

140 Maple Street



Leland-Carter House

Form No.	73
Town	Sherborn
Address	140 Maple Street
Historic Name	Leland-Carter House
Uses: Original	Residence
Present	Residence
Ownership, 1981	John Carter
" Original	Eleazer Leland
Constructed	Before ca. 1775, Greek Revival alterations ca. 1840-1850
Source	Shaughnessy-Guide to Sherborn, 1974
Style/Form	Greek Revival
Architect	
Ext. Wall Fabric	Clapboard
Outbuildings	
Alterations	Greek Revival entrance, cornerboards, fully enframed attic added ca. 1840-1850
Moved	No
Acreage	3.88 acres
Setting:	Situated opposite the entrance to Old Orchard Road. To the rear of this house are great ledges traditionally known as "Rattlesnake Castle".
Recorded by	Edward W. Gordon, June - July 1981

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Judging by such Greek Revival stylistic elements as fully enframed gables, wide corner and fascia boards and distinctive doorway enframements this house appears to have been constructed ca. 1840-1850. 140 Maple Street was actually built before 1775. Its five bay main facade was probably "updated" with Greek Revival surface treatments at some point in the mid 19th c.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

140 Maple Street was built before 1775 by Eleazer Leland who was the son of Deacon William of the "Old Red House" on Hollis Street. Lelands owned this house until ca. 1900. In that year George Carter bought this house for a summer residence. His son John is the current owner (1981).

To the north of the house are great ledges spoken of in old deeds as Rattlesnake Castle. To the left of the house, at the foot of the hill, runs the beginning of Dirty Meadow Brook. No longer extant are the farm's many utility buildings which included barns, storage houses and a carriage house. The farm buildings were located directly across the street where Old Orchard Road now begins; the "hand dug" pond on the same side provided the water for the farm animals.

Maple St. is one of the town's older Streets. For many years it was known as the 'road to Ashland' or Dirty Meadow Road. In the late 19th century Emerson Holden planted Vermont Maple trees along this hilly thoroughfare.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

- Margaret Dowse Buntin's card file
- Anne C. Shaughnessy - A Guide to Sherborn, 1974
- Maps of 1788, 1857, 1875 and 1889