


Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	IPS.E
Historic Name:	Meeting House Green District
Common Name:	
City/Town:	Ipswich
Village/Neighborhood:	Ipswich;
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Use(s):	Commercial District; Other Institutional; Residential District;
Significance:	Architecture; Commerce; Community Planning; Education; Law; Military; Politics Government; Religion;
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (09/17/1980); Nat'l Register MRA (09/17/1980);
Building Materials:	
Demolished	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on: Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 10:34 PM

AREA A - AREA SURVEY

Form numbers in this area	Area no.
	IPS.E

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston



Ipswich

of area (if any) Meeting House Green

al date or period 18th - 19th centuries

a uniform (explain):

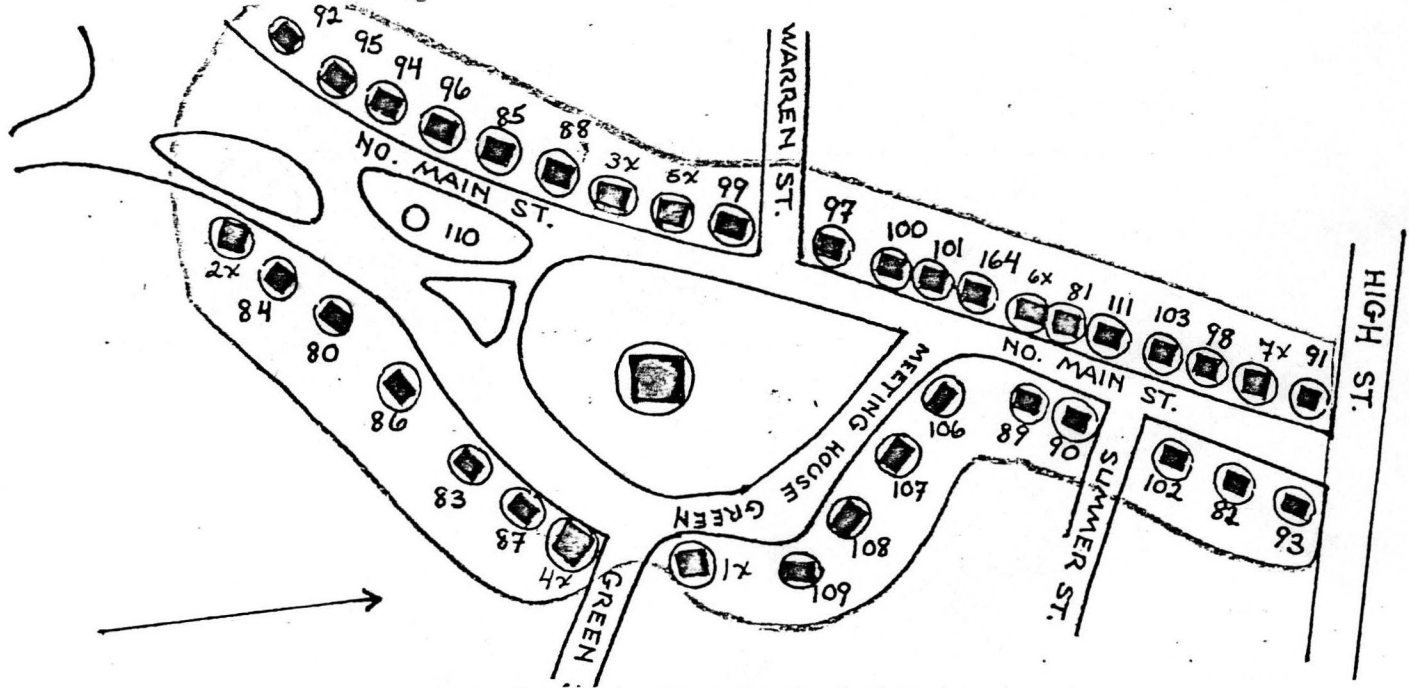
le? no (18th & 19th century styles)

dition? yes (well maintained)

e of ownership? yes (private)

? yes (residential)

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Margaret Welden

Organization Ipswich Historical Comm.

