

61 North Main Street



Lemuel Leland House

Form No.	104
Town	Sherborn
Address	61 North Main Street
Historic Name	Lemuel Leland House
Uses: Original	Residence
Present	Residence
Ownership, 1981	Carolyn D Cialdea
" Original	Lemuel Leland
Constructed	ca. 1810
Source	Morse - <u>History of Sherborn and Holliston</u> , 1856
Style/Form	Early 19th century frame vernacular
Architect	Ebenezer Mann
Ext. Wall Fabric	Aluminum (clapboard)
Outbuildings	Barn
Alterations	Main facade altered after 1950
Moved	No
Acreage	1.20 acres
Setting:	Set back on west side of North Main Street on well maintained grounds.
Recorded by	Edward W. Gordon, June - July 1981

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

The fenestration of this house has been greatly altered by the incorporation of "colonial" features. These changes include a mid-20th century interpretation of a Georgian entrance and large multi-pane picture windows. This house is crowned by a steeply pitched roof - its gables face north and south.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

This house was built about 1810 by Ebenezer Mann, Sherborn's foremost housewright. It was for many years the residence of Lemuel Leland, gunmaker. To the north of his house was the Leland gun shop. The fame of Leland's firearms extended as far as West Virginia and Kentucky. He made "fowling pieces" or "pigeon guns," which were used for shooting wild pigeons. The gun shop, located between the house and Indian Brook, was later removed to Lake Street. It was destroyed by a fire of undetermined date.

Note: His son called "Bill Gun" moved to Pleasant St. and continued for many years to remodel old guns. During the 1850s and 1860s a John Ives lived here. This house is unlabeled on the maps of 1875 and 1889.

John Ives figures prominently in Sherborn Cider making lore. During the mid-19th century Sherborn supported more than 20 cider mills. They were productive enough to be taxed. The last 'glassed' cider in town was made by John Ives. His method of cider purification was to use isinglass, on which the impurities would collect, leaving the cider clear.

By the 1920s a Luke Henderson lived here.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

- "Historical Sketches Sherborn Tercentenary" - July, 1952
- Margaret Dowse Buntin's research
- Maps of 1857, 1875 and 1889
- Anne C. Shaughnessy - [A Guide to Sherborn](#), 1974
- Sherborn Past and Present 1674-1924 by members of the Sherborn Historical Society