "Landscape Gardner," but whether he was still working at the estate is not known. The absence of Robert from the 1890 census implies he had died by this time. It is likely that the farm house was rented after Murray's departure and continued to be occupied possibly into the 1940s or 50s based upon the construction of a cement driveway, the presence of a buried electric cable and auto parts on the ground surface. Archaeological deposits also suggest the house was occupied at the time the estate was purchased by the Gore Place Society and for a period of time thereafter. It is also possible that some fill soil containing refuse may have been deposited in the area of the house after it was moved. Concern for the house's safety was one of the reasons for moving it to its present location, but the date of moving is as yet unclear.

C. Archaeological Potential of the Gore Place Society Property

Development of predictive models for the location of archaeological sites is predicated upon a number of factors including known site locations and a general sense of past landscape use and its level of preservation.

1. Native American Sites

Evidence of Native American prehistoric occupation has been identified in New England in many types of settings, but these are most often found in particular environmental contexts that share a number of characteristics (Funk 1972; Root 1978; Thorbahn et al. 1980; McManamon 1984; Mulholland 1984; Thorbahn 1988, 1984; Nicholas 1988, 1990). Models of archaeological potential take these common characteristics into account to predict the location of prehistoric resources (Dincauze 1974; Hoffman 1985; Kenyon and McDowell 1983; Ritchie 1983). These models are generally based on three variables: topography, soil type and proximity to a source of fresh water. Variables offering the greatest potential for prehistoric settlement consist of flat to gently sloped topography, well-drained sandy soil, and a distance of under 300 m (1,000 ft) to fresh water. Localities of medium to low potential are, therefore, greater than 300 m (1,000 ft) from fresh water and/or have poorly drained or rocky soils on moderate to steep slopes. Factors that hold lesser importance, but nevertheless can contribute to site location include proximity to additional resources such as hunting grounds, fishing sites and seasonal food gathering localities, a south facing exposure for cold season occupation, lithic material for tool manufacture and even clay for pottery production. Access to transportation routes in the form of paths and rivers can also be influential.

The combination of these factors provides a framework within which prehistoric settlement has been analyzed. Findings to date suggest that Paleoindian and Early Archaic sites are frequently

located around glacial lake margins. These sites are usually small and often represent single episodes or short-term occupations involving hunting and gathering as well as the processing of natural resources. Sites associated with the Middle and Late Archaic periods tend to be located on the banks of major rivers such as the Assabet and Merrimack, and on the edges of upland wetlands and streams. The upland interior sites tend to be small, probably associated with exploitation of specific resources. Larger, repeatedly used sites tend to be present next to large wetlands and at fords or rapids in rivers to take advantage of anadromous fish runs. Occupation associated with the Late Archaic and Woodland periods is characterized by a trend toward exploitation of major river estuaries and coastal environments. In time this adaptation came to be characterized by long-term seasonal occupation of large settlements accompanied by short-term occupation of camps associated with seasonally available inland plant and animal resources potentially collected by family-based groups. Those sites that offered a southern exposure as protection from winter weather and consistent access to food sources came to be occupied throughout the year.

These generalized patterns suggest that Native occupation of the Charles River drainage is most likely to have occurred during the Archaic and Woodland periods. Primary food sources would have included fish from the Charles River and tributary streams, migratory birds, locally available small and large game, reptiles and numerous plant foods including nuts and cultivated products as the Woodland period progressed. The gently sloped and reasonably well-drained soils coupled with the southern exposure of the Gore Place setting represent ideal conditions for Native occupation. The only potentially limiting factor is the distance of around 800 m to a major river. Secondary water sources likely consisted of the stream on the eastern portion of the property and the wetland south of Grove Street that was later excavated to create a pond.

The assessment of known Native American archaeological sites in the Waltham/Watertown area reveals the presence of Middle Archaic through Late Woodland occupations that tend to be associated with the lower Charles River floodplain or upland streams. The combination of locational characteristics and presence of known archaeological sites in the area suggests a medium to high potential for the presence of Archaic and Woodland period Native American sites. The fact that portions of the original ground surface within the property have been disturbed reduces the probability of intact cultural remains, but this does not negate the potential for their presence in undisturbed or minimally disturbed contexts.

2. Historic Sites

The same characteristics that made the project area potentially attractive to Native occupants were also attractive to Europeans. Throughout its history the property has been characterized as agricultural in the broader context of a rural estate established by at least the 1740s. The extensive documentary record that spans the eighteenth- through twentieth-centuries as well as resources that exist or are known to have been present within the contiguous estate suggests a high potential for historic archaeological deposits within the area as a whole.

D. Present Condition and Archaeological Potential of the Former Cookson Lot

Walkover of the core area revealed a brick and cement foundation measuring approximately 4 m x 5 m, representing the original site of the farm house. This is located on the southeast edge of a terrace that appeared to have been modified by flattening and filling. This terrace drops

approximately 1.5 m in elevation to the south. A fairly dense scatter of fragmented modern bottle glass and refuse is present on the site, derived in part from pedestrian and car refuse disposal along Grove Street. Cultural features noted in the lower elevated area include a probable well, small depression, isolated stone and brick clusters, cellar hole and several possible midden areas. The middens consist of both mounded and level sheet refuse that is dominated by coal, oyster shell, brick, mortar, bone and a few glass and ceramic fragments. Immediately southwest of the farm core is a low-lying grass-covered field that abuts the east edge of the modified pond and wetland.

Continuous occupation of the Gore Place landscape since the seventeenth or early eighteenth centuries clearly suggested a high potential for historic period archaeological resources. Construction of the farm house situated on the southeast edge of Gore's estate was likely during the late eighteenth or early nineteenth centuries. The fact that this farm was occupied by the gardener and manager of the Lyman and Greene estates for approximately 20 years suggests that associated archaeological deposits, if present, possess the potential to provide important information on the middle to lower-middle class household of a skilled laborer that potentially is analogous to estate or farm overseer households. Such contexts are extremely rare in New England and would represent a valuable resource for understanding not only the status and standard of living of such an individual and his family, but also the relationship between such workers and estate heads.

As noted in the MHC's review letter of June 4, 2007, "Robert Murray is discussed in the 1970 nomination for the National Register of Historic Places, which indicates that he was chiefly responsible for the relandscaping of the estate grounds. The 1996 National Historic Landmark (NHL) nomination, while focusing chiefly on the domestic servants, also mentions the separate farm staff although the discussion relates to the Gore period. The NHL nomination notably recognizes the vital functional role of the staff to maintain the property, and the social and physical separation with the owners and their families, reflecting the trend in social history to interpret the presence and activities and experiences of domestic managers, servants, and laborers at the property." It is worth noting that a similar gardener's home site was archaeologically investigated at the Martin Van Buren estate by the National Park Service (Stephen Pendery pers. comm.) (NPS nd.) and could provide an interesting source of comparison. Data obtained from a number of other projects focusing on eighteenth through twentieth-century landscape studies that represent potential sources for comparison include work at the Lyman estate also in Waltham (Lewis 1996), the Mount in Lenox, MA., (Binzen and Kelley 2000, 2001), the Loring-Greenough House in Jamaica Plain (Smith and Howlett 2004); the Spencer-Pierce-Little Farm in Newbury (Beaudry, Mary 1996; Buatti, Erika 2001); the Frederick Law Olmstead property in Brookline (Hagar Geoscience Inc. 2004, Heitert, Kristen B. 2004); and the Longfellow House in Cambridge (Bechtel and Bechtel 2001; Griswold and Pendery 1999; Smith 2001).