Date October 1978

Approximate acreage 15 acres

(over)

UTM REFERENCES: 19/349560/4727100
B 19/349680/4726870
C 19/349460/4726650
D 19/349380/4726720

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

The Meeting House Green Districts includes thirty houses, three churches and the town library which are sited around the steep, rocky Green itself and along Main Street. It encompasses a wide range of architectural styles with approximately half of the structures dating from the eighteenth century and half from the nineteenth.

The boundaries of Meeting House Green were determined over 300 years ago and have remained nearly the same to this day. Commencing south from High St., the boundary line runs to the corner of Center St. and North Main, west to the corner of North and South Mains, and north to High St., thus encircling the Green. Structures outside the limits are not directly related to the Green and its history.

The Green was set aside for public use in 1634, a year after Ipswich's founding, and has historically been a religious and commercial center as well as a favored residential area. During the seventeenth century, a meeting house, jail, fort, town pound and stocks were located here. Later the Post Office (#100), Probate Court (#83), Ipswich Female Seminary, Agawam Hotel (3X), and several commercial structures surrounded the Green. Now, the churches and library (#86) continue to supplement its residential usage.

As is the case with many New England greens, this one is associated with a number of historic events. The earliest and perhaps most important was the Revolution of 1687. Led by Dr. John Wise, the citizens of Ipswich denounced the levy of taxes by the arbitrary government of Sir Edmund Andros, and hence Ipswich has been christened by some as the birthplace of American Independence.

Several structures are considered to be of particular importance in understanding the architectural significance of the district and are described below. They are distinguished on the map by receiving only a number. Contributing buildings which were not fully investigated during the survey contain the letter X along with the number.

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Ipswich	Form No:
Property Name: Meeting House Green	

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

<u>Street #</u>	<u>Map #</u>	<u>First Owner (Occupation)</u>	<u>Date</u>
2 North Main	92	Col. John Appleton (Probate Judge)	ca 1707
2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards. Symmetrical 5 bay facade, entry porch with fluted doric columns, rear ell.			
6-8 North Main	95	Ebenezer Stamwood (peruke maker)	ca 1747
2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards. A symmetrical 6 bay facade, entry porch with brackets and columns, slate roof, ells.			
16 North Main	94	Christian Wainwright	ca 1747
2 1/2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards, rear roof slope raised and extended over rear addition. Symmetrical 5 bay facade.			
20 North Main	96	Stephen Coburn	ca 1845
2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards. Symmetrical 6 bay facade, central entry porch (now enclosed). Slate roof, small side addition. Greek Revival.			
A Civil War monument stands on the rocky hillside in front of the preceding houses. Erected in 1871, the monument is a granite obelisk approximately 25 feet tall. Inscribed on the pedestal are the names of the 54 Ipswich residents killed in the Civil War.			
22 North Main	85	Charles Kimball (lawyer, educator)	ca 1834
2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards. Symmetrical 5 bay facade, Greek Revival window trim, entry porch and door frames. Slate roof.			
24 North Main	88	Trustees of Manning School	1904
3 story, hip roof, wood frame commercial building (now apartments), clapboarded. Symmetrical 5 bay facade with Colonial Revival wooden trim -- projecting central pavilion, first floor pilasters and entablature, upper floor quoins, modillion cornice.			
38 North Main	99	William Pulcitor (dry goods storekeeper)	ca 1836
2 1/2 story, end gable, white painted brick commercial building (now office and apartments). 6 bay facade with off-center entry, two dormers, side stairs to 2nd floor entry.			
40 North Main	97	Dr. John Manning (physician & industrialist)	ca 1769
3 story, hip roof, wood frame house with clapboards. Symmetrical 5 bay facade with fine Federal doorframe.			

