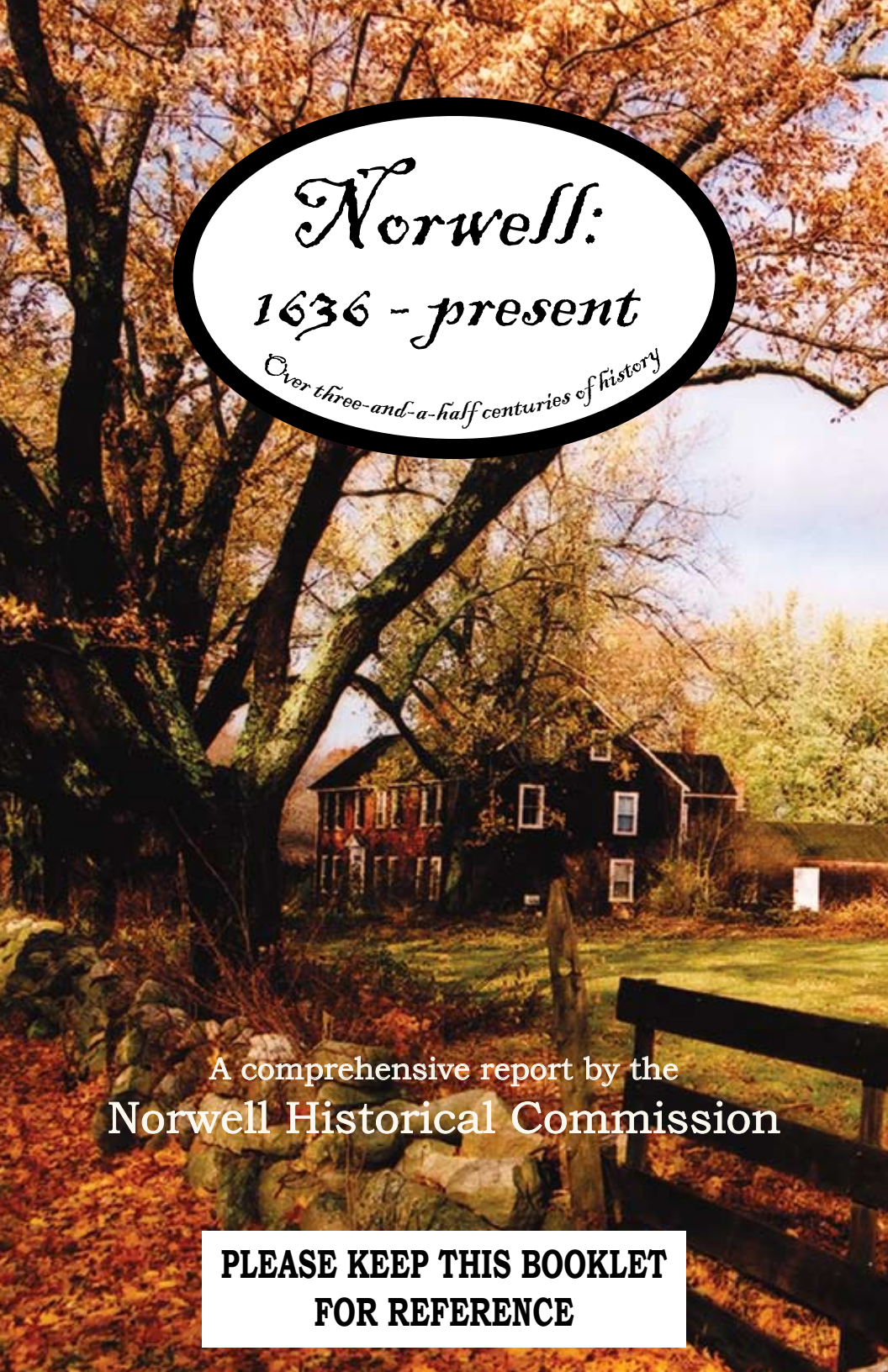

# Norwell: 1636 - present

*Over three-and-a-half centuries of history*

A comprehensive report by the

Norwell Historical Commission

**PLEASE KEEP THIS BOOKLET FOR REFERENCE**

**NORWELL HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

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*provided in part by the*

CITIZENS
OF NORWELL

*through the*

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION ACT

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Cover Photo: Judy Enright

*(Left) The town-owned Stetson-Ford House off of Meadow Farms Way in 1938*

*(Right) The 18th century Kent House still stands proudly in Norwell Center.*

*photo by Judy Enright*



**PLEASE READ THROUGH THIS BOOKLET...**
**Learn a little bit about the history of Norwell and see for yourself why its rich heritage needs (and deserves) to be preserved.** *--The Norwell Historical Commission*

## Essential Questions

Why is preserving Norwell's history important? Page 4

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Where do we go from here? Page 15

Where are Norwell's historic properties? Page 16
*(see yellow note)*

The Commonwealth requires all local Historical Commissions to perform a survey of their towns' historical resources. In 2004, the Norwell Historical Commission (using CPA funds) hired an architectural firm that specializes in historic cataloging and research to compile a detailed inventory of all the historic homes and sites in Norwell. The listing beginning on page 16 is a portion of that survey.

# Why is preserving Norwell's history important?

**NORWELL'S VISION STATEMENT:** Protect the town's natural environment and its green and semi-rural character, while enhancing its small-town and family-oriented community life, and its overall livability. *--from the Town of Norwell Master Plan*