E. Previous Investigations

An archaeological site examination of various structural and landscape features including the entrance drive, carriage house, greenhouse, vegetable garden, flower garden and graperies north and west of the mansion house was performed in 2004 and 2005 and is reported in Smith and Dubell (2006). In addition, Gore's interest in scientific agriculture served as the focus of

Dubell's (2007) master's thesis. Observations of repairs made to the front terrace of the mansion house were made by Dr. Stephen Pendery in 1989.

IV. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE EXAMINATION

A. Research Design

A significant amount of historical research on Gore Place was conducted by Lucinda Brockway (2001) for her Landscape History and additional research was conducted for previous archaeological investigations (Smith and Dubell 2006), but little of this work focused on the farm lot that was not part of Gore's original estate. From the listing of Cookson names in the Middlesex Registry of Deeds it is clear that ownership of the 4-acre farm extends back to the late eighteenth century, but the commencement of occupation as indicated by construction of the farm house is not yet clear. The house was in existence with a renter by 1825 based upon probate records associated with Marshall B. Spring, and a renter remained in place until April 1, 1837 according to the terms of sale when Theodore Lyman Jr. purchased the property. The house may have been repaired at that time (assuming it actually was in a dilapidated condition) and then was occupied by the Robert Murray family and renters until at least 1856. Occupation history after this time is unknown.

The primary goal of the archaeological site examination was to identify and document the range of cultural resources within the historic farm core. Within this context, effort focused on generating a general understanding of landscape use through time given the fact that a number of features were evident on the ground surface. This required investigation of individual features as well as open spaces. One of the objects of this work was to determine if specific archaeological deposits could be associated with specific periods of occupation and more importantly with specific individuals, namely, Robert Murray who was identified as a person of particular interest. A number of questions helped to guide this work as noted below.

1. What is the general state of preservation of the core of the former farm lot?
2. What is the earliest evidence of occupation of the property?
3. The question of the place of pre-Gore and Gore period refuse disposal was raised during previous archaeological investigations north of the Gore mansion house. Because low-lying terrain often serves for such purposes, investigations also focused on identifying potential refuse deposits associated with occupants of the neighboring mansion house.
4. What do archaeological deposits and documentary research suggest regarding the age of the farm house?
5. Are archaeological deposits associated with the 1837-1856 tenure of gardener, Robert Murray, present on the property?
6. Are archaeological deposits present that are associated with occupants prior to or after Murray?
7. While the adjacent pond will not be threatened by proposed construction on the property, can cartographic research help in determining the pond's original size and the degree of landscape change that has occurred in the area? This question is related to the potential for Native American occupation in the area.
8. Can this site provide insight into the "social lives of estate farm staff working out of doors and who perhaps maintained greater freedoms as opposed to household staff working indoors?" Did the separate farmhouse allow "experiences of liberty and self-

direction not available to the inside domestic staff?" (Questions suggested by MHC review letter of June 4, 2007).

B. Scope of Work

The relatively small size of the project area coupled with visible archaeological features and objects on the ground surface allowed for the division of the former farm core into specific areas of investigation (Fig. 10). The *farm house foundation and yard* maintained the potential to provide data on the period of house construction, period of occupation and landscape change or preservation through time. The terrace west of the farm house appeared to be extremely flat and historic maps suggested drives or paths could be present. Thus, the historic use of this space was in question as well as changes this area may have undergone over time. The *low-lying terrain south of the house* appeared to be an area of high moisture due to the presence of black, loamy surface soils that would not have been conducive to occupation or to a place of specific activities, and yet surface indications revealed the possible presence of a well and privy. This area was thus tested to determine the extent of use of this area. The *earthen bank* that separated the upper terrace from the lower terrain appeared to be artificial in nature due to the presence of excessive amounts of coal ash, cinders and other refuse. Testing of the bank was performed in hopes of providing insight on the period of filling or expanding the upper terrace. A *raised area* west of the farm house was also identified and required testing to determine its function and period of use. A *grassy field* south of this raised area and east of the pond appeared to be filled wetland, but testing was required to determine if this might have served as an area of cultivation or other function in the past. The *eastern portion of the low-lying terrain* was characterized by refuse disposal evidenced by mounded and non-mounded middens. It was hoped that investigation of these features might allow the period of deposition and potentially the depositors to be identified. Finally, what appeared to be a rectangular *cellar hole* was present southeast of the farm house. As this feature did not appear on historic maps, it was important to investigate this in hopes of identifying both its period of existence and possible function.

C. Field Methodology

As requested by the Gore Place Society, the proposed site examination focused on documentation of the farm house foundation and other features that may be present within the historic farm core. Because historic maps suggest this to be the principal area of activity, outer portions of the original farm lot that are now under fill and asphalt paving were not investigated.

1. Farm House Foundation and Yard

The brick walls that make up the farm house foundation were mapped and then the area was tested with four shovel test pits (STPs) located around the foundation's exterior to investigate what would have been yard or would have been under the house (Fig. 11). One of these, STP 1-1, was the first unit of the transect used to test the terrace west of the farm house. Another STP was completed in the foundation's interior to determine if the present soil represented fill or indicated that only a crawl space or shallow cellar was present under the structure. In addition a single 1 x 1 m excavation unit was placed at a potential structural corner indicated by a low brick wall covered with cement and by a cut granite sill or step stone that likely marked the location of a rear or side house entrance.



Figure 10. Aerial photograph of the farm core and surrounding area.

