

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SWA.1643
Historic Name:	Glover, John Farmhouse
Common Name:	General Glover House Restaurant
Address:	299 Salem St
City/Town:	Swampscott
Village/Neighborhood:	
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	C 1781
Architectural Style(s):	Georgian;
Use(s):	Abandoned or Vacant; Agricultural; Restaurant; Restaurant; Single Family Dwelling House;
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture; Recreation;
Area(s):	SWA.AA
Designation(s):	
Building Materials:	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard; Foundation: Stone, Uncut;
Demolished	No



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

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FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

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

1-1 [MAR] 17-29 [SWA]	Salem	MAR.BL SWA.AA	MAR.2752 SWA.1643
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Town/City: Swampscott / Marblehead

Place: (*neighborhood or village*): Vinnin Square

Photograph



Address: 299 Salem St, Swampscott;
202-204 Tedesco St, Marblehead

Historic Name: John Glover Farmhouse

Uses: Present: vacant

Original: residential farmstead

Date of Construction: prior to 1781

Source: deeds

Style/Form: Georgian/ center chimney

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Renovations and additions, early 20th century and ca 1957-1961

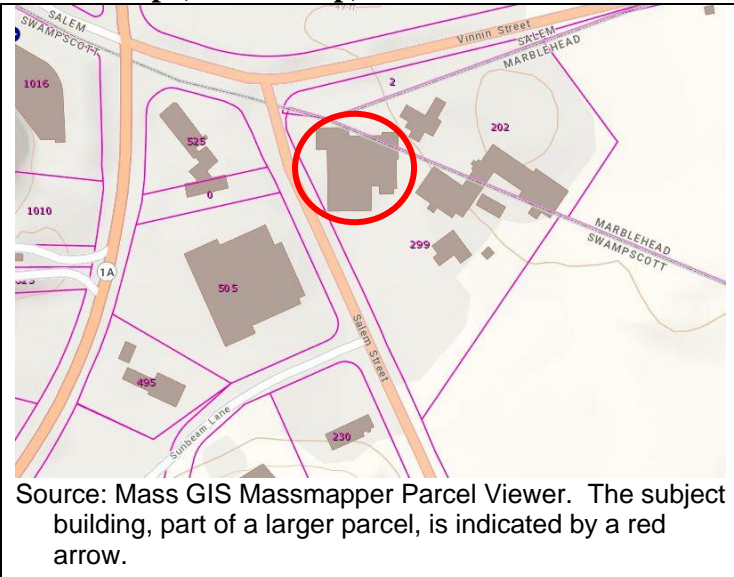
Condition: fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 4.22 acres

Setting: This 18th century domestic building with 20th-century commercial additions, with a current address of 299 Salem Street, Swampscott, abuts an extensive mid-to-late-20th century commercial zone of low-rises strip malls to the west and south and the golf links of the Tedesco Country Club to the east and southeast.

Locus Map (north at top)



Recorded by: John D. Clemson

Organization: Swampscott Historical Commission

Date: August 2023

RECEIVED

SEP 27 2023

MASS. HIST. COMM.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

SWAMPSCOTT 299 SALEM ST
MARBLEHEAD 202-204 TEDESCO ST
Area(s) Form No.

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

The building that is the subject of this individual form, known historically as the Glover Farmhouse, has an 18th century domestic core of three bays and two stories under a side-gable roof with an original or early two-story rear ell under a perpendicular gable. This early farmhouse served a 180-acre agricultural property during the 18th century, owned first by loyalist Salem merchant William Browne and later owned and evidently occupied by Revolutionary War general John Glover between 1781 and his 1797 death. Over the course of the 19th century the property was gradually subdivided while owned by several generations of the Hooper and Goldthwait families. During the early 20th century the property was brought into its current configuration by then-owners Lillian A and Alexander E Little, who played key roles in the formation of the neighboring Tedesco Country Club and who added a complex of buildings to the property between ca 1900 and 1924 that served as a series of restaurants and entertainment venues during the first half of the 20th century and will be recorded separately using an MHC Area Form (Form-A). During the late-1950s through early 1960s the subject building was greatly expanded by another phase of additions to serve as the well-known restaurant "The General Glover House" operated between ca 1960 and 1990 under the ownership and management of Anthony Athanas. The complex sequence of change and current configuration of the building can be better understood by consulting figure 4, below.

This inventory form will record the Glover Farmhouse and Little and Athanas additions. It will be layered with an area form that will document the five additional buildings that occupy the property. It should be noted that this 4.22 acre property is situated in three towns: Marblehead, Salem and Swampscott, with three different addresses according to each municipality's assessor's records. However the subject building is located predominantly in Swampscott, historically part of Lynn, and partly in Marblehead. This MHC Inventory Form represents an initial attempt to document the physical and documentary history of the Glover Farmhouse. It is expected that additional information based on additional research will be forthcoming. Current photographs provided here will establish that the subject building is difficult to observe due to excess vegetation. It is anticipated that there will be additional opportunities to document the site after vegetation is removed.

The Glover Farmhouse today reflects two centuries of change and expansion in at least two major phases. Its 18th-century core was expanded during the early 20th century with lateral wings and further greatly expanded during the mid-20th century with low, gable- and flat-roofed wings to the east, west and south to accommodate its use as a restaurant.

The 18th-century two-story core has an unusual form and plan that differs in fundamental ways from the common types of the period. The current appearance of this building, heavily obscured by mature evergreen vegetation, belies its evident original plan and configuration further discussed below, suggesting it faces north, with a three-bay façade and a center entrance. This double-pile core is enclosed by a moderately pitched side-gable roof and retains a large central chimney stack constructed of brick. Large single-story wings project from either side and to the rear, completely enclosing what appears to be a narrower two-story gabled ell in line with the east elevation of the main gabled core. The wings and rear additions evidently date to the building's use as a restaurant after 1957, although the site's history suggests it had served as a "tea room," with earlier additions, since the early 20th century.

Currently the 18th-century core of the building is oriented to the north, facing Vinnin Street in Salem, a continuation of Tedesco Street, Marblehead, then and now a main route between both towns. Evidence discussed below suggests, however, that the house originally faced east. In addition, the frame depicted in Detwiller's plan, figure 2, with separate dedicated corner posts in each of the main core and ell, also suggests they were constructed separately rather than integrally. This means the building may have been built in more than one campaign, reflected an enlargement, or composed of two separate buildings moved from elsewhere, or both. A historic view reproduced below as figure 1 depicts a seven-bay east elevation with entrances located in the third bay and sixth bay from the left (south). Detwiller's plan, combined with the photographic evidence reproduced in figures 1 and 3, indicate the north-side entrance, now the building's main entrance, was a later alteration. The photographic evidence of an east-facing, main-gable entrance (figure 1), suggests the house falls within a typology developed through research by Sean Maher in 2011 that describes distinctive massing, orientation, entry sequence, plan, framing and

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fenestration pattern that took place during the Federal period between 1780 and 1820.¹ But observation of similar buildings located in the urban core of Marblehead suggests this building variation may have been present prior to the Federal period.² Evidence present at Glover's farm suggests it originally closely conformed to this building type in terms of these defining attributes.