Continue to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Ipswich	Form No:
Property Name: Meeting House Green	

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

<u>Street #</u>	<u>Map #</u>	<u>First Owner (Occupation)</u>	<u>Date</u>
42 North Main	100	Dr. John Manning (physician & industrialist)	ca 1763
2 story, facade gable, wood frame house with clapboards. Prominent overhang on narrow end facing street, entrance on asymmetrical 6 bay side. Built as warehouse, served as post office in late 18th century.			
44 North Main	101	John Brewer (store keeper)	1825
2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards. Symmetrical 5 bay facade with Federal central entry, Victorian doorhood.			
48 North Main	164	John A. Johnson (shoe manufacturer)	ca 1871
2 1/2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards. Symmetrical 3 bay facade, Italianate window surrounds, entry porch, projecting, bracketed cornice, facade gable. Matching carriage house.			
52 North Main	81	James Damon (businessman)	1866
2 1/2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboards. Symmetrical 5 bay facade, wooden Italianate trim includes window hoods, entry porch, quoins, bracketed and decorated cornice.			
54 North Main	111	Thomas Morley (painter, 1845 owner)	ca 1750/1845
2 1/2 story, L-plan, facade gable house, wood frame with woodshingles. Formerly attached to northern neighbor, removed 1845. Side entrance, 3 bay facade.			
56 North Main	103	James Brown (yeoman)	ca 1700-20
2 story, end gable house, timber frame with wood shingles. Nearly symmetrical 5 bay facade, simple Federal door frame, rear wing.			
60 North Main	98	Nathaniel Treadwell (store-keeper)	1796-99
2 story, L-plan, end gable house, wood frame with clapboards. Nearly symmetrical 5 bay facade, Federal door frame.			
64 North Main	91	Captain Richard Rogers (mariner)	1728
2 1/2 story, L-plan, gambrel roofed house, wood frame with clapboards. Symmetrical 5 bay facade with Federal doorframe. Front and side dormers, exceptionally early Georgian interior woodwork.			
57 North Main	93	Nathaniel Day	ca 1737
2 story, end gable house, wood frame with clapboards. Elongated by additions, two rear ells as well. Two entrances in asymmetrical 9 bay facade.			

^ table to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Ipswich	Form No:
Property Name: Meeting House Green	

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

<u>Street #</u>	<u>Map #</u>	<u>First Owner (Occupation)</u>	<u>Date</u>
51-3 North Main	82	Sarah Lord	1848
2 1/2 story, facade gable house, wood frame with clapboarding and ashlar scored match boarding. Four bays toward street, 5 on side include central entry with Greek Revival derived door frame. Italianate window surrounds, eaves trim.			
49 North Main	102	John Chapman (leather breeches maker)	ca 1770
2 story, end gable house, wood frame with clapboards. Symmetrical 5 bay facade, sidelit entry, real ell.			
47 North Main	90	George Farley	1888
2 story, hip roofed, irregularly massed Queen Anne house, wood frame with clapboards and decorative wood shingling. Major features include one story porch on front and southside, with conical-roofed corner; polygonal, 2 story bay projecting from north-west corner, with steep, eight sided roof; decorative slate roof; stained-glass stair window.			
45 North Main	89	Dr. Issac Flichtner	1859-60
2 1/2 story, facade gable, wood frame house with clapboarding and ashlar-scored match boarding. 2 bays toward street, 3 on side. Entry on side via porch and enclosed entryway. Italianate window surrounds, bay windows, porch and cornice trim.			
1 Meeting House Green	106	Joseph N. Farley (mariner)	ca 1842
2 story, end gable, wood frame house with horizontal flush boarding and clapboarding. Symmetrical 5 bay facade with central, Greek Revival portico and door frame.			
4 Meeting House Green	108	Captain Israel Pulsifer (mariner)	1812
2 1/2 story, mansard-roofed, wood frame house with clapboarding. Interior retains Federal detailing, exterior remodeled as 2nd Empire, plus Colonial Revival porch across front.			
6 Meeting House Green	107	Rev. David T. Kimball (minister)	1808
2 story, end gable, wood frame house with clapboarding. Symmetrical 5 bay facade.			
Meeting House Green	109	Frist Church of Ipswich (vestry)	1832
1 1/2 story, facade gable, wood frame building with clapboarding. Symmetrical 3 bay facade with wide, double doors and stained-glass transom.			
27 North Main	87	Methodist Church	1859
Facade gable, wood frame church with clapboarding, central tower (presently lacking steeple). Tall, round-headed stained-glass windows, bracketed cornice.			
25 North Main	83	Town of Ipswich	1817
Old Fellows Hall is a 2 story, flat roofed, brick structure built as a Probate Court and Registry. A Victorian storefront is inserted at the left of the facade. Window and door sills and splayed dentils are stone. Brick lentils and wooden modillions at cornice.			

