

HOSMER HOUSE
circa 1815



*Sudbury Historical Commission
Sudbury Centre
Sudbury, MA 01776*

September 17, 2019

Sudbury Building Department
Old Lancaster Road
Sudbury, MA 01776

Subject: 554 Boston Post Road – Stone Tavern Farm Red Barn with Cupola

Attention: Andrew Lewis
Building Inspector

Dear Mr. Lewis:

On September 17, 2019, the Sudbury Historical Commission determined that it would be detrimental to the historical and architectural heritage or resources of the Town of Sudbury for the Red Barn with Cupola located at 554 Boston Post Road or any part thereof to be demolished and it should be preferably preserved. No demolition permit shall be issued until six months after the date of such determination by the Commission.

Regards,

Chris Hagger, Chairman
Sudbury Historical Commission

CC: Anne Stone, Windover Construction, Adam Duchesneau, Town Planner, Diana Warren, SHC Vice Chair

Sudbury Historical Commission

Report on the Demolition Plan

Stone Tavern Farm Red Barn with Cupola

554 Boston Post Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts

September 17, 2019

The Stone Tavern Farm represents the full spectrum of Sudbury's history beginning with Sudbury Plantation in 1638 and direct lineage links to 1620 migration patterns through Stone family forebears Myles Standish and other Mayflower passengers.

There are no other structures or buildings in Sudbury that are more historically valuable and significant than the c 1850 red barn with cupola and the tavern farmhouse on the Stone Tavern Farm coupled with its farm landscape. It is rare that the unique barn and farmhouse combination still exists today – and rarer still to be located on the Boston Post Road.

The Stone Tavern Farm red barn with cupola is one of numerous structures on the property which includes the Georgian period tavern farmhouse, large shed barn, trench silo barn, a structure to house farm equipment, other outbuildings, 1980's workshop and a 1990's farm stand. The property is one of a very few intact historic farms remaining in Sudbury today.

The farm's buildings are sited on three acres fronting the Boston Post Road but still coupled with 56 acres of farmland extending northerly beyond the barn that is deed restricted under the 1984 Agricultural Preservation Restriction.

The Stone barn and in particular its cupola have exceptional design, scale and proportions. It is also an exceptional architectural example of the evolution and innovation in barn design in the early to mid-nineteenth century in New England. The barn has a 40 feet by 80 feet footprint and is post and beam construction with rough-hewn boards and beams.

It has an Italianate cupola – which is a ridge ventilator with louvers in triple arched casings and a curved shaped roof topped with a metal cap. It is a banked barn with the lower side on the north. The barn features a row of five small two over two windows on the ground floor of the south side to let in light to the area of the interior's stalls. There is a six over six window at the peak on the east and west ends, and decorative boxed cornices. The main barn door is on the east gable end. This is typical of the evolution in barn design and construction from earlier time periods based on the English style barn with the door on the side. There is also a large door on the west end of the barn. At right angles to the red barn connecting on its back right corner is the shed barn. The interior structural design includes stalls and the hay loft. ...

The red barn possesses all the criteria the National Register uses to determine historical significance: location, design, setting, materials, and workmanship. The barn's interior and exterior construction are exceptional examples of 19th century materials, workmanship and design.

The red barn paired with the Stone tavern farmhouse demonstrates the evolution of the use of the property from a tavern and mail stop to farming and dairying, and a horse farm with the fields used as pasture land and for haying. The 1804 Old Farmer's Almanac mentions the property as being a tavern and mail stop.

The Tavern Farm property has been continually owned by the Stone family for over 200 years. It was purchased in 1816 by William Stone (1787-1862), the son of East Sudbury tavern keeper, John Stone (1757-1844), from Timothy Batts, stable keeper of Boston. William operated the Sudbury property as a tavern and tannery, transitioning to farming after having also operated taverns in Stow and East Sudbury (Wayland). It is likely that William, rather than his son, George Washington Stone (1815-1870), built the barn after he had retired from tavern keeping. The historic name of the property is the William Stone Tavern.