***"A generation which ignores history has no past and no future."***
--Robert Heinlein

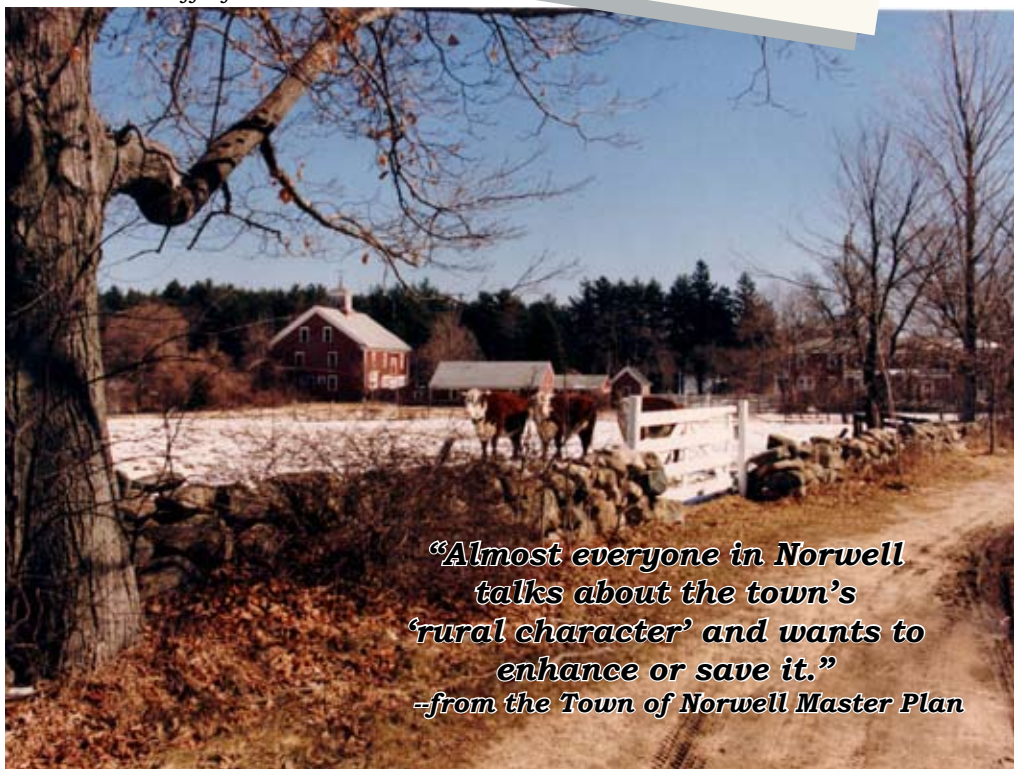
***"While it is often thought that historic preservation is primarily accomplished through the state or federal government, nothing could be further from the truth. It is in fact our nation's cities and towns that are most adept at protecting historic resources. This is because cities and towns know their communities better than anyone else, and they also have the best tools available to protect historic resources."***
--William Francis Galvin,
Secretary of the Commonwealth

*photo by Judy Enright*

***"Our landscape is our unwitting biography."***
--Pierce Lewis

***"We in Norwell must decide if the biography we write for our children will include the historic homes and vistas that drew so many of us to this town in the first place."***
--Norwell Historical Commission

*Currie Farm off of Main Street.*



***"Almost everyone in Norwell talks about the town's 'rural character' and wants to enhance or save it."***
***--from the Town of Norwell Master Plan***

## Why produce this booklet?

The results of the Historical Homes Survey should be made easily available to all citizens, and this booklet provides a summary (beginning on page 16). The Historical Commission hopes that citizens who are educated in the history of Norwell will want to preserve the wonderful resources that exist here.

> *"...public education is an absolutely essential part of historic preservation. When people appreciate and take pride in their historic resources, they are far less likely to demolish, alter or destroy them. A major goal of the local commission should be to increase the public's awareness about the value of historic preservation in general and about the significance of their own community's resources in particular."*
>
> --from the Massachusetts Historical Commission's Guidebook for Historical Commissions

**Please read through this booklet: learn a little about the history of Norwell and see for yourself why the rich history of this town needs (and deserves) to be preserved.**

*The James Library*

*photo by Joe Parsky*



## What is the brief history of Norwell?

Take one look at the Norwell Town Seal and you find a brief history of our town: Scituate 1636; South Scituate 1849; and Norwell 1888.

The lands in Norwell were first settled in 1634 as a part of the settlement of Satuit (later Scituate) by Cornet Robert Stetson and his wife Honour Tucker Stetson. They were granted extensive lands on the North River--some of which include the Stetson Meadows conservation area and the town-owned Stetson-Ford house.

**cor•net** (kôr net´) ***n.*** an old English military rank that refers to the flag bearer of a light horse, non-artillery military unit.

In 1849 the southern portion broke away from Scituate and incorporated itself as South Scituate. Later, in 1888, the town was renamed Norwell.

**coast•ing** (kōst′ing) ***n.*** the carriage of goods or passengers by ship from one place to another

The Town Seal also tells of the importance of boat building in Norwell. The boat in the seal (a "pinkie") was used in the fishing and coasting trade, and many pinkies were built on the North River.

There are records of 1,025 craft being built on the North River. The greatest year was in 1801 when 30

*The Stetson-Ford house, off Meadow Farms Way, is owned by the Town of Norwell because of its great historic significance.*

*photo by Judy Enright*

## What is the brief history of Norwell?, cont'd

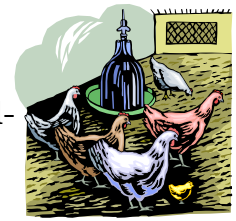
vessels were launched. The cost to build a ship in New England was half the cost of building one in England and the trees along the North River were abundant. Among the most famous ships built on the river was the Columbia, America's first ship to circumnavigate the globe.

*What could have been!*

Norwell was named for Henry Norwell, a wealthy Boston dry goods merchant and summer resident of the town, who provided funds for the maintenance of the roads. Other names considered for the town in 1888 were Deane, Hatherly, Cushing, and Standish. A vote was called and the name Norwell got 215 votes, while the others got 2 each!

Norwell also has a long history of farming. In fact until the 1930s, almost all residents grew much of their own food. Even doctors, lawyers, landlords, and other business people tended a family farm for their personal crops and livestock.

The poultry business in Norwell was so lively in 1919 that "poultry stealing" was a serious matter in the district. Local chicken farmers were in constant danger of heavy loss, so they asked the Commonwealth to consider Norwell for the location of a State Police barracks. A station opened in what is now Drum's Emporium, but in a short time the force was increased to five men and the citizens felt that a strong protective arm was at hand! In 1923, a temporary building was erected to house the troops, and in 1935, the Commonwealth built the current State Police barracks.



Today, Norwell is less known for its shipbuilding and chicken farming and more for its excellent school system and unspoiled beauty.