Maple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Ipswich	Form No:
Property Name: Meeting House Green	

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

<u>Street #</u>	<u>Map #</u>	<u>First Owner (Occupation)</u>	<u>Date</u>
23 North Main Brick, L-plan structure with facade doric entry portico, quoins, string course, window sills and keystones.	86	Town of Ipswich (library)	1869
21 North Main 2 1/a story, mansard-roofed, wood frame house with clapboards. Second- Empire wooden trim includes quoins, entry porch and bay-window above, brackets, alternating triangular and segmental dormers.	80	T.F. Cogswell (grocer)	ca 1880
19 North Main 3 story, hipped roof, wood frame house with clapboards. Off-center Federal entry in 3 bay, asymmetrical facade.	84	Dr. Thomas Manning (physician & industrialist)	1799

Staple to Inventory form at bottom



N. Main



corner of High + N. Main
facing S. #91 in front



FHR-8-300A
(11/78)UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

FOR HCRS USE ONLY

RECEIVED

DATE ENTERED

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**Meeting House Green District Owners

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4

PAGE 1 of 19

<u>Map No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
1x	2 Green St.	Dr. Soderland	ca 1860-70	Perkins House
109	Meeting House Green	First Church	1832	First Church Chapel
120x	Meeting House Green	First Church	ca 1973	First Church
106	1 Meeting House Green	Nancy Thompson	ca 1842	Joseph Farley House
108	4 Meeting House Green	Francis Carleton	1812	Capt Israel Pulcifer
107	6 Meeting House Green	Bick and Curry	1808	Rev. Kimball House
92	2 North Main St.	Land and Schroeder	ca 1707	Col Appleton House
95	6-8 Meeting House Green	Ralph Campbell	ca 1747	Ebenezer Stanwood Hse.
94	16 Meeting House Green	Grace Brooks	ca 1741	Christian Wainwright H
2x	17 Meeting House Green	Christian Science	1933	Christian Science Chc.
84	19 Meeting House Green	Mr. + Mrs Donald Fouser	1799	Old Parsonage
96	20 Meeting House Green	Trustees of Coburn Home	1845	Lucy Coburn Home
80	21 Meeting House Green	George Bouchard	1888	Cogswell Apts.
85	22 Meeting House Green	Charles Lampson	1834	The Master's House
86	23 Meeting House Green	Town of Ipswich	1869	Library

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HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM

Meeting House Geen District Owners Cont.

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 2 of 19

<u>Map No</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
88	24 Meeting House Green	Charles Lampson	1904	Colonial Building
83	25 Meeting House Green	Nathaniel Pulsifer	1817	Odd Fellows Hall
87	27 Meeting House Green	Methodist Church	1859	Methodist Church
3x	30 Meeting House Green	Charles Lampson	ca 1880	Old Agawam Hotel
4x	33 Meeting House Green	Ethel Whitney	ca 1860-70	Waite House
5x	34 Meeting House Green	Elizabeth Clancy	ca 1885-90	
99	38 Meeting House Green	Marsh and Ashe	ca 1836	The Brick Block
97	40 Meeting House Green	Richard Ziebell	ca 1769	Dr. Manning House
100	42 Meeting House Green	Richard Ziebell	ca 1763	Old Post Office
101	44 Meeting House Green	Harold Jacobson	1825	John Brewer House
89	45 Meeting House Green	Francis Carleton	1859-60	Carleton Funeral Home
90	47 Meeting House Green	Eleanor Tinsley	1888	Farley House
164	48 Meeting House Green	Sam Nove	ca 1871	John A. Johnson House

FHR-8-300A
(11/78)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

Meeting House Green District Owners Cont.