The Stone family is descended from original Sudbury Plantation (1638) settlers: John Stone (1618-1683), Walter Haynes (1583-1664), Edmund Rice (1594-161663) and Peter Noyes (1590-1657). The family is also directly descended – as mentioned above - from Myles Standish and other Mayflower passengers, and many who fought in the American Revolutionary War (see attached Stone family genealogy chart), including Josiah Haynes who died at the Battle of Lexington on April 19, 1775.

See Historic Property Survey, Town of Sudbury, Phase One June 1996; Massachusetts Historical Commission MACRIS listing (and for references for Stone Farm on Sudbury Atlases/Maps of 1831, 1856, 1875, 1889, and 1908); Hudson, The History of Sudbury 1889; Conlin Middlesex County and Its People, 1927 page 139-140; Biographical Review Volume XXVII Containing Life Sketches of Leading Citizens of Middlesex County Massachusetts 1898 pages 698 and 701; Gregory Stone Genealogy; Vital Records of Sudbury, Town Clerk's Office.

Sudbury Historical Commission

Report on the Demolition Plan

c 1850 Stone Tavern Farm Barn with Cupola

(MACRIS SUD.9)

554 Boston Post Road, Sudbury, Massachusetts

September 17, 2019

c 1850 Barn with Cupola and Georgian Period Stone Tavern Farmhouse
Massachusetts Historical Commission (MACRIS) Photo 1995



Stone Barn with Cupola and Shed Barn
Massachusetts Historical Commission (MACRIS) Photo1995



Stone Farm Barn c. 1850
South façade with east elevation and shed barn
February 2019 photo



Stone Barn c 1850
Photo April 2019



c 1850 Barn
South façade facing the Boston Post Road
April 2019 photo

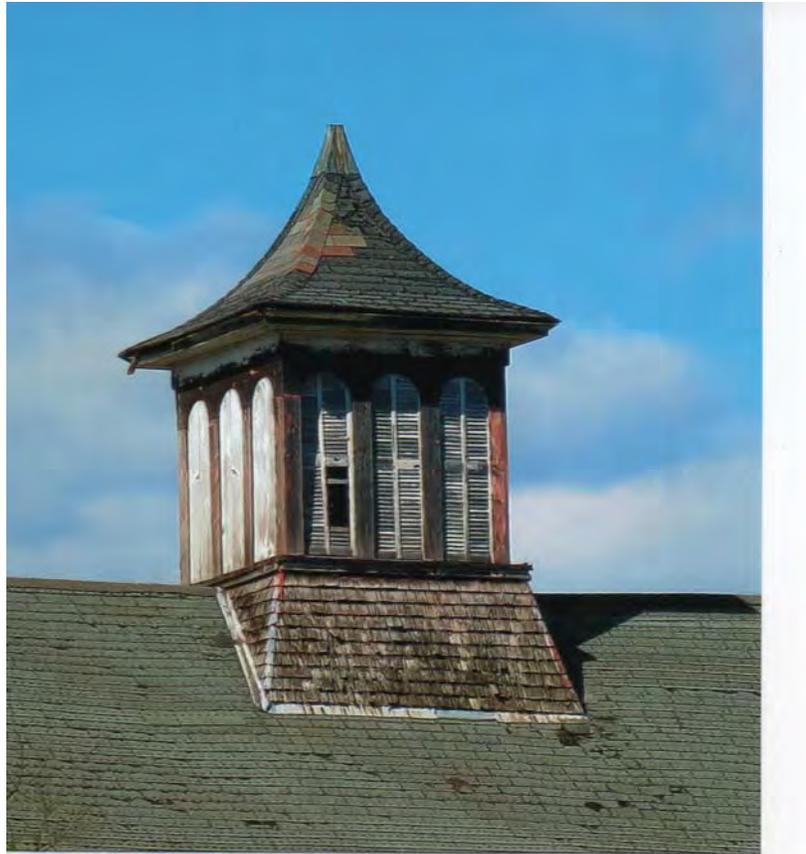


Stone Barn Cupola

April 2019 photo



Stone Farm
Ventilator Cupola
April 2019 photo



Cupola and Gable End Window



Stone Family History is Sudbury's History

Links to 1638 Sudbury Plantation Settler Families (Stone, Noyes and Haynes)
and American Revolutionary War Patriots