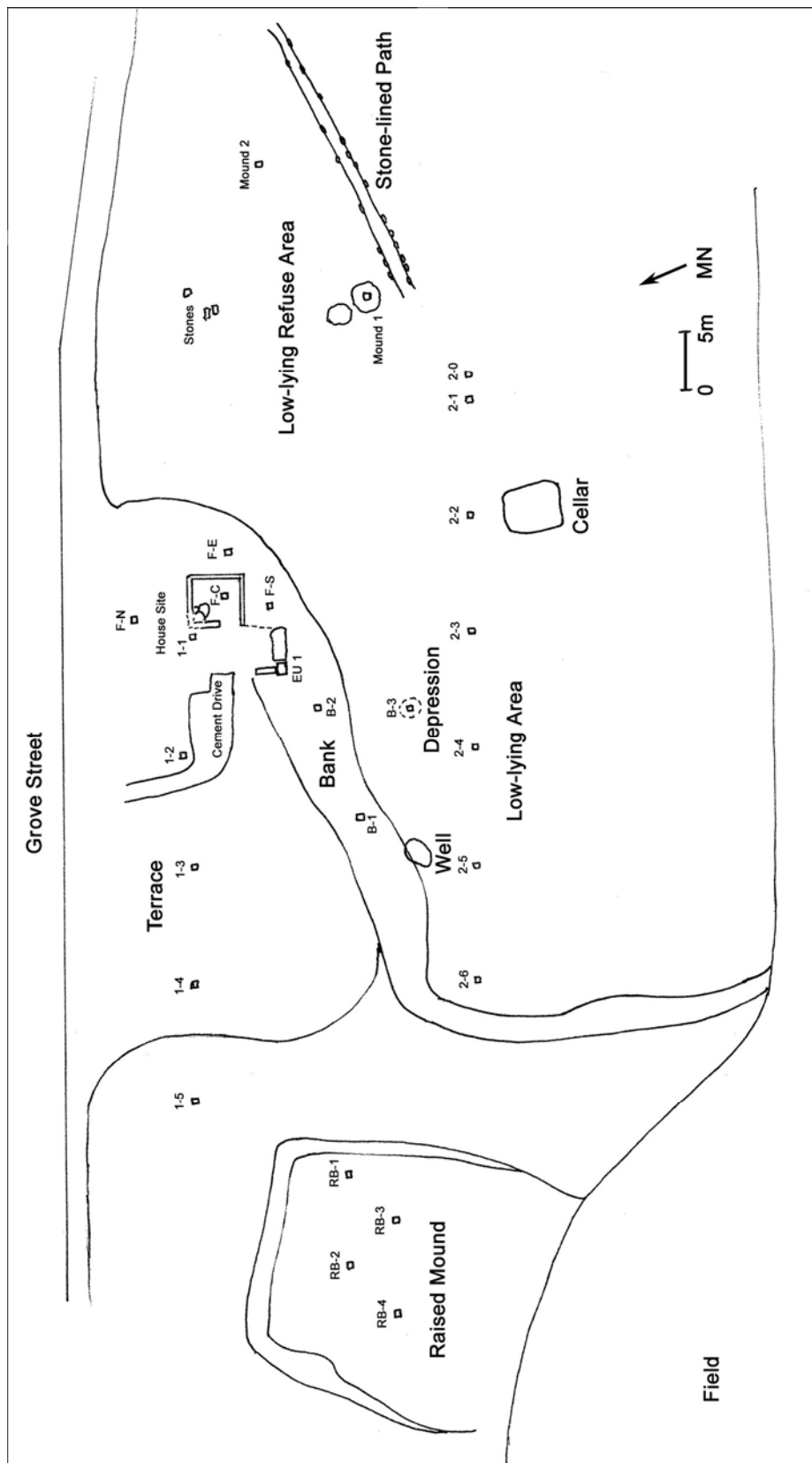


Figure 11. Sketch map of farm core depicting area designations and test unit locations.

2. Terrace West of the Farm House

The terrace was tested with a transect of five STPs spaced at intervals of 10 m. The transect started 50 cm west of the northwest corner of the house foundation and proceeded westward and parallel to the adjacent chain-link fence on Grove Street.

3 Earthen Bank Between the Terrace and Low-Lying Terrain

The bank that forms the south edge of the upper terrace and north bound of the low-lying area was clearly identified as human-made due to a preponderance of coal, coal ash, slag and clinker covering much of its surface. The western portion of the bank maintains an approximate 40° to 45° angle, while the eastern portion south of the farm house is broader and flattens out to approximately 30°. The bank was tested with two shovel tests to provide insight into the period of its creation. One was approximately 20 m southwest of the farm house foundation and the other lay at a distance of 9 m to the south, southwest.

4. Low-Lying Terrain South of the Terrace

The low area south of the farm house and terrace was tested with a transect of seven STPs that ran parallel to and 24 m south of Transect 1 on the terrace. These extended from southeast of the house foundation westward and stopped at the foot of the west bank bordering the low-lying area. In addition a small depression hypothesized to be a privy location was tested with a single STP.

5. Raised Area West of the Terrace

A possible raised planting bed is located at the west end of the farm core and immediately northeast of the pond. Measuring approximately 18 m E-W x 24 m N-S, the mound's northern portion is well defined by its elevation of close to a meter above the surrounding landscape, while the southern portion blends into the surrounding landscape as it slopes slightly southward toward the field. This area was examined with four shovel tests spaced 8 meters apart and staggered (see Fig. 10).

6. Field East of the Pond

The grassy field east of the pond and immediately southwest of the farm core was subjected to subsurface testing to determine if this area is filled wetland (as suspected) or could have functioned historically as an area for cultivation. The field slopes gently westward from the parking lot at the east to the east edge of the pond. It is bounded on the north by the western extent of the elevated farm core, on the east by an asphalt parking lot, on the south by filled wetland and on the west by the pond.

7. Midden Area in the Eastern Low-Lying Terrain

Walkover of this area revealed several low earthen mounds displaying various cultural materials on their surfaces including shell, coal brick ceramics and glass. Isolated artifacts and clusters of materials on the flat ground surface were also present. Investigations targeted one mound (Midden 1) and one artifact cluster (Midden 2) with a single STP employed to test both, respectively.

8. Cellar Hole Southeast of Farm House

A rectangular depression approximately 22 m south/southeast of the farm house foundation is interpreted as a probable cellar hole. The feature measures approximately 4.5 m N-S x 3.5 m E-W and is approximately 1.70 m deep. No stones or other means of wall support are present, and the ground surface perimeter of the feature consists of a slightly elevated berm formed from backdirt from the hole's excavation. The cellar was tested with a single STP at its center.

D. Site Examination Results

A total of 29 shovel test pits (STPs) and one excavation unit were completed during the archaeological site examination. Historic period artifacts were found in all of the tests (Appendix A). Testing results are presented below by area.

1. Farm House Foundation and Yard

The farm house foundation was constructed of brick laid two courses in width and did not follow any particular masonry pattern. The foundation interior measures approximately 4.4 m N-S and 3.8 m E-W. Several large stones were incorporated into the foundation construction at the northwest corner and these take up some of the interior crawl space. The cellar was filled with coarse sand leaving only five to six courses of the brick walls exposed. The original height of the walls could not be determined as upper courses undoubtedly were removed when the house was moved (Fig. 12).



Figure 12. Brick farm house foundation facing southeast from the west terrace. Flags mark STP locations.

STP F-N, 5 m north of the northwest foundation corner revealed 27 cm of dark medium brown sandy loam with fragmented modern bottle glass, roofing slate and brick. Two layers of sand fill with wine bottle and window glass, brick, nails bone and lead glazed redware representing three vessels were present between 27 and 56 cmbs. A dark brown sandy loam buried A-horizon extended from 56 to 70 cmbs and contained redware, window glass and brick likely from house construction and initial occupation. A sterile yellowish brown, coarse sand B-horizon extended below 77 cmbs.

STP F-E, 1.5 m east of the brick foundation revealed a profile similar to that of STP F-N, but did not contain sand layers between the upper sandy loam and lower loamy soils. Artifacts in the upper 30 cm of fill included a large quantity of later nineteenth- to early twentieth-century wire and cut nails, a cast iron shutter pintle, fragmented brick, mortar, ceramic (porcelain saucer fragment, whiteware (ca 1820+) and redware), bone, and window and vessel glass. The lower A-horizon fill extended to 70 cmbs and contained similar nails (mostly wire) and ceramics. An underlying yellowish brown, sandy loam B-horizon was sterile and was underlain by a layer of yellowish brown and orangy brown, coarse sand, respectively, to a depth of 110 cmbs.