Several characteristics set these buildings apart from other better known New England building types. The orientation of these buildings is unusual, as is the location of the entry. Center chimney double-pile buildings typically have their entry elevations facing the street, with the principal public rooms to either side. In typical Federal buildings located on narrow deep lots, [with] off-the-street entry, the roof ridge runs parallel to the entry elevation, along the long axis of the house...In these buildings, the roof ridge lies parallel to the street, and spans the shorter length of the house. This unusual feature creates a very distinct appearance for these houses, with the large side gable entry façade and more narrow street elevation. These buildings retain the traditional center chimney double-pile plan, consisting of five rooms with three heated spaces, but have been shifted ninety degrees in orientation, this created the side entry, and changes the function and location of the public rooms relative to the street.³

Also, although "these buildings are typically located in older waterfront neighborhoods...a few are in more remote rural settings." The fenestration pattern in the north-facing elevation visible in figures 2 through 3, depicting pairs of windows within the 'front' pile and more widely spaced bay of upper and lower windows in the 'rear' pile also conform to the type described by Maher. Although the framing observed in Detwiller's drawings, with two principal beams in each 'side' of the house, north and south of the chimney bay, may reflect a variation from typical framing of the period, there may be evidence of a wall dividing the front and rear piles along the west beam.

The main core and ell, as well as 20th-century additions, retain 18th-century-period-appropriate finishes including wood clapboards with plain corner boards, eave fascia and soffit. The shallow eave, resting on second-story window lintels, reflects 18th century framing techniques. Edge molded casements and wood six-over-six sash are also consistent with period finishes, but all likely reflect multiple layers of renewal.

By the early 20th century the building's main entrance had evidently been re-oriented to the north to face the main road known as Tedesco Street in Marblehead and Vinnin Street in Salem and, according to Detwiller's drawings, original winding lobby stairs were removed at this time or later. Figure 3 demonstrates that by this time the smaller south leg of the building, or ell, had been greatly expanded by adding broad sheds to either side as continuations of the ell gable as well as small side porches flanking the north-facing "new" façade. By this time what may have been the original east-facing façade was subsumed into these additions.

After the property's 1957 lease to and subsequent 1961 acquisition by Anthony Athanas, the building was again greatly expanded. Current photographs and assessor's footprints show that a complex series of single-story, low-pitch-gabled wings were added to the earlier building. These five structures, which radiate to the west, south and north, can best be understood by observing aerial images and footprint reproduced below as figure 4. They include a large gabled wing with dimensions of 54 feet wide by 34 feet deep projecting forward of the core's north and west elevations. This high-studded volume with a low-pitched gable parallel to the core's east-west orientation has a large exterior brick chimney at its west end and is lit by large window opening divided into small panes. A larger wing extends 100 feet to the south. Its 65-foot width overlaps with the west side of the core and wing. The building's west-facing main entrance is placed within a pedimented open pavilion in line with the core's rear ell (indicated by a green arrow in figure 4). The vaguely Colonial Revival pavilion is supported by square columns with molded bases and capitals and the trabeated entrance includes sidelights flanking a large-lit, single-leaf door. On the east side a more utilitarian wing with dimensions of 52 feet wide by 32 feet deep under a shed and flat roof is unlit. Behind this wing is a larger 30 foot by 56 foot ell, also flat roofed; both likely house kitchen spaces. The east, west and southwest appendages are finished in a manner that matches the original core, with clapboards stopped by plain trim and casings and divided-light windows. The east appendages are clapboarded on the north side but are uncovered concrete blocks on the southeast corner, which is less visible from the parking lot and west-facing main entrance.

¹ Sean Patrick Maher, "Investigation of a Local House Type Illustrating Adaptive and Transitional Framing Practices in Southern Essex County, Massachusetts," (Boston University Preservation Studies Master's Thesis, 2011).

² 121 Washington Street, MAR.432, with similar characteristics, is dated to c 1730, which is supported by interior finishes.

³ Maher, p. 6.

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Although the site has undergone encroachment by vegetation since its abandonment during the early 1990s, the south and east corners retain expanses of asphalt for parking. The early 20th-century main vehicular entrance to the property, centered on the Salem Street, Swampscott, frontage, retains large, decorative stone pillars that appear to date to the early 20th century.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

The ownership history of Glover Farm has been traced to the property's acquisition by its namesake, General John Glover, in June of 1781. The deed described a 148 acre property "situate in Salem and Marblehead...with the buildings & stone walls as they now stand." At this time the town of Salem extended to the east along the southwest border of Marblehead, known as the "Salem Finger," to give it access to the sea; this strip was later conveyed to the town of Swampscott in 1857. The physical evidence discussed in the deed description combined with the documentary evidence therefore supports a construction date for the Glover Farm farmhouse to the 18th century prior to 1781. The grantor was the General Court (state legislature) of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and consideration was £1,369. The deed referenced the General Court's legislative authority through acts passed in 1779 and 1781 to the effect that "the estates of all persons guilty of the crimes therein mentioned and described [i.e. loyalists to British rule] are made confiscable in the manner as by the same act provided, and by another act passed in...[1781] empowering in Larkin Thorndike, Israel Hutchinson & Dummer Jewett, Esqs, all in the County of Essex, to make sale of certain estates...to the use of the government." The deed also identified the former owner as William Browne, Esq. of Salem.⁴ According to Billias,

William Browne [was] one of the wealthiest loyalists in Essex County, who owned some four thousand acres in Massachusetts and ninety five hundred acres in Connecticut, in addition to numerous houses and lands in his home town of Salem. Because he accepted an appointment as judge of the superior court in the colony and the post of mandamus councilor from General Gage, Browne's name was listed in the Banishment Act of 1778 and he was forbidden to return to Massachusetts on pain of death. A year later, under the Conspiracy Act, his property was forfeited and ordered to be confiscated. Forming a committee of three members in 1780, the General Court issued instructions for the sale of the Essex County land owned by Brown.⁵

The 2023 preliminary evaluation report prepared by Frederick C. Detwiller for the Swampscott Historical Commission suggests the farm was tenanted by Thomas Vining, citing Essex County tax records dated 1771. The record describes "140 acres of pasture, tillage producing 80 bushels of grain per year and upland meadows for grazing up to 25 cattle and producing 20 tons of upland hay. Vining's livestock included 2 horses, 2 oxen, 6 cows and 2 swine."⁶

John Glover (1732-1797), who owned and evidently occupied this property between 1781 and his death, was a well-known and well-documented general in the Revolutionary War who played a key role in the establishment of the US Navy. A native of Salem, he moved to Marblehead early in life with his widowed mother and siblings. He initially apprenticed and worked as a cordwainer (shoemaker) but as a young man entered the fishing and mercantile boom which took place during the decades prior to the Revolution and prospered. According to Billias he owned real estate, several commercial ventures and merchant vessels trading in the West Indies and Europe. Registry of deeds indexes list multiple acquisitions of property in Beverly, Lynn, Marblehead and Salem during his active business life. Prior to the Revolution he resided within the urban core of Marblehead at 11 Glover Square (MAR.382, 1762, LHD, NR, NHL). His record as a general during the Revolution is summarized concisely by Billias:

This able Massachusetts leader was the key figure in two of the most brilliant small-scale amphibious operations of the entire war. After the battle of Long Island in August, 1776, his regiment of Marblehead fishermen helped to rescue 9000 patriots from a tight spot by a surprise retreat across the East River under cover of darkness. On a

⁴ ECSRD 138:216-217 (1781).