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 4 PAGE 3 of 19

<u>Map No.</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Owner</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Name</u>
102	49 Meeting House Green	Charles Cobb	ca 1770	John Chapman House
6x	50 Meeting House Green	Spenser Thompson	ca 1890	Harry K. Dodge House
812	52 Meeting House Green	Martin Inman	1866	Damon House
82	51-53 Meeting House Green	Motley Realty Trust	1849	Sarah Lord House
111	54 Meeting House Green	Joseph Poussard	ca 1750/1845	Tho. Morley House
103	56 North Main St.	Brainard Wallace	ca 1700-20	James Brown House
93	57 North Main St.	John Heimbecker	ca 1737	Day-Dodge House
98	60 North Main St.	Leonard Oakes	1796-99	Treadwell-Hale Hse.
7x	62 North Main St.	Frank Kellie	1870	Dodge House
91	64 North Main St.	Antonia Crosby	1728	Capt Richard Rogers Hse

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

NTR
IPS.E

Form numbers in this area 80-81, 83-103, 111, 106-109, 164	Area no. E
--	---------------

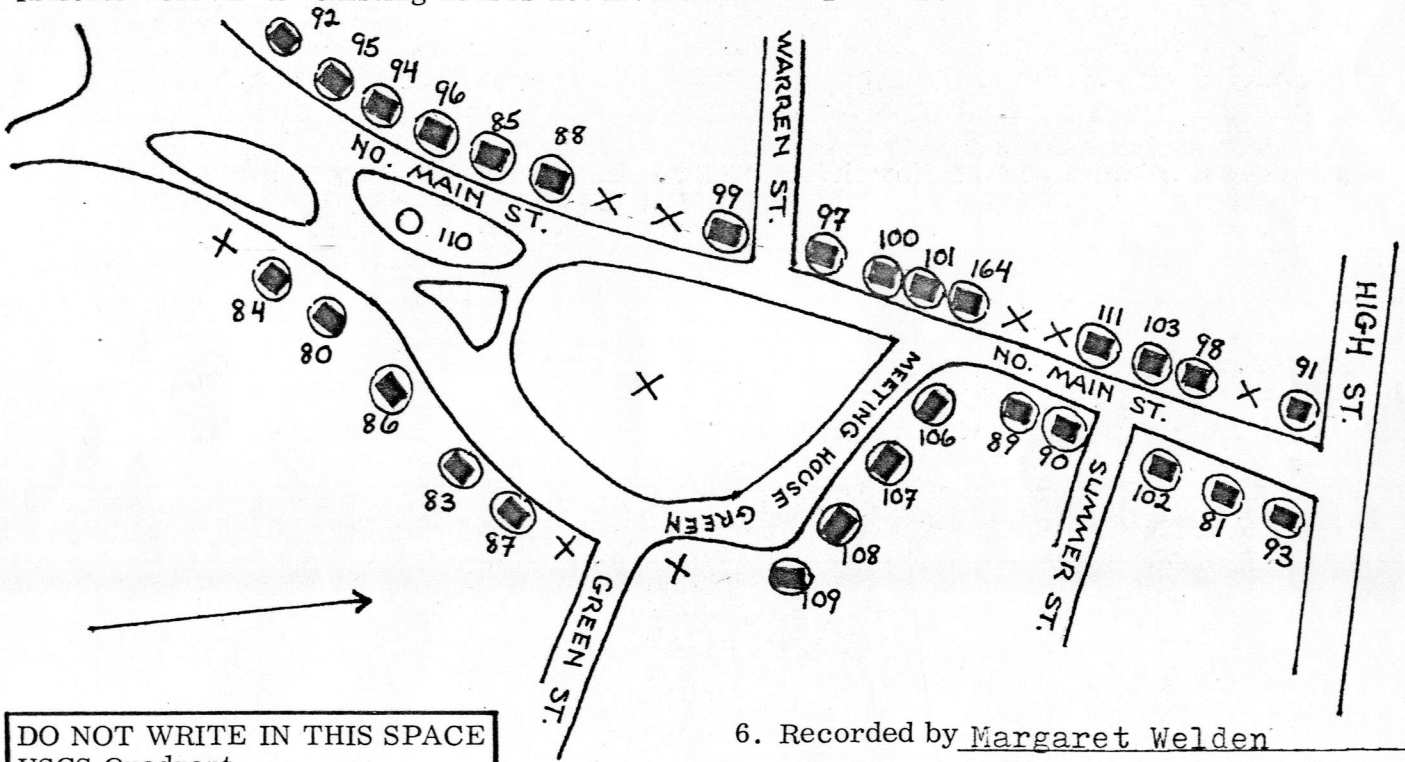
2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