STP F-S, 1.5 m south of the farm house foundation revealed a similar soil profile that consisted of 86 cm of undifferentiated dark brown sandy loam with a similar assortment of late nineteenth-early twentieth-century artifacts including wire and cut nails, brick, mortar, bone, ceramics including a printed Willow pattern whiteware cup and saucer with a makers mark of W. Ridgeway & Co., Semi China (ca. 1927+) and bottle and vessel glass. A B-horizon of dark yellowish brown, coarse sand was present between 86 and 100 cmbs and this overlay orangy brown coarse sand that extended below 105 cmbs.

STP F-C was located in the center of the foundation to determine if a true cellar or crawl space was once present under the house. The upper 32 cm consisted of dark medium brown medium sandy loam containing a toilet or sink fragment, iron bolt, brick, mortar and recent beer bottle glass. A sterile, orangy brown silty medium and coarse sand was present between 32 and 55 cmbs, and this overlay yellowish brown coarse sand to 70+ cmbs. There was no sign of an organic lens indicative of a crawl space or cellar floor below the upper 32 cm of sandy loam. The sand layers contained no artifacts and appeared to have been deposited in a single episode.

Excavation Unit 1 was located at the southwestern extent of the farm house foundation (see Fig. 10). The surface of EU 1 consisted of a dark brown sandy loam with a dense mixture of fragmented beer bottles and other recent refuse. Below this was a coal ash deposit adjacent to the granite sill and this was probably laid down for a path leading from the house. Also revealed was the top of a N-S oriented brick foundation wall that was two courses wide and extended across the unit. Four different layers of mixed fill extended between 15 and 55 cm below the sill surface (Fig. 13). The lower two levels resembled the dark brown loamy fill observed around the house and on the terrace. Artifacts in this fill included wire and cut nails, brick and whiteware ceramics (ca 1820+). A builder's trench for the brick wall appeared at 55 cmbs and extended out from the wall approximately 50 cm. The builder's trench matrix consisted of coarse sand in a light medium brown loam with brick and foundation stone fragments. Large foundation stones were encountered at 75 cm below the sill and these extended to a depth of 1 m (Fig. 14). The soil beyond (west of) the builder's trench consisted of 10 cm of yellow coarse sand. This was

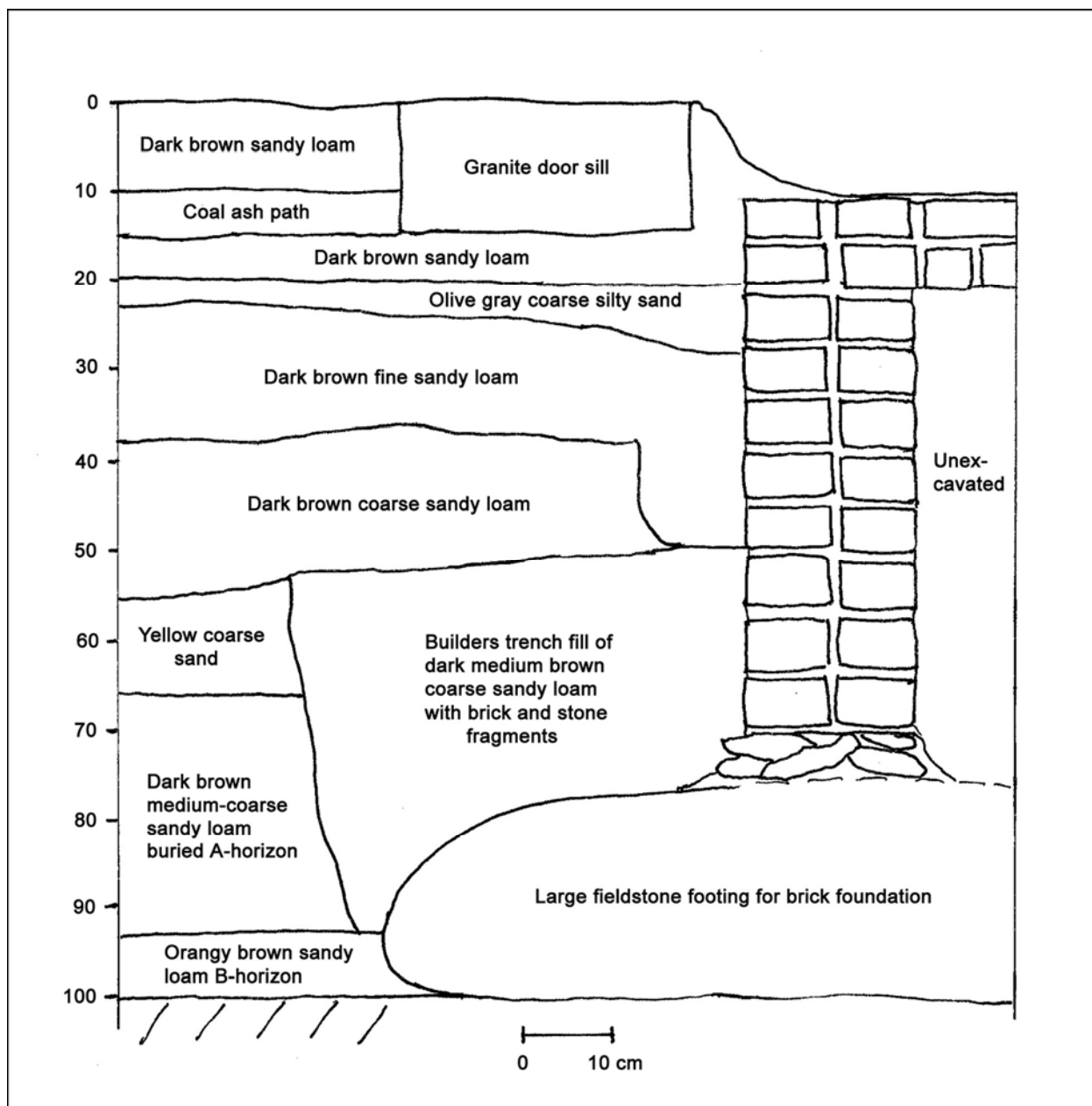


Figure 13. North wall profile of EU 1 southwest of the house foundation.

likely associated with wall construction and overlay a buried A-horizon of dark brown, medium and coarse sandy loam. Cultural material was present only in the upper 5 cm of the buried A and included wine bottle glass, a smoking pipe stem and creamware ceramic (ca. 1775-1820). A sterile orangy brown B-horizon was present at 94 cmbs.

2. Terrace West of Farm House

The terrace west of the farm house foundation was tested with five shovel tests spaced at 10 m intervals in Transect 1. STP 1-1 was located 1 m west of the foundation's northwest corner. This test and STP 1-2 and 1-3 revealed recently-formed dark brown sandy loam A-horizon and a



Figure 14. Overview of Excavation Unit 1, facing north.

yellowish brown sandy loam B-horizon to overlie a deep fill deposit of dark brown sandy loam or loamy sand mixed with a variety of architectural (brick, mortar, wire and cut nails) and domestic refuse including whiteware (ca. 1820+) and redware as seen in the other STPs around the house foundation (Fig. 15). The density of artifacts was very low in STP 1-1, 50 cm from the foundation, while STP 1-2 revealed a high density of chronologically mixed artifacts from the buried loamy fill layer including brick, roofing slate, wire and cut nails, window glass, a silver collector's spoon from the 1893 World's Fair, porcelain button, smoking pipe stem, lead glazed redware, planting pot fragments, handle to a copper luster pitcher (ca 1820-1840), flow blue printed whiteware bowl or cup (ca. 1845-1860), tin glaze earthenware (ca. 18th century), bottle glass and bone (Fig. 16).