⁵ George Athan Billias, *General Glover and his Marblehead Mariners* (Henry Holt & Co., 1960), p. 197. Additional research may provide a narrower construction date for the Glover Farm farmhouse. Regarding William Browne, an article discussing the Browne Family's Connecticut holdings and the practice of slavery there includes details regarding the family's genealogy and economic activity before the Revolution: Bruce P. Stark, "The Myth and Reality of Slavery in Salem, Connecticut," (Association for the Study of Connecticut History) pp. 159-180.

⁶ Frederick C. Detwiller, "Gen. Glover Farm, Swampscott, Massachusetts, Architectural-Historical Preliminary Evaluation," prepared for the Swampscott Historical Commission, 4/26/2023, p. 3.

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cold Christmas night four months later, his men ferried Washington's force across the ice-strewn Delaware to launch a stabbing attack against the Hessians at Trenton that helped turn the tide in the Revolution.⁷

Glover married twice, first to Hannah Gale of Marblehead (1733-1778) in 1754 and second to Frances Hitchborn Fosdick, widow of Boston hatter Thomas Fosdick, in 1781. There were eleven children of John and Hannah Glover, nine of whom survived to adulthood.⁸ Glover's second marriage and retirement from active service at the same moment evidently precipitated his purchase of the farm that is the subject of this documentation. He bought an additional 12 acres in the vicinity from abutter Thomas Vining, husbandman, in 1792.⁹

According to Billias, Glover's financial condition following the end of his military service in 1781 was somewhat tenuous and encumbered by debt (pp. 198-201) and he died intestate. An inventory of real estate filed with Glover's probate listed six properties with a total value of \$10,935.86, including "a farm situate in said Marblehead, Salem & Lynn containing 180 acres...with the buildings thereon" valued at \$7,999.20, evidently the subject property. In 1799 the farm was sold by the administrator of his estate, Robert Hooper, Jr., to satisfy Glover's debts. Consideration was \$3,400 and the grantee identified as Robert Hooper, senior, evidently his father.

The large and complex Hooper family of Marblehead is well known for their wealth and influence. Robert "King" Hooper (1709-1790) "became a merchant of very great extent of business and owner of large and somewhat widely separated properties. His control of the fishing business of Marblehead and other interests was so pronounced that he was popularly called 'King Hooper.'" At least four branches of the family had roughly contemporary cousins in multiple generations named Robert, however the most likely figure involved with the subject property was Robert Hooper (1766-1843), son of another Robert Hooper, who married Mary Glover (1769-1850), a daughter of General John Glover, in 1788. "Mr. Hooper resided at Marblehead; was a merchant and carried on an extensive and successful business at home and abroad, sending ships to foreign ports. 'He was highly esteemed, a man of integrity and disinterestedness, and a devout Christian.'"¹⁰

In 1870 descendants of Robert Hooper, including Samuel Hooper, Robert William Hooper and Nathaniel Hooper, all of Boston, and Francis Oldworth Hooper of Marblehead, sold a property referencing the description included in the 1799 deed, to William J Goldthwait of Marblehead. The following instrument recorded with the deed was a release by Eunice Hooper, Mary Ingalls Hooper and Joh H Reed, all of Boston, 'devises under the will of John Hooper' (another descendant of 1799 grantee Robert Hooper). Consideration was \$14,000.¹¹ The circumstances of the Hooper family, generally residing in the urban core of Marblehead or in Boston, suggest the subject property remained in use as an investment, managed by or leased to tenants, during the Hooper family's ownership between 1799 and 1870.

The grantee in 1870, William Johnson Goldthwait (1834-1909), was a son-in-law of another prominent merchant of the period, Henry F Pitman, through marriage to Pitman's daughter Mary Lydia Pitman (1835-1929) in 1862. Evidence indicates he resided at the corner of Pleasant Street and Ocean Avenue in Marblehead in the former Long farmstead (not extant, see MAR.2769, 1 Ocean Avenue). Through 1880 his occupation was provisions dealer but by 1900 he was a dealer in real estate; by 1870 he owned real estate valued at \$10,000. Research currently under way on the Devereux neighborhood indicates that Goldthwait, with a relative, Joel Goldthwait, a Boston rug dealer, and his father-in-law Henry Pitman, had become major successful developers of real estate throughout Marblehead during the last third of the 19th century. The trio subdivided a large tract in Devereux into residential lots at this time (see Clemson, Devereux Neighborhood Overview, 2023). Atlases published in 1872, 1897 and 1905 demonstrate that Glover farm remained in the ownership of Goldthwait and Pitman heirs during this period (see figures 5 and 6). These owners included Eliza A Graves and Carrie A Brown, daughters of Henry F Pitman. As late as 1905 maps depict the property in an open and undeveloped condition, suggesting it remained in agricultural use. At this time the Glover farmhouse was depicted with one large barn and three other smaller outbuildings (see figure 7).

⁷ Billias, p. xi.

⁸ See: Nathan P. Sanborn, *Gen. John Glover and his Marblehead Regiment in the Revolutionary War, A Paper Read Before the Marblehead Historical Society, May 14, 1903* (the society, 1903), which provides a detailed genealogy of the family.

⁹ ECSRD 153:236 (1792).

¹⁰ Charles Henry Pope and Thomas Hooper, comp., *Hooper Genealogy* (Charles H. Pope, 1908) p. 125. This is the source of both quotations. <https://www.ancestry.com/discoveryui-content/view/2935056:61157>

¹¹ ECSRD 813:136 (1870).

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Although a chain of ownership has not yet been completed, by the end of the first decade of the 20th century this and surrounding large parcels had come under the ownership of Lillian A Little of Lynn. Lillian Little (1864-1968) was the wife of Lynn shoe manufacturer Alexander Eldridge Little (1859-1956), owner of AE Little Company, 70 Blake Street, Lynn, which marketed a line of women's shoes under the brand name Sorosis between the late 19th century and the company's bankruptcy in 1932. In 1908 the Littles began acquiring large parcels of agricultural land in the southwest section of the Marblehead peninsula that was placed in Lillian's name. Although it was not possible to trace every acquisition, the full extent of these holdings was documented in an indenture recorded in 1922, when the A.E. Little Company pledged all of its real estate and assets as collateral in order to finance a bond issue of \$1.5 million underwritten by the Old Colony Trust Company (ECSR 2534:121-190, 1922). Their holdings, known as "Sorosis Farm," included the subject property and additional acreage filling both sides of Tedesco Street in Marblehead and Salem Street in Swampscott.

