

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SWN.118
Historic Name:	
Common Name:	
Address:	597 Pearse Rd
City/Town:	Swansea
Village/Neighborhood:	Touisset;
Local No:	22;
Year Constructed:	C 1810
Architectural Style(s):	Colonial;
Use(s):	Agricultural; Multiple Family Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House;
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture;
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials:	Wall: Wood Clapboard; Foundation: Stone, Uncut;
Demolished	No



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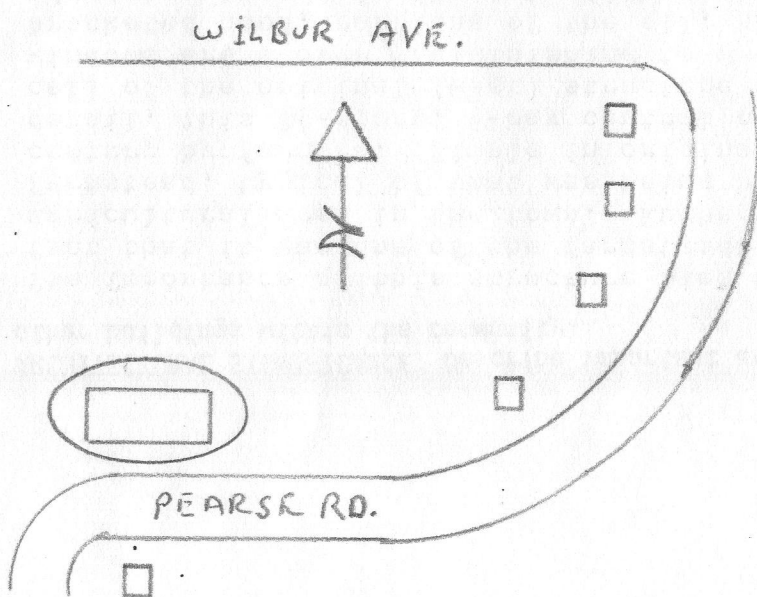
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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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Intersection(s).
Indicate north



UTM REFERENCE _____

USGS QUADRANGLE Fall River, MA-R.I. Ams 6767
NW-series V8 (1967/79)

SCALE _____

PL - TDV
USGS - FALL

AREA _____ FORM NO. 118

Town SWANSEA - TOUISSET

Address 597 Pearse Road

Historic Name _____

Use: Present Multiple Dwelling

Original Farmstead

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1810

Source Visual analysis and maps

Style Vernacular Colonial Farmstead

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings 3-bay carriage shed

small house

Major Alterations (with dates) porch and
West ell - late 18th century,
Hood at front entry - ca. 1870

Condition Respectful of its late 19th
century alterations, this basic
Colonial farmhouse is in good
condition.

Moved No Date _____

Acreage Over one acre

Setting Facing south. with a view of

the Cole's River, this farmhouse is
situated on a small piece of histor-
ically larger farmland of Toouisset.

Recorded by Kay Flynn/M.S. Gendron '78

Organization Swansea Historical
Commission

Date February, 1986

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

The importance of this structure lies not in its architecture but in the fact that it was one of the farmsteads of South Swansea, an important agricultural area in the town. Number 597 Pearse Road is a modest vernacular farmstead, typical of what was being built in the area in the early 19th century by farmers. Simple in original massing and void of any architectural detail, this 2½-story, 5-bay central chimney is simple in plan. The single cell of the original (west) structure makes it unusual. The first floor windows are 9 over 9 diminishing to 9 over 6 on the second floor. The bracketed hood, portions of the ell, the porch and chimney were all probably added or altered in the late 19th century.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

The historical significance of this structure is in the fact that it is one of the typical South Swansea farmsteads. The first documentation of this building is the 1850, 1871 and 1895 historical Swansea maps. In 1873 there is a transfer of property from Samuel Hull to Jonathan Slade. Before 1929 this property was part of the land known as "Smugglers House" at 36 Pearse Road. In this deed transfer two "dwelling houses" are mentioned one on the north and one on the south.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps of Swansea, 1850, 1871, 1895
Registry of Deeds, Fall River, Ma.
Assessor's Office, Town Hall

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.

B

Form no.

22
118



City Swansea

Address 597 Pearse Road

Neighborhood

Present use Multiple dwelling

Present owner Donald Phenix

Description:

Period c. 1791

Source

Style Colonial farmhouse

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.

Architect

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

3 bay carriage shed

Outbuildings (describe) small house

Other features 2½ story gable; south facing, with 2 brick chimneys; central door with bracketed hood in 5 bay facade; 1st floor windows are "9 over 9"; 2 story wing with chimney and screened porch

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: 2 acres

One acre or less _____ Over one acre X

Approximate frontage 321.7'

Approximate distance of building from street
25'

6. Recorded by Martha S. Gendron

Organization Swansea Historical Society

Date Dec. 20, 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____

Original use farmhouse

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Beauty parlor - after 1935 and multiple dwelling probably at the same time

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	<u>X</u>	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Before 1929 this property was one with the land and house known as "Smugglers House" at 361 Pearse Road. There is mention in the deed of two pieces of property - one on the north with a dwelling house and one on the south with a dwelling house. The last transfer of property that can be traced to this house is that of Samuel Hull to Jonathan Slade in 1873 although the features of the house make the date much earlier.

With no knowledge of the earlier owners, there is no history to relate.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Maps of Swansea, 1850, 1971, 1895
Registry of Deeds, Fall River, Ma.
Assessor's Office, Town Hall