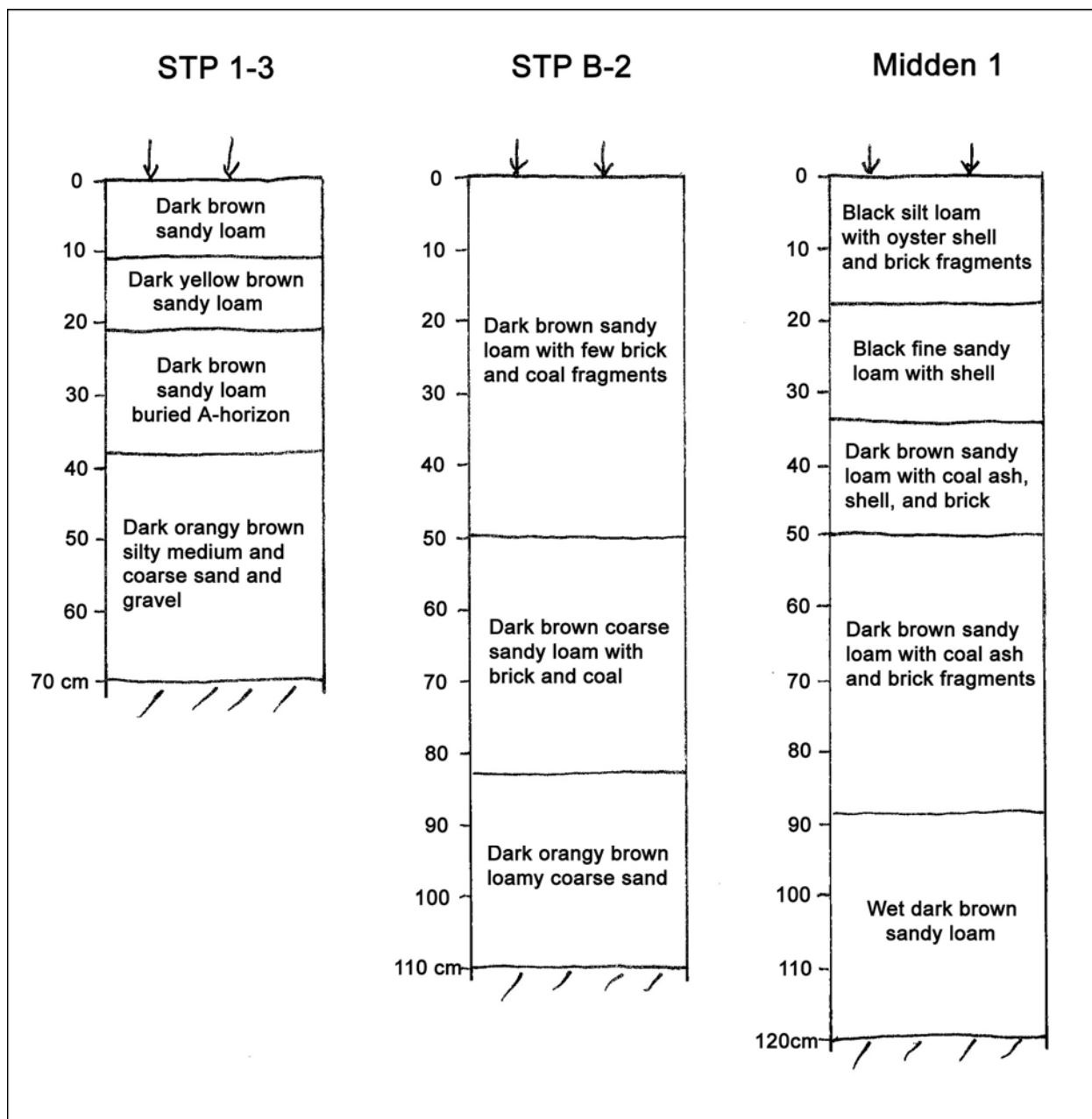


Figure 15. Soil profiles of STP 1-3 on the terrace, STP B-2 on the earthen bank and STP M-1 in Midden 1.

The area of STP 1-4 and 1-5 slopes down to the west from the terrace surface. As a result the loamy artifact-bearing fill present between 18 and 70 cm in STPs 1-1 to 1-3 was present at the surface of STP 1-4. This fill was found to overlie an original buried A-horizon of dense sandy loam with charcoal, creamware (ca. 1775-1820) and redware ceramics, bone and a wrought nail, and a sterile B-horizon below. STP 1-5, further down slope, revealed the fill layer and lower A-horizon to have been scraped off, leaving a sterile yellow-brown, coarse B/C-horizon with modern bottle glass on the surface. Transect 1 was not extended eastward due to a significant drop in elevation and moist ground east of the farm house foundation.



Figure 16. Artifacts from STP 1-2 on the west terrace. 1) Bones, 2) Lead glazed redware, 3) Flow blue printed whiteware, 4) Planting pot, 5) Whiteware plate, 6) Tin glaze earthenware, 7) Buttons, 8) 1893 Worlds Fair silver spoon, 9) Roof slate, 10) Copper luster whiteware pitcher.

3. Earthen Bank Between the Terrace and Low-Lying Terrain

STP B-1 was located on the coal ash section of the bank 20 m southwest of the farm house foundation. Coal ash, clinker and slag dominated the matrix to 26 cmbs, below which fragmented coal and some ash and even a charcoal brickette were present to 40 cmbs. Dark medium brown sandy loam fill containing redware, a spoon bowl, ferrous spring and glass extended from 40 cmbs to 95 cmbs and appears to be the same fill stratum encountered on the terrace in STPs 1-1 to 1-4. A buried dark brown sandy loam A-horizon was present between 95 and 105 cmbs. Artifacts from this lowest layer included single sherds of creamware (ca. 1775-1820), lead glazed redware and a piece of glass oil lamp font.

STP B-2 was located 9 m southwest of the farm house foundation. Similar to STP F-S that tested the house area, this test revealed dark brown sandy loam to a depth of 83 cmbs (see Fig. 14). The upper 50 cm contained a high density of large mammal bone, lead glazed redware (jar) and whiteware ceramics, part of a glass dish, smoking pipe fragments, nails, a cast iron pot fragment and a broken shoe buckle. The amount of coarse sand increased between 50 and 83 where a high density of artifacts continued, including pieces of a stoneware jar or jug with Albany slip (ca. 1805-1920), redware jar, pearlware banded pitcher (ca. 1775-1830), blue shell edge pearlware plate (ca. 1800-1835), wine bottle, smoking pipe, planting pots as well as brick, nails and leather shoe fragments (Fig. 17). A dark orangy brown loamy coarse sand B-horizon was present from 83 to below 110 cmbs and this contained a lower density of similar materials consisting of nails, planting pot and blue printed whiteware (ca. 1828+), tobacco pipe and brick.