## How does the Norwell Historical Commission protect our history?

***Local Historical Commissions have certain tools at their disposal to preserve history.*** The following chart shows typical means for historic preservation and how towns in our area practice them:

| TOWN | DEMO DELAY BY-LAW? | SCENIC ROADS? | LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS? | PROPERT. ON NAT'L HISTORIC REGISTER | NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICTS? |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Cohasset | none | none | 1 | 5 | 3 |
| Duxbury | yes 6 months | all | none | 9 | 1 |
| Hanover | yes 1 year | 10 | none | 1 | 1 |
| Hingham | yes 6 months | 5 | 6 (1 proposed) | 5 | 2 |
| Pembroke | yes 90 days | 3 | 2 | 1 | none |
| Scituate | none | 12 | none | 6 | none |
| **NORWELL** | yes 6 months | 20 | none | 3 | 1 |

### DEMOLITION-DELAY BY-LAW

Over 100 towns in Massachusetts have now passed a demolition delay by-law. With this by-law, the demolition of an ***historically significant property*** *(see box on page 10)* can be delayed while alternatives to the destruction of the building or structure are explored.

Norwell's Demolition Delay By-Law requires that applications to demolish buildings must be reviewed by the Historical Commission. Currently, the Commission can require a

## DEMOLITION-DELAY BY-LAW, cont'd

6-month delay of any property listed in our survey of historically-significant properties (*partial list beginning on page 16*).

Throughout Massachusetts, we are losing historically significant properties at a very high rate because of a shortage of buildable land. If an old house sits on a large tract of land, it is a prime target for developers looking to build new homes.

**historically-significant**
(his tôr'ik'lē sig nif'kent)
***n.*** in Norwell: any building, structure, vista, bridge, stone wall, tree, road marker or sign that is associated with an historic person or event, that is architecturally important, or is 75 years or older

Christopher Skelly, director of local government programs for the Massachusetts Historical Commission, said "Many communities have found the 6-month delay inadequate." Developers have become accustomed to dealing with the 6-month by-law. As their projects become more complex and require more permitting, the 6-month time frame becomes meaningless. A longer delay could cause the developers to take a much closer look at an historic building; as a result, they might decide not to purchase it or they might decide to incorporate it into their plans.

**The Norwell Historical Commission would like to increase the current by-law to a 12-month delay.** The 12-month Demolition Delay By-Law is not aimed at stopping development; its purpose is to give developers and the town more time to find alternatives to demolition.

*This historic cape on Mount Blue Street (The Dwelley-Clapp House, circa 1760) is gone forever. It was demolished in 2007 after the Historical Commission made the developer wait the requisite six months. The house sat on 25 acres and the developer found it inconvenient to relocate the home within the new proposed cul-de-sac.*



*The historic Bailey house **(below right)** on Route 53 in Norwell was sold in 2006. Although in need of a paint job on the outside, the inside maintained much of its historic character. Because of the Demolition Delay By-Law, the developer investigated alternatives to tearing down the home. Thankfully the developer had patience and **12-months** later a buyer was found and the house was dismantled and re-assembled in Maine. The house was saved, but Norwell's history was not. A new strip mall now occupies the site.*

*The Damon House **(left)**, circa 1707, was demolished in 2007. The developer razed the tree-lined historic vista as well as the antique Cape to make way for a much larger, new home.*

## SCENIC ROADS

In 1976, Norwell designated our first scenic roads: Bowker Street, Norwell Avenue, Stetson Road, Tiffany Road and Jacobs Lane. Subsequent town meetings have added more, and Norwell now has twenty roads protected.

What makes a road a "scenic road"? The general laws of Massachusetts (Chapter 40, section 15C) provide that a town's Planning Board, Conservation Commission or Historical Commission can initiate the designation process to make any road (other than a numbered route or state highway) a scenic road.

*photo by Joe Parsky*

## SCENIC ROADS, cont'd

When a road is deemed "scenic," its historic beauty is protected. Any repair, maintenance, reconstruction or paving work done with respect to the road shall not involve or include the cutting down or removal of trees or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls (or portions thereof) ***except*** with the prior written consent of the Planning Board and the Tree Warden.

While it is difficult to imagine, there is a thriving business in the purchase and relocation of stone walls. Such activities in or on the twenty streets designated as scenic roads in Norwell would be illegal without review.

In the future, the Historical Commission intends to place special signs on scenic roads to remind us that they are entitled to the preservation protection described above.

**There are three more roads that the Historical Commission would like to see designated "Scenic Roads": Cross Street, Forest Street and Summer Street. We also support a Scenic Roads By-Law which will establish an orderly framework for the administration of this process.**

## HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Most people assume that the Norwell Historical Commission regulates exterior changes to antique homes and buildings.

In fact, only a Local Historic District Commission can enforce such rules and there are currently no Local Historic Districts nor Local Historic District Commissions in Norwell.

***What about Norwell Center? It has an Historic District sign.*** Norwell's Town Center is a National Register Historic Area, *NOT* a local historic district.



## HISTORIC DISTRICTS, cont'd

A National Register Area is part of the National Register of Historic Places, which is a list of individual buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts that are deemed important in American history. If there is no state or federal involvement in a project (such as federal licenses, permits, or funding), then having a National Register Historic Area does not in any way limit an owner's handling of the property. It is, essentially, an honorary title only.

**The Norwell Historical Commission hopes that future preservation planning will include the establishment of Local Historic Districts to protect historic resources from demolition, loss of integrity and decay, and to preserve and enhance Norwell's heritage.**

*These homes on Main Street (above) and on River Street (below) all have significant acreage--enough for multiple homesites, a small cul-de-sac, or a 40(B) project. Without a Local Historic District in place, each of these homes might be in danger of demolition if sold--the developer would only have to wait the requisite six months.*

# The Norwell Historical Commission & The Norwell Historical Society How do they differ?

The Historical **Commission** is an appointed town board whose duty is to protect and preserve the historical integrity of the town.

The Historical **Society** is a private membership organization that works to preserve the artifacts related to the history of Norwell. It maintains the Society Library at the Middle School, oversees the artifacts at the Jacobs Farmhouse, and houses and catalogs historic documents on the 3rd floor of Sparrell School.

*Currie Farm in 1989*
*photo by Judy Enright*

# What do we go from here?

**THE HISTORICAL COMMISSION RECOMMENDS...**

... the following steps be taken to preserve Norwell's historical integrity:

- Pass a 12-month Demolition Delay By-Law at 2008 Town Meeting.
- Pass the final phase of Scenic Roads (Cross Street, Forest Street and Summer Street) at 2008 Town Meeting.
- Pass the Scenic Roads By-Law at 2008 Town Meeting.
- Within the next two years, create Local Historic Districts in the Town Center and on High Street.
- Review next areas for Local Historic District consideration.