In Marblehead AE Little engaged in experimental agriculture that included husbandry and market gardening. Known as Sorosis Farm, this enterprise produced products of the orchard, vegetables, dairy, eggs, wool and meat that was sold at cost to workers in the shoe factory and on the market. Large, elaborate agricultural and residential buildings were constructed on Sorosis Farm properties, including the subject parcel, early in the Little's ownership (see figure 8; see also MAR.958, 10 Humphrey Street, for a more detailed history and description of Sorosis Farm). The 1931 Swampscott directory provides the likely use of the Glover farmhouse at that time: "Glover Tea Room, Mrs. Lillian A Little, proprietor." She also owned enterprises that included "The Bushway Cottage," and the Sunbeam Inn, farm, and day school (located on the east side of Paradise Road, not extant). Her son from a previous marriage, Edwin M Gerould and his wife, Mary P, also resided in the vicinity at 230 Salem Street and operated an ice cream stand known as "Ye Castle," which was located near the Sunbeam Inn (photographs of these buildings are available in the collections of the Swampscott Public Library).

In 1961 the property as currently configured was acquired by the well-known restaurateur Anthony Athanas from a trust named for Lillian A Little. The certificate of title referenced a 1957 lease of the property to Hawthorne Café Inc of Lynn, another restaurant of Athanas', suggesting he had been a tenant of the Glover farmhouse for four years when he acquired it. Athanas (1911-2005) was a native of the town of Korcha, Turkish Albania, leaving the town by donkey with his mother, Evangeline, in 1916 to join his father and other siblings in New York. Entering the restaurant industry at the age of 12, he eventually became a successful restaurateur in the Boston area. In 1938 he purchased a restaurant in downtown Lynn that eventually became known as Anthony's Hawthorne, later adding the General Glover House, Anthony's Pier 4, a restaurant with a national reputation, in 1963, Hawthorne by the Sea Tavern in Swampscott and Anthony's Cummaquid Inn in Yarmouth. He served as president of the Massachusetts Restaurant Association, on the board of the National Restaurant Association, and was named "Restuaranteur of the Year" in 1976.¹² The restaurant at this site operated between roughly 1957 and ca 1990, after which it was abandoned and has been vacant since. Circumstances suggest the extensive additions to the original 18th century farmhouse took place, therefore, beginning in the early 20th through the late-1950s to early 1960s (see description).

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Marblehead Engineering Department. Interactive parcel map. <http://marblehead.org/webgis/>.
Marblehead GIS. <http://www.caigisonline.com/marbleheadma/Default.aspx?Splash=True>.

Ancestry.com. Census schedules, vital records, city directories, maps & genealogies.
Google Books.

Marblehead

Henry McIntyre Plan of Marblehead, Massachusetts, 1850
Smith and Morley Topographical Map of Essex County, Massachusetts, 1856
Atlas of Essex County, Massachusetts. NY: D.G. Beers & Co., 1872.
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Atlas of Salem, Marblehead, Peabody and Danvers, Boston, L.J. Richardson & Co., 1897
Atlas of Marblehead, Massachusetts. Boston: Walker Lithograph & Publishing Co., 1912.
Sanborn Co. Insurance Atlas, 1885, 1890, 1896, 1901, 1908, 1915, 1926, 1926-1949

¹² *Boston Daily Globe*, May 21, 2005, p. 1, obituary by Alison Arnett.

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Swampscott

Hopkins Atlas of Swampscott, 1880

Richardson Atlas of Lynn, 1880, 1897, 1905

Stadly Atlas of Swampscott, 1897

South Essex County Registry of Deeds, footnoted as ECSRD (book):(page), (date)

George Athan Billias, *General Glover and his Marblehead Mariners* (Henry Holt & Co., 1960)

Frederick C. Detwiller, "Gen. Glover Farm, Swampscott, Massachusetts, Architectural-Historical Preliminary Evaluation," prepared for the Swampscott Historical Commission, 4/26/2023

F.A. Gardner, MD, "Marblehead Regiment in the War of the Revolution," *The Massachusetts Magazine, Vol. I, April, 1908* (reprinted by the Salem Press, 1908)

Sean Patrick Maher, "Investigation of a Local House Type Illustrating Adaptive and Transitional Framing Practices in Southern Essex County, Massachusetts," (Boston University Preservation Studies Master's Thesis, 2011)

Charles Henry Pope and Thomas Hooper, comp., *Hooper Genealogy* (Charles H. Pope, 1908)

Samuel Roads, Jr., *The History and Traditions of Marblehead* (Houghton, Mifflin & Co., 1881)

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John M. Wathne and Jillian Borghardt, Structures North, "General Glover House Structural Investigation," prepared for SHC and chair Nancy Schultz, Apr. 6, 2023

____, Roof Plan, not dated

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FIGURES



Figure 1. East-facing elevation depicting a main entrance (right) centered on a gabled side elevation perpendicular to the frontage as described by Maher and a secondary entrance within a porch (left) into the rear ell. This elevation has been subsumed by later additions. (provided by the Swampscott Historical Commission, undated).

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SWAMPSCOTT
MARBLEHEAD

299 SALEM ST
202-204 TEDESCO ST

Area(s)

Form No.