Figure 17. Artifacts from STP B-2 southwest of the farm house foundation. 1) Planting pot, 2) Banded pearlware pitcher, 3 and 4) Printed whiteware plates, 5) Lead glazed redware jar, 6) Pressed glass dish, 7) Smoking pipe stem and bowl, 8) Pearlware plate, 9) Stoneware jug.

4. Low-Lying Terrain South of Terrace

Transect 2 extended parallel to and 24 m south of Transect 1, and tested the lower elevation of the farm core. Soils in STPs 2-6 to 2-4 in the western portion of this area revealed black medium sandy loam to be present to a depth of approximately 65 cm. Cultural material in this deposit consisted of a low density of brick fragments, cut and wire nails, planting pot sherds, lead glazed redware, whiteware (including printed) and yellowware (ca. 1830-1940) ceramics. The B-horizon in these tests ranged from a gray to orangy brown loamy sand that extended below 77 cmbs. Shovel tests 2-3 and 2-2 revealed similar profiles of dark brown to black sandy loam with some gravel over a dark reddish brown loamy coarse sand and gravel encountered between 45 and 51 cmbs. These units contained materials similar to STPs 2-6 to 2-4 including rubber water bottle fragments near the surface, coal, brick, nails, and bottle glass.

A greater density of cultural material was found in STPs 2-1 and 2-0 southeast of the farm house. This was expected due to the fact that much of the area to the southeast of the house foundation served in the past for refuse disposal as indicated by surface artifacts and mounded and non-mounded deposits containing an assortment of fragmented brick, coal, ceramics (domestic wares and planting pots), dietary remains (shell and bone) and field stones. STP 2-1 revealed 30 cm of medium brown clay loam with field stones and artifacts consisting of a broken printed whiteware bowl (ca. 1820+), yellowware (ca. 1830-1940) and planting pots. Yellowish brown to olive yellow clay with nails, brick, coal and planting pot sherds was present between 30 and 52 cmbs.

A dark medium brown sandy loam buried A-horizon was present between 52 and 63 and contained two pieces of creamware ceramic (ca. 1775-1820). STP 2-0 was placed 2.5 m east of STP 2-1 to help determine if a structure may have been present in this area. The soil profile closely resembled that of STP 2-1 consisting of dark brown sandy loam with fragmented brick and planting pots down to 30 cm, followed by yellowish brown sandy clay that extended to 60 cm. Two thin lenses of yellow-brown loamy sand and dark brown clay loam between 30 and 42 cmbs separated these soils and contained additional planting pot fragments and a piece of frosted window glass. Dark brown loamy sand A-horizon was present below 60 cmbs.

A surface depression 8 m south of STP B-2 at the foot of the earthen slope south of the farm house foundation was observed during the reconnaissance survey and held the potential to be a filled privy or trash pit. STP B-3 was placed in the center of the depression to test this hypothesis. The soil profile consisted of 28 cm of dark brown medium sandy loam over a fill deposit of light olive brown, coarse sand and gravel with fragmented brick, mortar, whiteware bowl (ca. 1820+), stoneware jar with Albany slip similar to that from Midden 1 (ca. 1805-1920), bottle glass, bone and sheet white metal to 62 cmbs. Below this was a buried A-horizon of dark brown sandy loam to 74 cmbs containing brick fragments, printed whiteware (ca. 1820+) and creamware (ca. 1775-1820), and a bright orangy brown, loamy medium and coarse sand B-horizon that extended below 87 cmbs.

5. Raised Area or Planting Bed West of the Terrace

Soils in this area were unique to the site as a whole in that they were dominated by a very loose (light textured) dark medium brown fine sandy loam with no stones or other debris. Layers of yellowish brown to pale yellow silty coarse sand were present. A buried A-horizon of dark brown sandy loam appeared to be present at a depth of 63 cmbs in STP RB-3. The B-horizon was encountered between 67 and 79 cmbs and consisted of yellowish brown, silty coarse sand. Artifacts in the planting bed fill included a low density of recently fragmented bottle glass toward the top as well as pieces of brick, window glass, nails, a tobacco pipe stem, a cuprous flat button, coal and whiteware ceramic. No evidence of planting holes or of planting pots was observed.

6. Midden Area in the Eastern Low-Lying Terrain

Midden 1 consists of an earthen mound approximately 70 cm in height and 2.5 m in diameter (Fig. 18). Artifacts on the feature's surface included oyster shell, brick, coal, bone, a fragmented lead glazed redware pan, tin glazed tile, porcelain plate with overglaze floral design in the and whiteware plate with underglaze and over glaze decoration. The plate fragments were of the same patterns observed in Midden 2. A wine bottle and possible medicinal bottle were also represented. A single STP (M-1) was used to investigate this feature and was placed in the feature's center. The upper 34 cm of deposit consisted of very dark brown fine silt loam with a high density of oyster shell, coal and fragmented brick (see Fig. 15). Ceramics included fragmented planting pots, lead glazed redware (pan and jar), Canton/Nanking porcelain plate (ca. 1800-1830), whiteware paneled cup (ca. 1820+), and two stoneware jars with albany slip interior, one of which is decorated with a painted cobalt eagle within a wreath (ca. 1805-1920) (Fig. 19).



Figure 18. Midden 1 in the low-lying terrain southeast of the farm house foundation.



Figure 19. Artifacts from STP M-1 in Midden 1. 1) Whiteware cup, 2) Tin glaze tile, 3) Porcelain plate, 4) Canton/Nanking porcelain plate, 5) Albany slip stoneware jar/jug, 6) Whiteware plate, 7) Lead glaze redware pan, 8) Wine bottle, 9) Medicine bottle.

Glassware included pieces of a 12-sided medicine bottle, wine bottle and lantern globe. Also present is a bone tooth brush with a stamped mark that reads “..OUT 22 STRAND .” The soil lightened to a medium brown to 50 cmbs with planting pot fragments, oyster shell and nails dominating. Between 50 and 89 cmbs the soil changed to a fine sandy loam with coal, coal slag and ash, brick fragments, oyster shell, planting pot fragments, whiteware, including a fragment of the plate noted above, fragment of a possible bell jar, a cuprous flat button and a wrought ferrous bucket handle. Between 89 and 129 cmbs the soil turned to a very moist darker sandy loam with fewer artifacts consisting of oyster shell, brick, bone, burned whiteware and pieces of a stoneware jar.

Midden 2 was identified by a low density of fragmented roofing slate, brick, coal and ceramics (same whiteware pattern and porcelain pattern present on Midden 1) on a flat ground surface. The soil profile here consisted of 43 cm of dark brown fine sandy loam with a combination of artifacts as noted above as well as bottle and table ware glass, brick, nails, window glass including frosted or etched likely for greenhouse use, and nearly 300 planting pot fragments. Refined ceramics were dominated by whiteware (1820+) including hand painted plate fragments and Canton porcelain (ca. 1800-1830) that was also found in Midden 1 (Fig. 20). A light medium brown, medium and coarse sand containing a number of whole and broken bricks, mortar, coal, clinker and slag, oyster shell and calcined bone and ceramics were present between 43 and 65 cmbs. The soil changed to a very dark brown sterile fine sandy loam below 65 cmbs and water was encountered between 100 and 110 cmbs. Another feature identified at the east end of the low midden area was a stone-lined path or possible drainage feature that extended west to east across the lowest portion of the terrain (see Fig. 11). No testing of this feature was performed.