Norwell Residents' TO DO list...

1) Attend Town Meetings--support a stronger Demolition Delay By-Law and the Scenic Roads proposals and note that none of these proposals require any funding!
2) Call the Historical Society for more information on Norwell history (781-659-1888).
3) Support future efforts of the Historical Commission to maintain Norwell's many historic resources.
4) Drive by the historic buildings listed in this booklet and appreciate the rich history of our town!

**NORWELL HISTORICAL COMMISSION**
**345 MAIN STREET, NORWELL, MA 02061**

# A LISTING OF NORWELL'S HISTORIC BUILDINGS

| # AND STREET | HOUSE KNOWN AS… | YEAR BUILT |
|---|---|---|
| **5 Assinippi Ave.** | Elisha Jacobs | ca. 1765 |
| **19 Assinippi Ave.** | Edward F. Jacobs | 1831-1857 |
| **27 Assinippi Ave.** | Henry Jacobs Heirs | Mid-19th Century |
| **33 Assinippi Ave.** | Henry Jacobs Heirs | Mid-19th Century |
| **13 Barstow Ave.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **28 Barstow Ave.** | Thomas B. Green | 1831-1857 |
| **83 Barstow Ave.** | Thomas Barstow Jr. | ca. 1780 |
| **36 Bates Ln.** | | Mid to Late 19th Century |
| **26 Block House Ln.** | | Late 19th Century |
| **45 Block House Ln.** | John James | ca. 1820 (Main House) |
| **53 Block House Ln.** | E. Burrell | 2nd half 18th Century |
| **24 Bowker St.** | James I. Sears | 1831-1857 |
| **100 Bowker St.** | Bowker | ca. 1800 |
| **7 Brantwood** | Bailey | Late 18th Century |
| **41 Brigantine Circle** | Fred K. Kendall Summer House "Kenfields" | 1895 |
| **56 Brigantine Circle** | Nathaniel Church "Shipwright's Cottage" | ca. 1719 |
| **255 Brigantine Circle** | Lemuel & Charles Church Cottage "Rose Cottage" | 1765 |
| **7 Central St.** | 2nd Homer Bowker | ca. 1844 |
| **11 Central St.** | Frederick M. Curtis | ca. 1886 |
| **18 Central St.** | 1st District No. 6 Schoolhouse | 1840's |
| **19 Central St.** | Parsons Bowker | ca. 1831 |
| **24 Central St.** | Torrey Family | ca. 1715 |
| **30 Central St.** | James N. Sparrell Carpentry and Coffin Shop | ca. 1820 |
| **31 Central St.** | John Ewell | 1798 |
| **42 Central St.** | Caleb Torrey Junior | ca. 1804 |
| **45 Central St.** | Isaac Torrey | ca. 1780 |
| **48 Central St.** | Jonathan & Joseph Merritt | ca. 1826 |
| **67 Central St.** | James Merritt | 1849-1857 |
| **80 Central St.** | James H. Pinkham | 1857-1879 |
| **81 Central St.** | | 1917-1941 |
| **95 Central St.** | Frank Studley | 1903-1914 |
| **127 Central St.** | Cassander Knight | ca. 1882 |
| **150 Central St.** | George H. Briggs | ca. 1840 |
| **161 Central St.** | George H. Turner | ca. 1881 |
| **172 Central St.** | L. Litchfield | ca. 1725 |
| **180 Central St.** | Solon Jenkins | 1831-1857 |



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **182 Central St.** | Abial Turner | ca. 1737 |
| **10 Central St.** | Ebenezer T. Fogg General Store | ca. 1820 |
| **16 Church St.** | | 20th Century |
| **18 Church St.** | William Coleman (1857 map) | 1831-1857 |
| **26 Church St.** | William Coleman (1857 map) | 1840 |
| **34 Church St.** | A. Palmer (1857 map) | Late 19th Century |
| **63 Circuit St.** | S. Foster | 1857-1879 |
| **33 Common Ave.** | | 1840 |
| **4 Common St.** | A. Stetson | Mid 19th Century |
| **20 Common St.** | A. Stetson (1857 map) | Late 18th Century |
| **27 Cross St.** | Cushing Otis Briggs | ca. 1813 |
| **174 Cross St.** | Deacon John Ruggles | ca. 1720 |
| **175 Cross St.** | Cushing Hatch | ca. 1860 |
| **195 Cross St.** | Helen T Jones | 1857-1879 |
| **224 Cross St.** | Elisha Hayden | ca. 1811 |
| **300 Cross St.** | Antoine Joseph | ca. 1856 |
| **10 Dover St.** | Hester Howland | ca. 1831 |
| **39 Dover St.** | Cushing Family Store | ca. 1840 |
| **1 First Parish Rd.** | Benjamin Briggs Sr. | 1758 |
| **26 First Parish Rd.** | Thankful Damon | 1879-1903 |
| **9 Forest Ave.** | G.H. Torrey Store | ca. 1850 |
| **20 Forest St.** | Sally Bisbee | ca. 1750 |
| **42 Forest St.** | | ca. 1880 |
| **222 Forest St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **3 Fox Hill Ln.** | F. Kendall | 1897 |
| **3 Fox Hill Ln.** | F. Kendall Stable | ca. 1897 |
| **20 Fox Hill Ln.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **39 Fox Hill Ln.** | | 19th Century |
| **70 Green St.** | W.C. Litchfield (1879 map) | Early 19th Century |
| **95 Green St.** | S. Lapham (1879 map) | Mid 19th Century |
| **24 Grove St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **59 Grove St.** | | ca. 1906 |
| **96 Grove St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **503 Grove St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **510 Grove St.** | J. Damon (1857 map) | Late 18th Century |
| **533 Grove St.** | Jacob Damon | ca. 1814 |
| **577 Grove St.** | Elijah Damon | Late 18th Century |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **614 Grove St.** | T.C. Totman (1857 map) | Early 19th Century |
| **659 Grove St.** | Charles Farrah (1857 map) | Late 18th Century |
| **668 Grove St.** | John Bowker | Early 20th Century |
| **689 Grove St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **738 Grove St.** | Mark Dawber | 1920 |
| **741 Grove St.** | D. Spencer | 1831-1857 |
| **767 Grove St.** | Samuel Bryant | ca. 1711 |
| **18 High St.** | J.E. Stoddard | 1879-1902 |
| **19 High St.** | Charles Skully | 1857-1879 |
| **22 High St.** | J.E. Stoddard | 1879-1902 |
| **27 High St.** | | Mid-20th Century |
| **37 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **40 High St.** | | Mid-20th Century |
| **44 High St.** | | ca. 1905 |
| **51 High St.** | Arthur T. Stoddard | ca. 1900 |
| **56 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **58 High St.** | Charles Gardner | Early 20th Century |
| **59 High St.** | David P. Robinson House & Shop | ca. 1850 |
| **62 High St.** | Joseph Prouty | 1906 |
| **73 High St.** | Davis Whiting/Cyrus Stoddard | ca. 1800 w/earlier origins |
| **74 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **80 High St.** | C. Williamson | Early 20th Century |
| **86 High St.** | Smith' s Saloon | Late 19th Century |
| **89 High St.** | | 1831-1850 |
| **100 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **102 High St.** | D. Willard Robinson Post/GAR Hall | ca 1900 remodelled |
| **105 High St.** | Charles Grose Residence and Shoe Shop | 1831-1857 |
| **110 High St.** | C. Wilder | 18th Century |
| **116 High St.** | Charles Grose | ca. 1867 |
| **119 High St.** | C. Grose Residence/Shop | Late 19th Century |
| **121 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **122 High St.** | Charles W. Grose | 1872 |
| **129 High St.** | | 1879-1903 |
| **141 High St.** | | ca. 1700 |
| **147 High St.** | Stoddard | Mid 19th Century |
| **151 High St.** | H. Gardner (1857 map) | ca. 1795 |
| **152 High St.** | Joshua S. Bates | 1871 |