MAR.BL, SWA.AA MAR.2752, SWA.1643

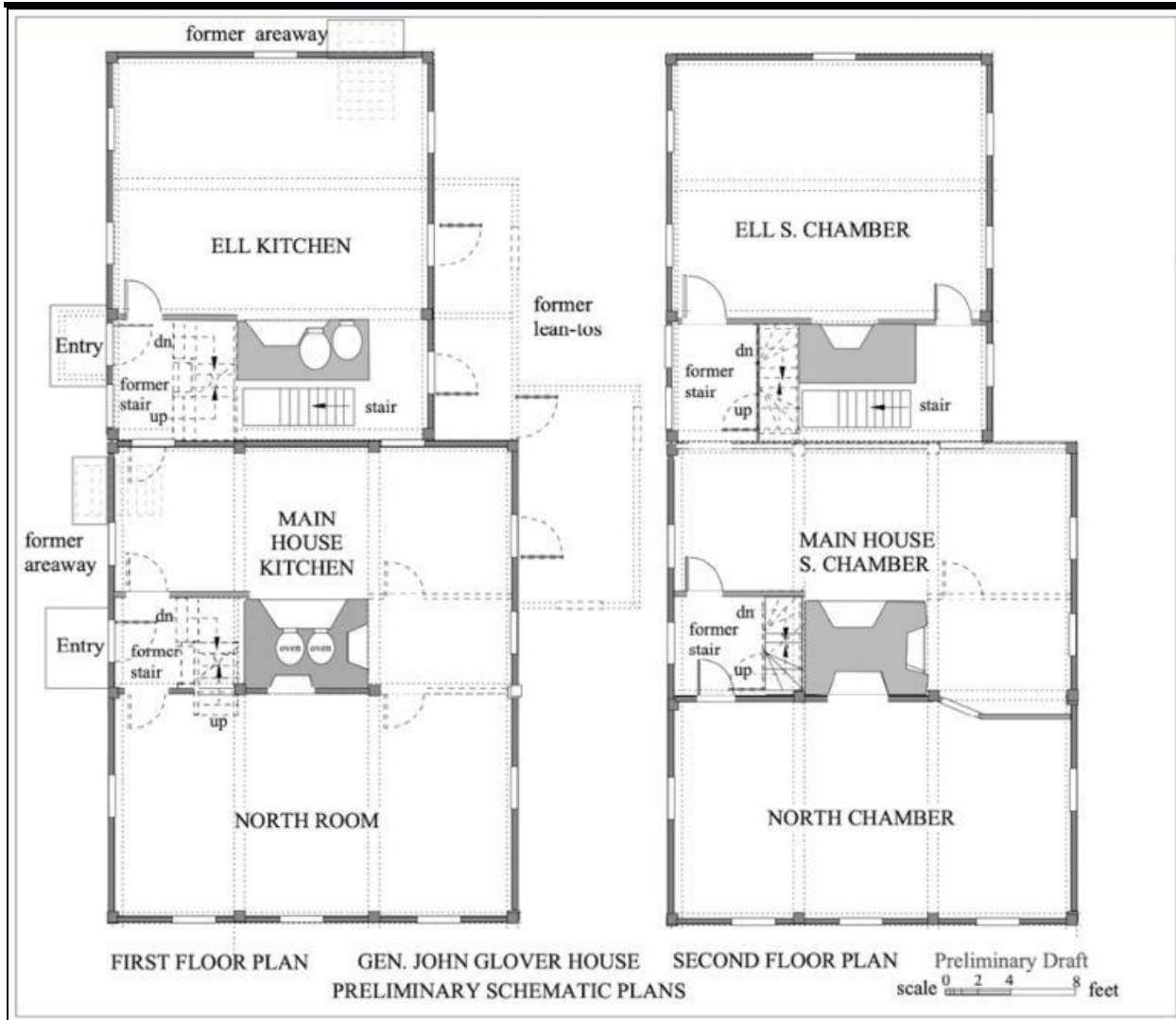


Figure 2. Current plan of the building; the north elevation is at the bottom of the image. This plan depicts the original main and ell entrances depicted in figure one but not the current main entrance at the bottom of the image opening into the “north room.” (Plan prepared by Frederick C. Detwiller, “Gen. Glover Farm, Swampscott, Massachusetts, Architectural-Historical Preliminary Evaluation,” prepared for the Swampscott Historical Commission, 4/26/2023.

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Figure 3. Four undated but evidently early 20th century views of the building after alterations during the 19th century and by Lillian Little during the early 20th century: upper left, view from N (Marblehead Historical Commission); upper right, view from NW (Pinterest); lower left, view from S (Swampscott Public Library); lower right, view from W (Marblehead Historical Commission).

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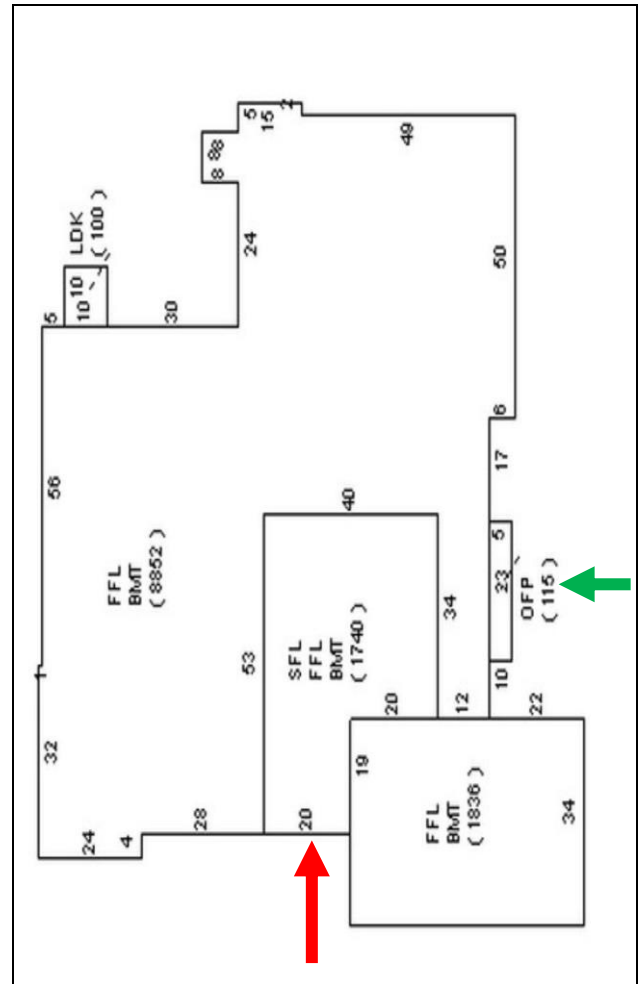
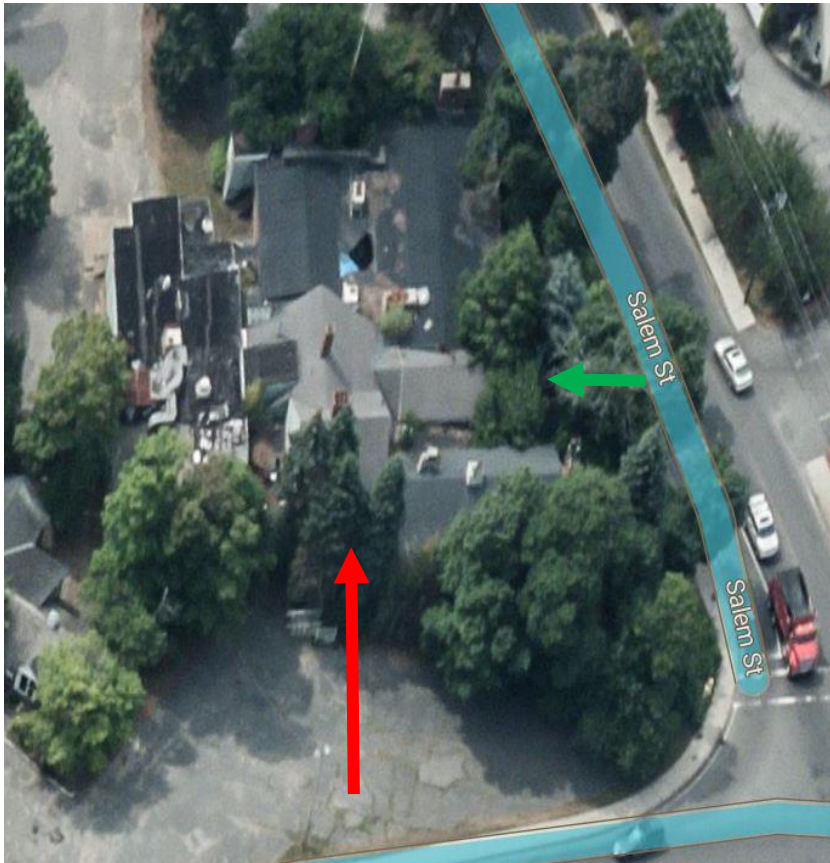


Figure 4. Bing screen capture facing south (left) and a footprint from Swampscott assessor's records (right) showing the current condition of the building. The 18th-century core, indicated by red arrows in both images, is centered on the bottom (north) of each indicated also by the second floor notation (SFL). Large dining rooms extend to the west and south, flanking an entrance pavilion centered on the right side (west) in both images (green arrow). The flat-roofed wing to the left (east) in both images housed kitchen areas.