Figure 20. Artifacts from STP M-2 in Midden 2. 1) Canton/Nanking porcelain plates and teapot, 2) Porcelain plates, 3) Painted whiteware plates, 4) Planting pots

7. Field East of Pond

Vegetation in the area was recently cut with a bush-hog providing a relatively clear, grass-covered surface (Fig. 21). A storm sewer clean out basin is present in the lower eastern portion of the field. The location of the associated pipes could not be determined since the basin was filled with silt. The basin is equipped with a cast iron lid embossed “DEVONSHIRE.”

STP F-1 was located at the field’s southwestern corner, 13 m from the pond edge and 12 m from the south wetland tree line (see Fig. 10). Soils consisted of 3 layers of dark brown silt loam with gravel to 42 cmbs. Below this was coarse sand and gravel in a medium brown sandy loam. Water was encountered at 62 cmbs. STP F-2 was located 10 m north of STP F-1. Soil here consisted of yellow-brown medium sand over a dark brown silt loam with gravel and coarse sand that extended to 57 cmbs. A dark orangy brown silt loam in gravel and coarse sand extended from 57 cmbs until water was encountered at 63 cmbs. A single crown bottle cap was present near the gravel surface. STP F-3 was located 30 m northeast of STP F-1 to test the field’s central portion. This test revealed dark brown silt loam to 23 cmbs over a yellow-brown medium coarse sand with dark brown loam. Between 35 and 63 cmbs was very dark brown silt loam with chunks of clay. Water was present at 63 cmbs.



Figure 21. Field east of pond and southwest of the farm house foundation (facing west).

8. Cellar Hole South East of Farm House

The cellar was tested with a single STP in its center. The upper 40 cm consisted of yellowish brown sand followed by medium brown and yellowish brown medium and coarse sand containing modern bottle glass and asphalt roof shingle. Between 40 and 90 cmbs were a series of lenses and layers of yellowish brown coarse sand and gravel containing late twentieth-century bottle glass and a piece of plastic. Water was encountered at 86 cmbs.

V. INTERPRETATIONS AND DISCUSSION

A. Observations by Site Area

1. Farm House Foundation and Yard

The brick foundation that is visible above ground appears to represent only a portion of the entire foundation that supported the house since this feature is smaller than the existing structure and additional walls lie buried under fill as discovered in EU1. Foundation construction commenced with excavation of a builder's trench approximately 1 m in width that extended down to the upper B-horizon. Large, rounded field stones were laid in the trench and the stone surface was leveled with mortar and pieces of field stone prior to laying courses of brick. Backfilling of the builder's trench covered the bottom 3 courses of brick at the rear of the house, but over time the introduction of fill resulted in covering 10 courses. The foundation interior appears to have consisted of a crawl space with sand fill bedding. The original crawl space surface could not be identified.

2. Terrace West of Farm House

The terrace adjacent to Grove Street on which the farm house foundation is located presently maintains an elevation that is as much as 70 cm higher than it was at the time the farm house was constructed and initially occupied. It appears that the fill covering the terrace was produced by accumulation associated with occupation, but was mixed or redeposited. The presence of planting pot fragments in this fill provides a probable connection to occupation of the farm house. Artifacts within the mixed layer date from the latter eighteenth through early or even mid twentieth centuries, and it was probably during the 1920s or 30s that a cement entrance drive between Grove Street and the house was constructed. This drive is presently covered with 5 to 10 cm of recently formed loam and broken bottle glass. Evidence of late eighteenth- or early nineteenth-century occupation may be present at the base of the mixed deposit as evidenced by the buried A-horizon encountered in STP 1-4 and a light scatter of earlier porcelain and tin glaze ceramics. The western end of the terrace that slopes down to the west was scraped off and this top soil appears to have been used to create the mounded area immediately south that is interpreted as a planting bed.

3. Earthen Bank

The earthen bank represents an artificial boundary between the upper terrace and lower-lying area immediately south. The bank consists almost entirely of sandy loam fill with a mixture of artifacts that date between the latter eighteenth and early twentieth centuries. The upper 40 cm or so consist of coal ash deposited in the early twentieth century. The expansion of the bank southward by filling is evident from the presence of a buried A-horizon below 95 cm.

The eastern portion of the bank south of the farm house foundation is also composed of fill to a depth of approximately 80 cm., but cultural material here suggests the deposit was created by occupants of the house, with much of the material dating to the first half of the nineteenth century. Included in the assemblage is a high density of planting pot fragments, indicating a probable association with the occupation of the estate gardener, Robert Murray.

4. Low-Lying Terrain South of Terrace

The low-lying terrain south of the upper terrace is characterized by a black to very dark brown sandy loam indicative of an area of high moisture. This low area appears to have been little used except for occasional refuse disposal. A depression believed to be a well also is located here. Disturbed soils and the presence of field stones in STPs 2-1 and 2-0 south and southeast of the farm house suggest an activity area that could include refuse dumping or possible structure construction. Planting pot fragments were present in both of these tests suggesting use of the eastern low-lying area by Robert Murray. Testing of the depression hypothesized to be a privy or trash pit revealed no evidence of such a feature.

5. Raised Area or Planting Bed

The rectangular area of elevated soil at the west end of the project area displayed extremely light textured, medium brown sandy loam that was not observed elsewhere on the site. This soil is practically void of cultural material and its soil quality suggests an ideal planting medium. Observation of the landscape and findings from STP 1-5 suggest the soil in the mound was scraped from the surrounding area. Surprisingly, no planting holes or fragments of planting pots were observed so identification of the feature as a planting bed remains hypothetical. The potential for this area to have been occupied by a barn is also possible, especially given structure locations depicted on the 1841 Greene estate plan (see Fig. 6), but no evidence of foundations in the form of brick or stone was found. It is possible a post in the ground structure occupied the area, but a wooden floor likely would have been present since the artifact density here was minimal. In addition, very few nails were found that might indicate a structure.

6. Midden Area

The east portion of the low-lying terrain southeast of the farm house functioned for refuse disposal during the second quarter of the nineteenth century. Refuse from this time period lies on the present ground surface allowing identification of surface concentrations and of several mounds. The fact that this area was used by the same occupant is suggested by ceramics from two sets of plates that appear in more than one area. Fragments of whiteware plates with a painted underglaze blue rim and overglaze red enamel were seen in Mound 1 and Mound 2, as were fragments of porcelain plates with a painted, fine green overglaze floral pattern. The fact that this material and much if not all of the refuse in this area is in direct association with fragmented planting pots suggests this material originated from occupants of the farmhouse during Robert Murray's tenure. Additional ceramics, glassware and dietary remains in the form of shell and bone are also present and provide insight into dietary patterns of the occupants.

7. Field East of Pond

Testing of the grassy field southwest of the core area revealed a series of loamy, sandy and gravelly wetland soils, some of which appear to be redeposited. No cultural material was observed with the exception of a crown bottle cap. It is unclear if cultivation occurred in this area after it was filled. The presence of a sewer line running through the area suggests it may have been too wet for such purposes. Examination of historic maps of the area provide no information on the pond's creation or modification from the existing wetland environment.