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **153 High St.** | H. Vining | 1857-1879 |
| **157 High St.** | A.U. Randall | 1857-1879 |
| **164 High St.** | Ansel Grose | 1857-1879 |
| **165 High St.** | A. Randall (1879 map) | Mid-19th Century |
| **168 High St.** | J. Grose | ca. 1850 |
| **170 High St.** | E. Gardner | Mid-19th Century |
| **171 High St.** | J. Curtis Heirs (1879 map) | Mid 19th Century |
| **188 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **194 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **200 High St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **225 High St.** | | Pre-1831 |
| **231 High St.** | Store (1879 map) | 18th Century |
| **236 High St.** | W. Cushing | Mid-19th Century |
| **244 High St.** | William Harris | 1831-1857 |
| **247 High St.** | T. Chatman (1857 map) | Early 19th Century |
| **256 High St.** | C.J. Ford | Late 19th Century |
| **260 High St.** | J. Thomas Hatch | ca. 1880 |
| **265 High St.** | I.L. Vining | 18th Century |
| **272 High St.** | T. Chatman | ca. 1840 |
| **4 Jacobs Ln.** | Jacobs Farmhouse | ca. 1727 |
| **81 Jacobs Ln.** | Loring Jacobs | 1840 |
| **96 Jacobs Ln.** | Andrew Jacobs | 1845 |
| **99 Jacobs Ln.** | Joshua Jacobs II | 1763 |
| **128 Jacobs Ln.** | Loring Jacobs | ca. 1800 |
| **70 Kings Landing** | | 1917-1941 |
| **74 Kings Landing** | | 1917-1941 |
| **53 Leonard Ln.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **173 Lincoln St.** | E. Spooner | ca. 1870 |
| **201 Lincoln St.** | E. Studley | ca. 1860 |
| **211 Lincoln St.** | Jonathan Bryant | ca. 1706 |
| **229 Lincoln St.** | H. Stoddard Estate | 1879-1902 |
| **244 Lincoln St.** | Henry Ford | 1879-1902 |
| **252 Lincoln St.** | Mrs. M. Lincoln | 1893-1902 |
| **260 Lincoln St.** | | 1893-1902 |
| **42 Main St.** | Cottage | 1917-1941 |
| **49 Main St.** | Ira B Sanborn | 1879-1903 |
| **57 Main St.** | James Jacobs | ca. 1808 |

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **60 Main St.** | Frank E Lind | ca. 1924 |
| **67 Main St.** | Samuel Clapp | ca. 1725 |
| **77 Main St.** | Alpheus Damon Store | ca. 1876 |
| **78 Main St.** | Alpheus Damon Buildings | 1879-1903 |
| **107 Main St.** | Samuel Randall (II) | ca. 1812 |
| **108 Main St.** | Joseph Briggs | 1893-1903 |
| **127 Main St.** | Elijah Clapp | ca. 1850 |
| **135 Main St.** | James Sylvester Clapp | ca. 1826 |
| **142 Main St.** | Norwell Grange Hall | ca. 1888 |
| **145 Main St.** | Simeon Damon | 1831-1857 |
| **155 Main St.** | Jane Singleton | 1810-1831 |
| **163 Main St.** | James Cushing | ca. 1713 |
| **215 Main St.** | | Late 19th Century |
| **266 Main St.** | | 1917-1941 |
| **296 Main St.** | Nathaniel Brooks Jr | ca. 1723 |
| **322 Main St.** | Sparrell School (formerly Norwell High School) | 1936 |
| **333 Main St.** | Ezekial T Vinal | 1857-1879 |
| **338 Main St.** | Nathaniel Brooks Heirs | ca. 1726 |
| **341 Main St.** | Jotham Rogers | 1853 |
| **345 Main St.** | Osborn School | 1950 |
| **348 Main St.** | | ca. 1920 |
| **379 Main St.** | Nathaniel Clapp "White Oak Farm" | ca. 1814 |
| **384 Main St.** | White Oak Farm Barn | 1857-1879 |
| **415 Main St.** | Nathaniel B Clapp | ca. 1842 |
| **430 Main St.** | Philip Turner | ca. 1700 |
| **465 Main St.** | Horatio Nelson Bowker | ca. 1783 |
| **479 Main St.** | Howard Bowker | ca. 1741 (Earlier origins) |
| **536 Main St.** | Peleg Bryant | ca. 1751 |
| **575 Main St.** | Cushing Family Homestead Farm | ca. 1771 |
| **580 Main St.** | Cushing | ca. 1800 |
| **593 Main St.** | George Anson Robbins | ca. 1836 |
| **594 Main St.** | Cushing Farm | ca. 1824 |
| **598 Main St.** | Joseph H Corthell | 1870s |
| **604 Main St.** | Second Joseph H Corthell | ca. 1898 |
| **607 Main St.** | Second Thomas Lawrence | 1870s |
| **610 Main St.** | Israel Nash | ca. 1827 |
| **625 Main St.** | Rev. Samuel Deane | ca. 1810 |



| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **630 Main St.** | Otis Hersey | ca. 1870 |
| **637 Main St.** | 2nd Rev. David Barnes | ca. 1770 |
| **638 Main St.** | Ebenezer Thayer Fogg Jr. | ca. 1872 |
| **644 Main St.** | 1st Pickles Cushing | ca. 1766 |
| **647 Main St.** | Dr. Joseph Whittemore | ca. 1838 |
| **661 Main St.** | John Nash | ca. 1794 |
| **667 Main St.** | John King Nash | ca. 1832 |
| **673 Main St.** | Cushing Memorial Town Hall | 1936-1937 |
| **677 Main St.** | Norwell Central Fire Station | 1968 |
| **680 Main St.** | Charles W. Tilden Blacksmith Shop & Harry S Merritt Barber Shop | ca. 1876 |
| **683 Main St.** | Joesph Merritt | 1855-1856 |
| **687 Main St.** | John E Corthell | 1835 |
| **690 Main St.** | John H Sparrell Garage | 1938 |
| **724 Main St.** | Joseph's Pontiac Service Station & Garage | 1928 |
| **727 Main St.** | Benjamin Collamore/George Stetson | ca. 1790 |
| **734 Main St.** | Marian Merritt | 1924 |
| **761 Main St.** | South Scituate Parish Church Parsonage "The Old Parsonage" | 1728 |
| **768 Main St.** | Bryant-Cushing House | 1698 |
| **772 Main St.** | Thomas Sylvester | ca. 1773 |
| **777 Main St.** | Anson Robbins | ca. 1803 |
| **780 Main St.** | David W. Turner | ca. 1862 |
| **793 Main St.** | Capt. Charles H. Turner | ca. 1814 |
| **802 Main St.** | Turner Carriage | ca. 1814 |
| **803 Main St.** | William James | ca. 1780 |
| **808 Main St.** | Charles C. Young Shoe Shop | ca. 1820 |
| **814 Main St.** | Robert W. McDonald Blacksmith Shop | ca. 1900 |
| **830 Main St.** | John P. Henderson | ca. 1898-9 |
| **840 Main St.** | Capt. Thomas Soutworth | ca. 1808 |
| **841 Main St.** | Elijah Curtis Jr. "May Elms" | ca. 1773-86 |
| **857 Main St.** | Benjamin Nichols | 1834 |
| **860 Main St.** | Jonathan Turner | ca. 1645 |
| **869 Main St.** | Jonathan & Joseph Turner | ca. 1676 |
| **876 Main St.** | John Turner II | ca. 1870 |
| **894 Main St.** | Thatcher Tilden | ca. 1714 |
| **947 Main St.** | Thomas Sable[s] | 1874 |
| **959 Main St.** | John Foster Jr. | 1793 |

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| **996 Main St.** | Howard A. Delano | 1923 |
| **997 Main St.** | Dr. Issac Otis | ca. 1723 |
| **1056 Main St.** | Coleman Ford | ca. 1857-1879 |
| **1057 Main St.** | Mortimer Maxwell | ca. 1920 |
| **1081 Main St.** | Henry Briggs | ca. 1806 |
| **1123 Main St.** | Frederick B. Delano | ca. 1920 |
| **2 Meadow Farms Way** | Stetson-Ford House | ca. 1785 |
| **8 Meadow Farms Way** | Abner Stetson | ca. 1690 |
| **31 Mill Ln.** | Torrey Tenement Housing | ca. 1875 |
| **99 Mill Ln.** | Edward Damon | ca. 1777 |
| **85 Mount Blue St.** | Timothy Williamson | ca. 1797 |
| **88 Mount Blue St.** | Charles Williamson | ca. 1850 |
| **122 Mount Blue St.** | Dwelle[y] Clapp | ca. 1760 |
| **139 Mount Blue St.** | Simeon Grandison | ca. 1805 |
| **161 Mount Blue St.** | Elphege Daneau | 1903-1917 |
| **260 Mount Blue St.** | Jonathan Turner/Perez Turner | 1752 |
| **324 Mount Blue St.** | William H Richardson | 1857-1879 |
| **325 Mount Blue St.** | William Hyland | ca. 1752 |
| **342 Mount Blue St.** | Jonathan Turner | Late 18th/Early 19th Century |
| **462 Mount Blue St.** | James S. Stockbridge | Mid-18th Century |
| **486 Mount Blue St.** | A.J. Stockbridge (1879 map) | 1857-1879 |
| **492 Mount Blue St.** | | 18th Century |
| **497 Mount Blue St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **545 Mount Blue St.** | D. Hill (1857 map) | 18th Century |
| **10 Mount Hope St.** | Bates | 1893-1902 |
| **3 Norwell Ave.** | Joshua Bryant | ca. 1790 |
| **11 Norwell Ave.** | Alphonso Reed | ca. 1876 |
| **15 Norwell Ave.** | Jacob Reed | ca. 1817 |
| **21 Norwell Ave.** | | ca. 1850 |
| **27 Norwell Ave.** | Washington Lincoln | ca. 1850 |
| **45 Norwell Ave.** | Enoch Litchfield | ca. 1850 |
| **79 Norwell Ave.** | George Litchfield | ca. 1888 |
| **135 Norwell Ave.** | Linwood Sousa | ca. 1920 |
| **166 Norwell Ave.** | Henry Norwell | ca. 1870 (w/earlier origins) |
| **11 Oak St.** | William O. Prouty | 1893-1902 |
| **30 OO Bucket Rd.** | Norwell Estate Foreman's House | ca. 1885 |
| **48 OO Bucket Rd.** | Shiverick Turner | 1780-1810 |