1. Town Ipswich
Name of area (if any) Meeting House Green

3. General date or period 18th - 19th centuries

4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? no (18th & 19th century styles)
in condition? yes (well maintained)
in type of ownership? yes (private)
in use? yes (residential)

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

6. Recorded by Margaret Welden
Organization Ipswich Historical Comm.
Date Oct. 1978

(over)

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

The Meeting House Green in Ipswich has a long and colorful history. Set apart for public use by early residents in 1634, the Green still continues to be an active community center. An early meeting house, a jail, a fort, the town pound for stray cattle, the stocks - all were located around the Green in the 17th century. Later, the Post Office, the Probate Court, the Ipswich Female Seminary, the Agawam Hotel, and many stores surrounded the Green and infused it with vitality. Today three churches and the public Library continue to draw people to the old Green.

Many notable events occurred on the Green. The earliest of these was the Revolution of 1687. Led by Rev. John Wise, the citizens of Ipswich denounced the levy of taxes by the arbitrary government of Sir Edmund Andros, and hence Ipswich has been christened the birthplace of American independence. It was here, in the old meeting house, that Lafayette was honored. A legend has been built up around the Green as well. It is said that the Devil was driven from the meeting house tower and left his footprints in the rock below. These marks can still be seen today.

Three centuries of American architecture circle the Green, reflecting shifts in tastes and lifestyles. Stately pre-Revolutionary mansions stand beside gaudy Victorians in harmonious diversity. Almost every decade ranging from 1707 - 1970 has its representative building.

Two fine Georgian homes mark the north boundary of the area - the Capt. Richard Rogers House (form # 91) and the Day-Dodge House (form # 93). These houses act as strong corner anchors and set the tone of the area.

The south corner of North Main St. is dominated by the Col. John Appleton House (form #92) built in 1707. Appleton was a prominent citizen of Ipswich and participated in the Andros Rebellion. Later, Daniel Noyes, postmaster and delegate to the Provincial Congress, owned the house. Though 18th century homes dominate the Green, many outstanding examples of later architecture line North Main St. as well.

The Odd Fellows Hall, built in 1817, is one of four pre-Civil War brick structures in Ipswich. It has served many capacities including a Probate Court and Registry, barracks, a drugstore, and today a

8. Bibliography and/or references such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.

T.F. Waters, Ipswich in the Mass. Bay Colony, vol. I, pp. 422-435, vol. II, p. 761.

IPSE

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Ipswich	Form No:
Property Name: Meeting House Green	

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

7. Historical Data Cont.

publishing house.

Outstanding examples of diverse architectural styles and a rich history make the Meeting House Green unique in Massachusetts and in the country as a whole.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town

Property Address

Ipswich Meeting House

195.E

Area(s)

Form No.

IPST 48K

NO form

Area E

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF INSPECTION
PLAN RECORD

CASE *B* RACK *1* APART *8* NO. *17300* ✓
BUILDING *First Church* STREET *the Green* STORIES *2*
CITY OR TOWN *Ipswich* CLASS *Church*
TO BE USED FOR *Church*
OWNER *1st & South Church*
ARCHITECT *Brainerd & Leeds*
CERTIFICATE APPROVAL - ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~
DATE *Sept. 29, 1923.*
INSPECTOR *McCann*

FORM 41 2030 4-9-23