8. Cellar Hole

Excavation of the cellar hole revealed late twentieth-century bottle glass and plastic down to a depth of nearly 2.5 m below the present ground surface. It is possible that this cellar functioned for the storage of ice or root crops. The absence of evidence of wall support is problematic, but it is possible that this was removed for reuse off site, particularly if the walls consisted of dry-laid field stones. Brick walls are unlikely as evidence for such would be present in the archaeological record. A structure at this location does not appear on any historic maps, particularly the Greene estate plan of 1841, but the accuracy of the latter's depiction of the farm core is questionable given inaccurate labeling and building positions where they were not likely to have been present. The presence of reasonably clean sand in the cellar compares with the fill inside the farm house foundation. As no other such deposits were encountered on the site, this feature may be filled with sand from elsewhere on the property. The function of this feature is unknown.

B. Consideration of Research Questions

Results of the archaeological site examination suggest the domestic core of the former farm lot is well preserved and contains archaeological deposits in an excellent state of preservation with little to no disturbance in much of the area since the 1930s and since the 1850s in portions of the midden area. The earliest evidence of occupation of the property derives from artifacts observed in buried A-horizon soils from several contexts including STP B-1 and EU 1 that include creamware (ca. 1775-1820), wine bottle glass and a smoking pipe stem. Other potentially early material, namely slip trailed redware, pearlware and tin enameled earthenware commonly associated with the eighteenth century was found in the fill deposit on the terrace and around the house. No archaeological deposits that are likely to have derived from occupation of the mansion house were found in the farm area.

Documentary research to date and the archaeological findings point to a latter eighteenth- to early nineteenth-century (pre 1825) construction date for the farm house. Archaeological deposits associated with house occupants during Robert Murray's work at the estate are plainly evident due to an abundance of fragmented planting pots and ceramics that date to the 1830s to 1850s period. These include fragments of redware, stoneware, yellowware and Rockingham ceramics, porcelain plates decorated in the Belleek tradition and possibly made in Ireland and whiteware plates potentially from Scotland. The extent of accumulated refuse present on the slope behind the house and in the midden area is not surprising since the house appears to have been home not only to Murray's seven-member family, but also to as many as nine young laborers who may or may not have worked on the estate. Evidence of occupation prior to and after Murray is not nearly as obvious. Refuse collection may have been available during the latter nineteenth century, resulting in less accumulation on the site. The presence of auto parts and the cement driveway suggest occupation well into the 1930s and some refuse may have been dumped in the area after that time as well.

Review of the draft report for this project suggested the addition of questions focusing on the "social differences and opportunities, responsibilities, and comparative oversight and autonomy of inside domestic staff versus outside farm staff," given the idea that "the separate farm house also may have allowed experiences of liberty and self-direction not available to the inside domestic staff" (MHC review letter of June 4, 2007). Attempts to address such issues are

problematic at this early stage of knowledge of both the farm house site and that of the estate itself. While the farm house may have provided lodging for those working on landscaping activities essentially in the 1840s and 50s, it also could have provided housing for inside staff as well. One must be very careful not to make assumptions based on minimal knowledge of the workings of the estate and housing for workers. There is no data so far on numbers of inside staff versus outside staff for the Gore or later periods. In addition, of the individuals listed as living in the farm house, it is not known if all or only some of the individuals worked on the estate. Some occupants of the farm house could have worked inside the estate house or in both interior and exterior settings. The potential exists to be able to address questions of social differences between workers and to gain a better understanding of their lives in general through examination of archaeological deposits, but a much greater knowledge of the inner workings and organization of the estate staff through time is necessary before these can be addressed.

C. Delineation of Archaeological Boundaries for the Farm Core

The archaeological boundaries of the farm core depicted in Figure 2 were determined by measuring approximately four meters beyond the areas tested by the archaeological survey and four meters beyond known farm-related features depicted in Figure 11. The purpose of the four-meter buffer was to ensure the preservation of archaeologically sensitive areas from future development of the property. Thus, the west boundary was defined by the western portion of the raised planting bed. The south boundary was defined by the edge of the area of low terrain in the southwest portion of the farm core, four meters south of the cellar hole and four meters south of a midden deposit to the southeast of midden Mound 1. The east boundary was defined four meters east of midden Mound 2.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

The purpose of the site examination of the farm core was to identify and document cultural resources present on the property, assess the potential significance of these resources, and to delineate boundaries of the archaeologically sensitive farm core. Archaeological remains present within the farm core include the farm house foundation and yard, areas of refuse accumulation and dumping, a potential agricultural feature in the form of a raised planting bed, a cellar associated with an outbuilding of unknown date and function and probably a filled well. Other unidentified resources are also likely to be present. Artifactual materials date from the latter eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries with a distinct concentration within the second quarter of the nineteenth century. A significant portion of the latter material is believed to be associated with the occupation of gardener, Robert Murray, determined by both chronological data obtained from artifacts and by the presence of fragmented planting pots that would have been ubiquitous to his work and presence. Such a context represents a rare historical and archaeological resource since Murray filled the role of a working class skilled laborer within the setting of a wealthy estate. He was part of the estate by virtue of his management position, and yet his status ensured a degree of social separation. The homestead of such a person represents a rare resource that can potentially inform on owner/overseer relations in Massachusetts as well as in New England as a whole.

The site examination found the farm core to be in an excellent state of preservation, having been little disturbed since its abandonment in the 1930s to 40s. For these reasons the farm core is considered to be highly significant and maintains the potential to provide archaeological data important to the study of nineteenth-century labor relations, including working and living conditions of first generation Scottish and Irish immigrants employed in urban agriculture, agricultural crafts and potentially the continuation of scientific agriculture initiated by Christopher Gore and his gardener, and continued by successive owners. The farm house site coupled with that of the larger estate maintains the potential to provide data important to the understanding of nineteenth-century social and workplace hierarchies and relationships, and therefore maintains important historic and archaeological research and interpretive values. As such, the farm house site is considered to meet the Criteria for Eligibility for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criteria A and D as a contributing property to Gore Place. The site is also significant for the potential it maintains as one of a number of Boston region landscaped estates or farms. While the parcel containing the farm core is due to be sold, it is recommended that measures be taken to ensure the preservation of the farm core as identified herein. At the time of completion of the draft report, the farm core area as defined by the archaeological survey had been delineated and was set off from the larger sale parcel to be preserved. A Preservation Restriction (MGL c. 184, ss. 31-33) for the “area of archaeological interest” depicted in Figure 2, is recommended to ensure this area is not disturbed by future development. A walking path around the pond is being contemplated and such a plan would benefit from an additional interpretive trail that incorporates the former farm complex. Signage could be effectively used to tell the history of the site and its connection to the adjacent estate. If for some reason the area or portions of the area determined to be archaeologically sensitive cannot be avoided by future development of the sale parcel, then a data recovery of the archaeological deposits should be carried out prior to construction impacts.

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APPENDIX A

ARTIFACT CATALOG

Artifact numbers continue in sequence from the 2006 investigations (see Smith and Dubell 2006) and context numbers for the 2007 Farm Complex commence with #160.