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MAPS and PLANS

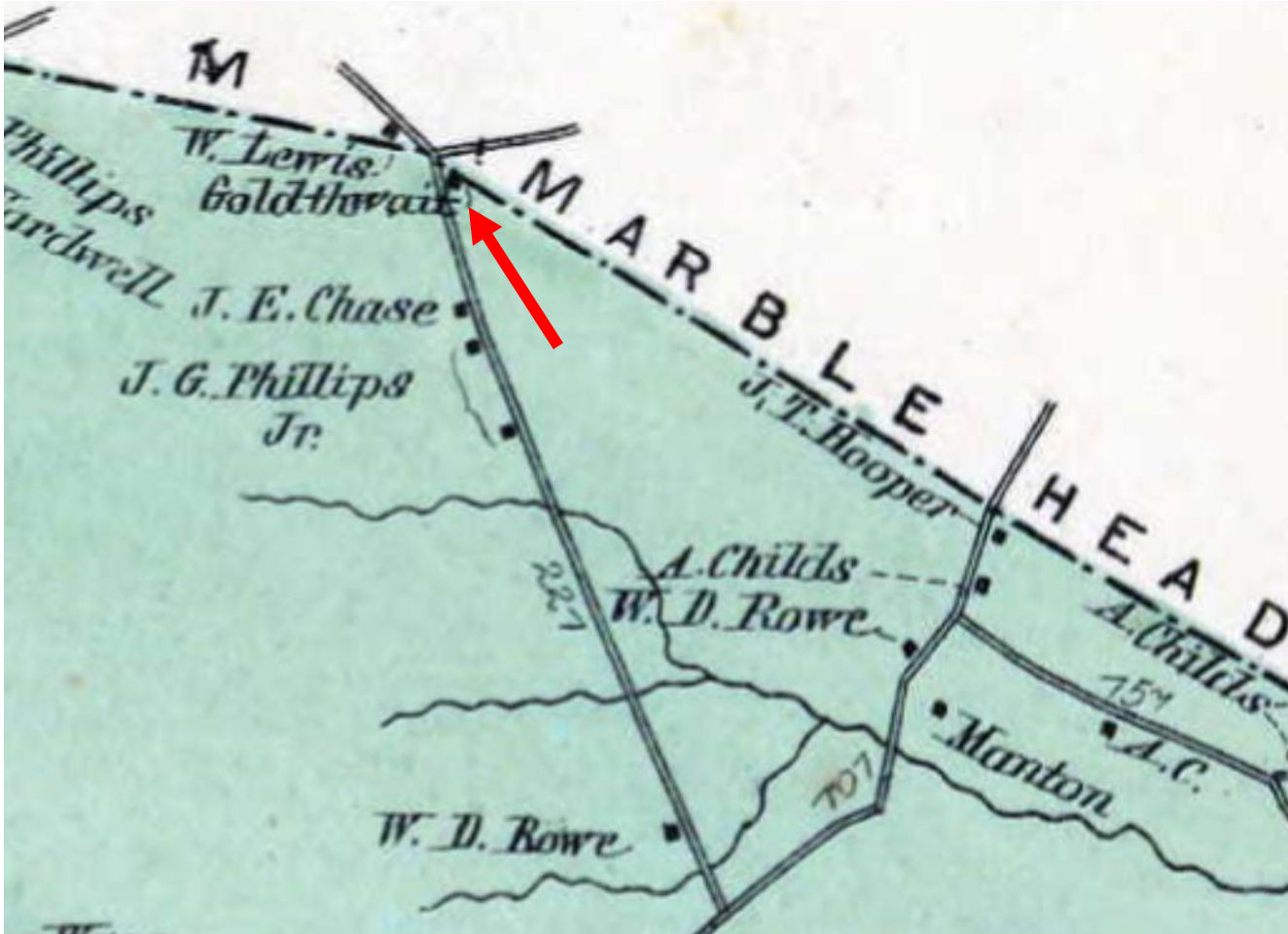


Figure 5. 1872 Essex County Atlas (Ancestry) depicting a detail of Swampscott and the property in the ownership of Goldthwait indicated by a red arrow. North is up.