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| **56 OO Bucket Rd.** | Jesse Reed | ca. 1920 |
| **64 OO Bucket Rd.** | William H Merritt | ca. 1845 |
| **76 OO Bucket Rd.** | William Turner | ca. 1842 |
| **77 OO Bucket Rd.** | Galen Damon | ca. 1817 |
| **90 OO Bucket Rd.** | Charles H Damon | ca. 1845 |
| **97 OO Bucket Rd.** | Alfred Litchfield | ca. 1840 |
| **100 OO Bucket Rd.** | District 4 Schoolhouse | ca. 1850 |
| **114 OO Bucket Rd.** | George Edwin Jacobs | ca. 1849-1857 |
| **136 OO Bucket Rd.** | Homer L Studley | ca. 1853 |
| **147 OO Bucket Rd.** | | ca..1811 |
| **175 OO Bucket Rd.** | William Hatch | 1835 |
| **195 OO Bucket Rd.** | Jonathan Hatch | ca. 1750 |
| **217 OO Bucket Rd.** | Thomas Jenkins Jr. | ca. 1766 |
| **225 OO Bucket Rd.** | Harrison Wilder | 1843 |
| **232 OO Bucket Rd.** | William Studley 3rd | ca. 1830 |
| **240 OO Bucket Rd.** | William Studley 1st | ca. 1776 |
| **265 OO Bucket Rd.** | 2nd Pickles Cushing House | ca. 1792 |
| **299 OO Bucket Rd.** | Joseph Cushing | ca. 1790 |
| **330 OO Bucket Rd.** | John Cushing | 1825 |
| **88 Parker St.** | 2nd District No. 6 Schoolhouse | ca. 1850 |
| **60 Pine St.** | William Copeland (1857 map) | 18th/19th Century |
| **83 Pine St.** | Charles P. Tolman | 1810/1811 |
| **94 Pine St.** | | 18th Century |
| **109 Pine St.** | Charles Tolman | 1774 |
| **129 Pine St.** | | |
| **140 Pine St.** | Gilbert Brooks | 18th Century |
| **141 Pine St.** | Winslow-Tolman House | ca. 1719 |
| **143 Pleasant St.** | John F. Otis | 1845 |
| **151 Pleasant St.** | | |
| **191 Pleasant St.** | Dr. Ephraim Otis | 18th Century (1732) |
| **242 Pleasant St.** | Lemuel Turner | ca. 1820 |
| **14 Pond St.** | J. Burril (1879 map) | Late 19th Century |
| **29 Prospect St.** | Zebulon Silvester | ca. 1711 |
| **40 Prospect St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **45 Prospect St.** | Edmund Grose | ca. 1730 |
| **61 Prospect St.** | Grose Family | 1879-1903 |
| **88 Prospect St.** | Henry W. Main | Early 19th Century |

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| **109 Prospect St.** | | 20th Century |
| **126 Prospect St.** | John Grose | ca. 1711 |
| **129 Prospect St.** | James Sears/John Groce Box Mill | 1857-1879 |
| **146 Prospect St.** | S. Jacobs | Mid-19th Century |
| **149 Prospect St.** | | 20th Century |
| **246 Prospect St.** | Joshua Jacob III | 18th Century |
| **299 Prospect St.** | E. Brewster | 1893-1902 |
| **1 River St.** | South Scituate Savings Bank | 1936 |
| **24 River St.** | Norwell First Parish Church | 1830 |
| **53 River St.** | John Lewis/W.D. Turner (1902 map) | 18th Century |
| **67 River St.** | Elnathan Cushing (1857 map) | 1794 |
| **93 River St.** | Harry B. Merritt | Early 20th Century |
| **104 River St.** | Job Randall | ca. 1680 |
| **114 River St.** | Issac Torrey/Walter Foster | Late 18th/Early 19th Century |
| **115 River St.** | Sylvester (1857 map) | ca. 1770 |
| **133 River St.** | Willard Torrey | 1857-1879 |
| **151 River St.** | David Torrey Jr. | 1854 |
| **152 River St.** | Hawkes Cushing/Charles Foster | ca. 1770 |
| **160 River St.** | Cudworth | 18th Century |
| **163 River St.** | | 20th Century |
| **206 River St.** | Buck/George Torrey | 18th Century |
| **211 River St.** | Laban Souther | ca. 1790 |
| **238 River St.** | Joseph Clapp (James Williams House) | ca. 1800 |
| **248 River St.** | Frank Dyer | 1879-1902 |
| **253 River St.** | Ebenezer Man | ca. 1753 |
| **259 River St.** | | 20th Century |
| **273 River St.** | Elisha Foster Jr. | ca. 1825 |
| **285 River St.** | | |
| **290 River St.** | J. Warren Briggs | ca. 1860 |
| **303 River St.** | Benjamin Delano | 1770 |
| **370 River St.** | William Delano | 1803 |
| **380 River St.** | | 20th Century |
| **393 River St.** | William Richards | Early-mid 19th century |
| **409 River St.** | J.R. Tolman (1857 map) | ca.1740 |
| **421 River St.** | Tolman Residence | 18th Century |
| **435 River St.** | Seth Foster/Crystal Springs Farm | 18th Century |
| **448 River St.** | Israel Smith | Mid-18th Century |



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| **483 River St.** | | Late 19th /Early 20th century |
| **491 River St.** | William Copeland | Late 18th Century |
| **513 River St.** | Church Hill District # 7 Schoolhouse | 1860 (earlier origins) |
| **550 River St.** | | Mid-19th century |
| **553 River St.** | Captain Joseph Sylvester/Elm Cottage | 18th Century |
| **581 River St.** | D. McCartney | 1831-1857 |
| **585 River St.** | James B. Knapp | 1831-1857 |
| **589 River St.** | George Knapp | 1850 |
| **592 River St.** | | Early 20th century |
| **599 River St.** | Luther Howland | 1831-1857 |
| **604 River St.** | Lemuel Church/Consider Howland | Mid-18th Century |
| **605 River St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **625 River St.** | | Early 20th Century |
| **630 River St.** | Church Hill Church | 1852 |
| **634 River St.** | Melvin Little | 1831-1857 |
| **677 River St.** | William S. Winslow | 1831-1857 |
| **691 River St.** | Thomas Barstow Sr. | ca.1750 |
| **19 South St.** | Flora Damon | ca. 1932 |
| **28 South St.** | Charles R Delano | 1917-1941 |
| **82 South St.** | Joshua Bowker | ca. 1816 |
| **93 South St.** | Peleg Curtis | ca. 1850 |
| **100 South St.** | John Humphries / Thomas Jones | ca. 1775 |
| **134 South St.** | Abby (Jones) Eldridge | ca. 1908 |
| **141 South St.** | Damon | ca. 1707 |
| **214 South St.** | John Clapp | ca. 1707 |
| **230 South St.** | Captain Calvin Curtis | ca. 1774 |
| **17 Stetson Rd.** | E.E. Frass | 1831-1857 |
| **18 Stetson Rd.** | Benjamin Tolman | 18th Century |
| **39 Stetson Rd.** | Samuel Stetson | 1831-1857 |
| **46 Stetson Rd.** | | Early 19th century |
| **53 Stetson Rd.** | E.W. Pratt | Late 18th/Early 19th Century |
| **96 Stetson Rd.** | Melzar Stetson | 1811 |
| **104 Stetson Rd.** | | 20th Century |
| **114 Stetson Rd.** | Melzar Stetson | 18th Century |
| **124 Stetson Rd.** | Barker | 18th/19th Century (Pre-1831) |
| **127 Stetson Rd.** | John Sylvester | 19th/19th Century (Pre-1831) |
| **169 Stetson Rd.** | | 20th Century |

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| **170 Stetson Rd.** | | 19th Century |
| **25 Stets Shrine Ln.** | Ebenezer Stetson | 1826 |
| **36 Stets Shrine Ln.** | G.W. Stetson | 1879-1893 |
| **37 Stets Shrine Ln.** | Jonah Stetson | 1720 |
| **85 Stets Shrine Ln.** | Samuel Stetson | ca.1678 |
| **154 Summer St.** | Paul Briggs | ca. 1822 |
| **194 Summer St.** | 1st Benjamin Merritt | ca. 1814 |
| **195 Summer St.** | Albert Litchfield | ca. 1900 |
| **206 Summer St.** | James L Litchfield | ca. 1860 |
| **218 Summer St.** | Henry Merritt | 1828 |
| **328 Summer St.** | Freeman Litchfield Jr. | ca. 1845 |
| **342 Summer St.** | Nathaniel Ellms Jr. | ca. 1821 |
| **349 Summer St.** | Thomas Ellms | ca. 1829 |
| **3 Tiffany Rd.** | Albert Farrah | 1879-1902 |
| **10 Tiffany Rd.** | | 20th Century |
| **11 Tiffany Rd.** | G.W. Sturdevant (1879 map) | Mid-19th Century |
| **23 Tiffany Rd.** | | Mid-19th Century |
| **45 Tiffany Rd.** | H. Williams | 1831-1857 |
| **54 Tiffany Rd.** | L. Stetson (1857 map) | 18th Century |
| **66 Tiffany Rd.** | Israel Hatch | 1853-1879 |
| **69 Tiffany Rd.** | John Gardner | 1853-1879 |
| **73 Tiffany Rd.** | H. Gardner | 1879-1902 |
| **151 Tiffany Rd.** | G. Swan | 1853-1879 |
| **156 Tiffany Rd.** | Elisha Tolman | 18th Century |
| **184 Tiffany Rd.** | Charles E. Hunt | 1879-1902 |
| **200 Tiffany Rd.** | Samuel Tolman | ca. 1750 |
| **212 Tiffany Rd.** | Samuel Tolman Jr. | 1857-1879 |
| **19 Wanton Shipyard** | Samuel Curtis | ca. 1730 |
| **19 Washington St.** | S. Waters (1857 map) | 19th Century |
| **25 Washington St.** | Z. Cushing (1857 map) | Early 19th Century (1820s) |
| **75 Washington St.** | Fire Station | Early 20th Century |
| **103 Washington St.** | G. Bates | Mid-late 19th Century |
| **110 Washington St.** | E. Drake (1857 map) | Early 19th Century |
| **148 Washington St.** | | 20th Century |
| **150 Washington St.** | J. Simmons | Mid-19th Century |
| **188 Washington St.** | | 20th Century |
| **295 Washington St.** | Benjamin Farrow | 1720 |



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| **323 Washington St.** | A. Danbar | Mid-19th Century |
| **327 Washington St.** | Grace Farrar Cole | 20th Century |
| **335 Washington St.** | Hezekiiah Stoddard | 18th Century |
| **341 Washington St.** | | 20th Century |
| **367 Washington St.** | St. Helen's Roman Catholic Church | 1950 |
| **370 Washington St.** | Wilder and Kimball | 1879-1902 |
| **383 Washington St.** | A. Vining House "St. Helen's Rectory" | ca. 1855 |
| **405 Washington St.** | R.H. Jenness | 1879-1902 |
| **420 Washington St.** | J. Bailey (1857 map) | Early 19th century |
| **427 Washington St.** | F. Jacobs | 1879-1902 |
| **483 Washington St.** | Jacobs/Collamore (1857 map) | Early 19th Century |
| **482 Washington St.** | Universalist of Assinippi | 1894 |
| **495 Washington St.** | Frank Alger | 1879-1903 |
| **6 West St.** | Massachusetts State Police Barracks | 1933 |
| **18 West St.** | Israel Nash | 1857-1879 |
| **24 West St.** | James Library | 1874 |
| **30 West St.** | James Bowker | 18th Century w/earlier origins |
| **32 Winter St.** | John Tilden | 1874 |
| **33 Winter St.** | Samuel Turner | ca. 1857 |
| **41 Winter St.** | Arthur Turner | ca. 1895 |
| **62 Winter St.** | Deacon John James | ca. 1700 |
| **77 Winter St.** | James-Jacobs House | ca. 1740 |
| **95 Winter St.** | Elijah Litchfield | ca. 1855 |
| **152 Winter St.** | Pinson | ca. 1894 |
| **181 Winter St.** | William Turner | ca. 1850 |
| **193 Winter St.** | Theodore Turner | ca. 1850 |

**PLEASE NOTE:** *The above listing is a work in progress--homes are continually added and occasionally removed. If you have any questions, additions or concerns regarding this list, please write to: The Norwell Historical Commission, 345 Main Street, Norwell, MA 02061.*

**TO VIEW THE <u>COMPLETE</u> HISTORICAL SURVEY OF NORWELL…**
… you may visit the Norwell Public Library, the Norwell Historical Society Library at the Middle School, or the James Library. The complete survey includes architectural and historical details on each property listed here.

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but disturb little."***

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