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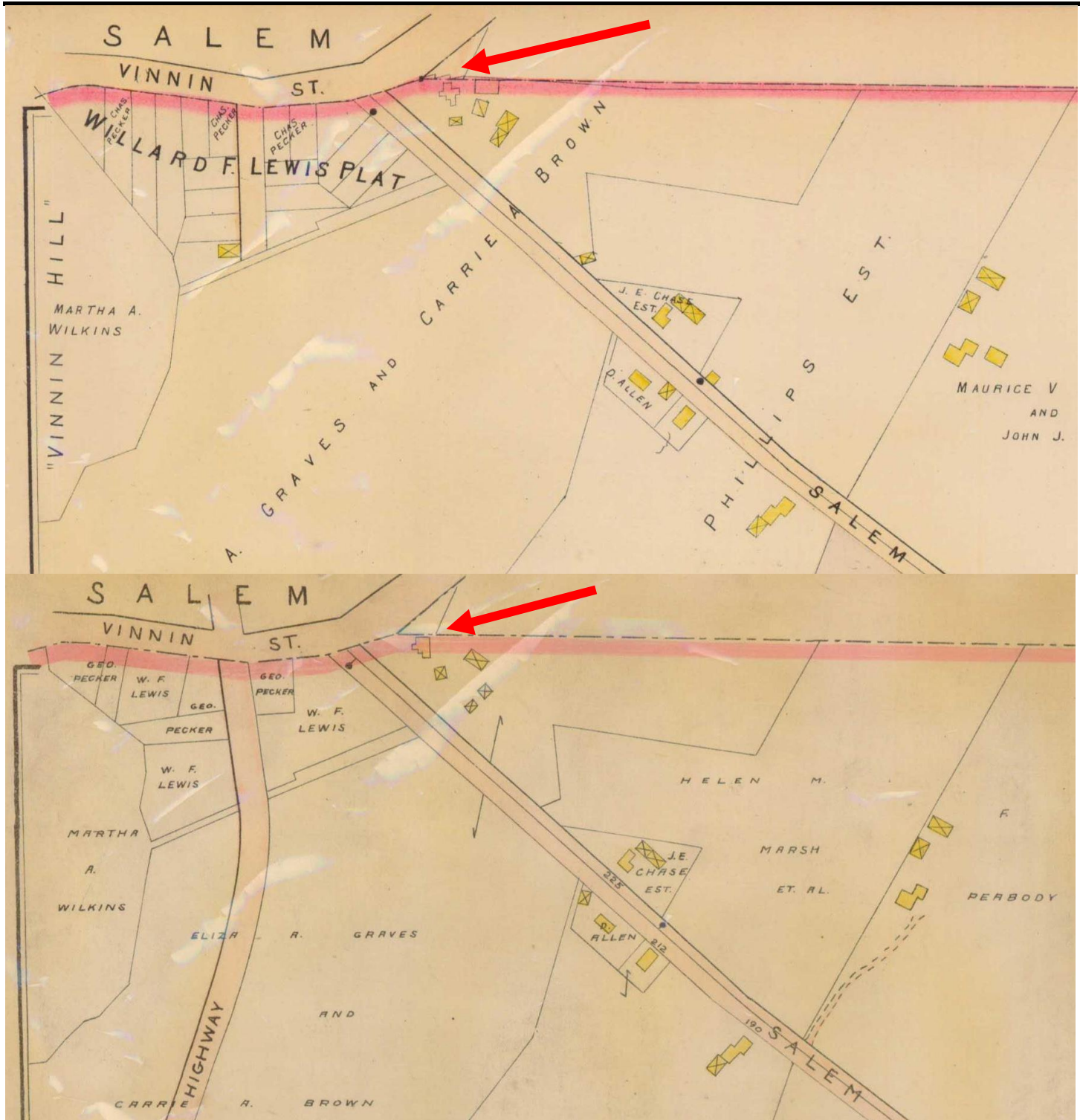


Figure 6. 1897 (top) and 1905 (bottom) Richardson Lynn atlases depicting the property in the ownership of Goldthwait and Pitman heirs indicated by red arrows. North is upper left. Maps show evident minor changes to footprints and outbuildings that may be inaccuracies or simplifications.

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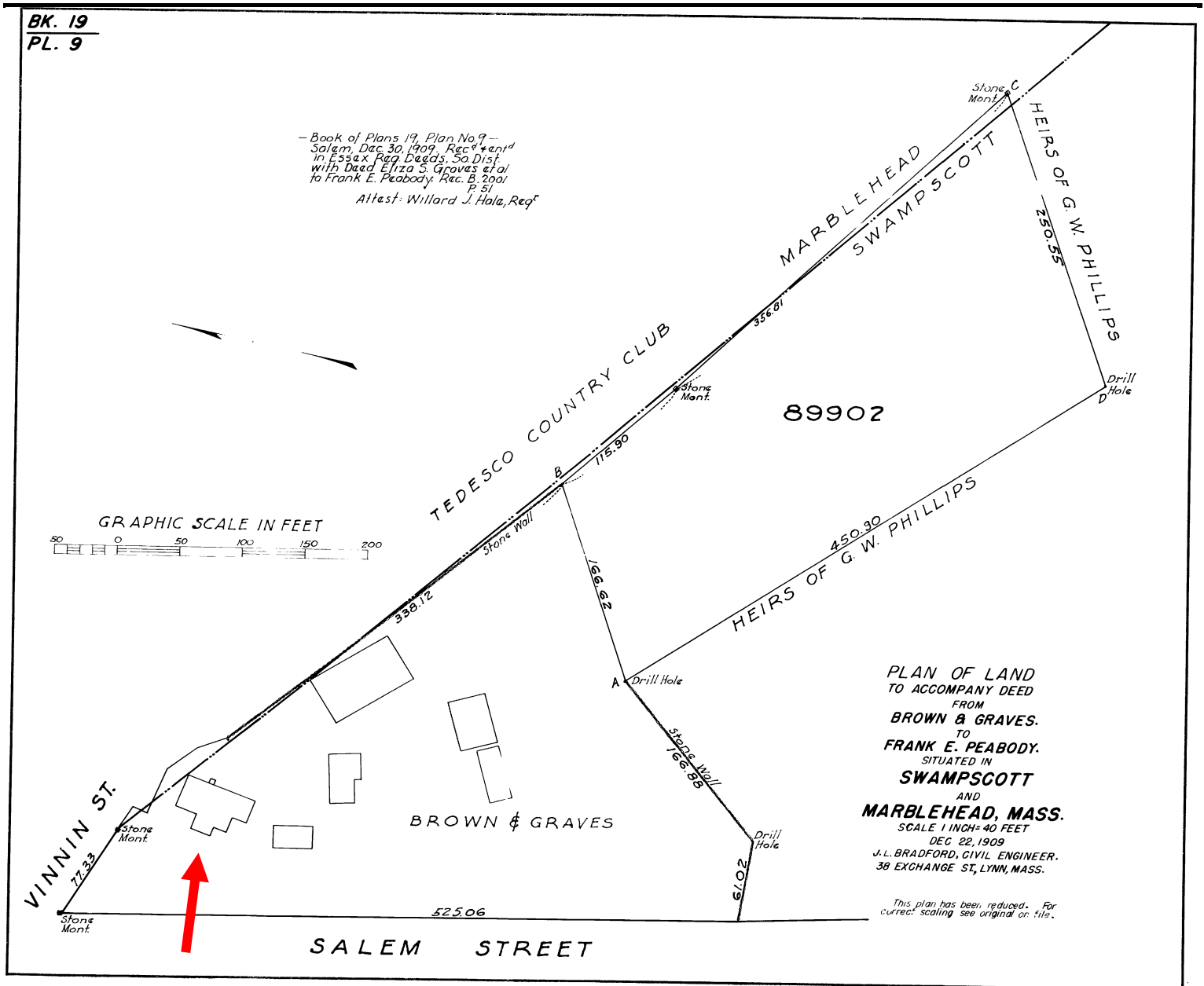


Figure 7. ECSRD Plan 19:9 (1909) depicting the portion of the property in Swampscott in the ownership of Goldthwait and Pitman heirs. The Glover farmhouse is indicated by a red arrow. The other buildings, not extant, were a barn and outbuildings. North is left.

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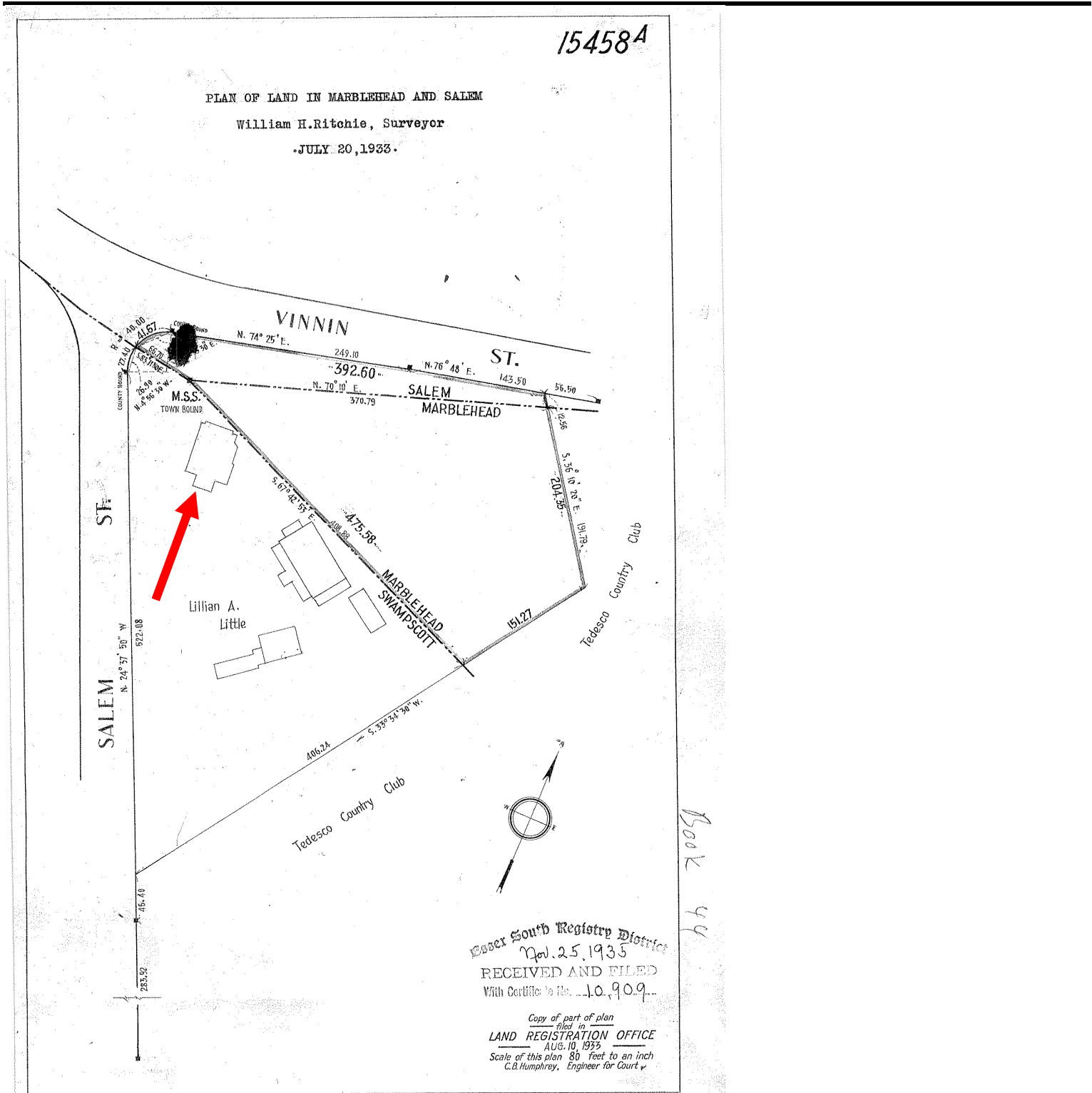


Figure 8. ECSRD Certificate of Title Plan 15458-A (1935) depicting the new buildings built for Lillian A Little. Both the Glover farmhouse and second building were later much enlarged by subsequent owner Anthony Athanas. The Glover farmhouse is indicated by a red arrow. North is upper right.

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Figure 9. Late 19th century photo. This photograph depicts the buildings drawn as footprints in figure 7. The rear elevation of the Glover farmhouse is indicated by a red arrow. View from SW. Salem Street, Swampscott is in the foreground. (Wikipedia, "Glover Farm")

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Figure 10. Early 20th century image from N. The building in the background, left, ca 1910-1924, extant, approximately dates the image. (Swampscott Public Library)

CURRENT PHOTOGRAPHS (All photos by John D. Clemson, 2023)



North-facing façade.

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Northwest wing from NW.



Main mid-20th-century entrance centered on west-facing elevation, view from W.

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Southeast wing from SE. This flat-roofed, utilitarian structure of concrete block, ca. 1957-1961, housed the restaurant kitchen.



The same image, enlarged, showing the two-story 18th century core of the building from the south.

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National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- Individually eligible Eligible **only** in a historic district
 Contributing to a potential historic district Potential historic district

Criteria: A B C D

Criteria Considerations: A B C D E F G

Statement of Significance by John D. Clemson
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

The John Glover Farmhouse, evidently built prior to 1781, is historically significant for its association with Revolutionary War general John Glover (1732-1797), who evidently resided here between his acquisition of the property in 1781 and his 1797 death. Glover was an accomplished general under George Washington during the Revolution, organizing and provisioning a fleet of small ships to blockade Boston Harbor during the British occupation. According to his biographer George Athan Billias

This able Massachusetts leader was the key figure in two of the most brilliant small-scale amphibious operations of the entire war. After the battle of Long Island in August, 1776, his regiment of Marblehead fishermen helped to rescue 9000 patriots from a tight spot by a surprise retreat across the East River under cover of darkness. On a cold Christmas night four months later, his men ferried Washington's force across the ice-strewn Delaware to launch a stabbing attack against the Hessians at Trenton that helped turn the tide in the Revolution.¹³

Despite at least two layers of major alteration involving large additions to the building during the early to mid-20th century, the early 18th century residential core as described above should retain sufficient building fabric and integrity to meet eligibility for individual listing under Criterion B for its associations with major Revolutionary War figure General John Glover. Combined with Glover's pre-Revolution residence at 11 Glover Square (MAR.382, NR IND 11/28/1972 and Nat'l Historic Landmark 11/28/1972) this building could contribute to a fuller understanding of the life and activities of this important figure during his retirement after the Revolution. The 18th-century core of this building embodies distinctive characteristics of its period, suggesting it would meet Criterion C. It is a rare survival from this period in the town of Swampscott, which, according to MACRIS, lists only five documented 18th-century buildings, suggesting it would contribute to a greater understanding of the town's Colonial period when it was still a neighborhood of Lynn.

If 20th century alterations which lack significance could be removed and the 18th century core restored using the abundant physical evidence that recent observation suggest survives, the building may retain sufficient integrity, including location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association for listing. Dendrochronological evidence may clarify this building's date of construction and expand a period of significance to include the previous owner, important Salem merchant, landowner and loyalist William Browne. Both periods of ownership would add to a deeper understanding of land ownership patterns and use in the towns of Lynn, Marblehead and Salem prior to and after the Revolution.

¹³ George Athan Billias, *General Glover and his Marblehead Mariners* (Henry Holt & Co., 1960) p. xi.