

"A guide for the tourist and you"

By JUNE W. KENNEDY
CARLISLE DEPOT

The small house situated next to the railroad track is part of the original Carlisle freight station for the Framingham and Lowell RR. It was moved from across the street. The Post Office of Nashoba, located here, served the residents of Parker Village prior to R.F.D. It was to this station, driving horse and team, that the neighboring farmers carried milk and mail for outgoing delivery. Empty milk cans and incoming mail were likewise delivered by the farmers to local residents. Location: 9B—Routes 225 and 27

PROCTOR HOUSE

Built sometime before 1730 on the Old Post Road (Route 225) between Concord and Groton, this classic colonial has five fireplaces, two bake ovens, and wide pine paneled rooms. Hooks in the ceiling of the present dining room are reminders of its days as a smoke room.

An authentic 18th century garden was planted by present owners, the Richard Emmets, during the Bicentennial years. Appropriate plantings include lilies, shrub roses, herbs and trees. Also, vines, trellises and fences are proper. Purists, we learn, must exclude forsythia, petunias, dahlias, zinnias, rhododendrons and azaleas, as well as hybrid tea and floribunda roses. Manicured lawns are modern. In fact, it was the mid 1800's before lawnmowers appeared in the U.S. The Emmets amusingly note that those interested in a bona fide American early outdoor setting should keep a couple of sheep. Location: 7D—Concord Road - Between Snow & Banbury Drives, across from Stone Well house.

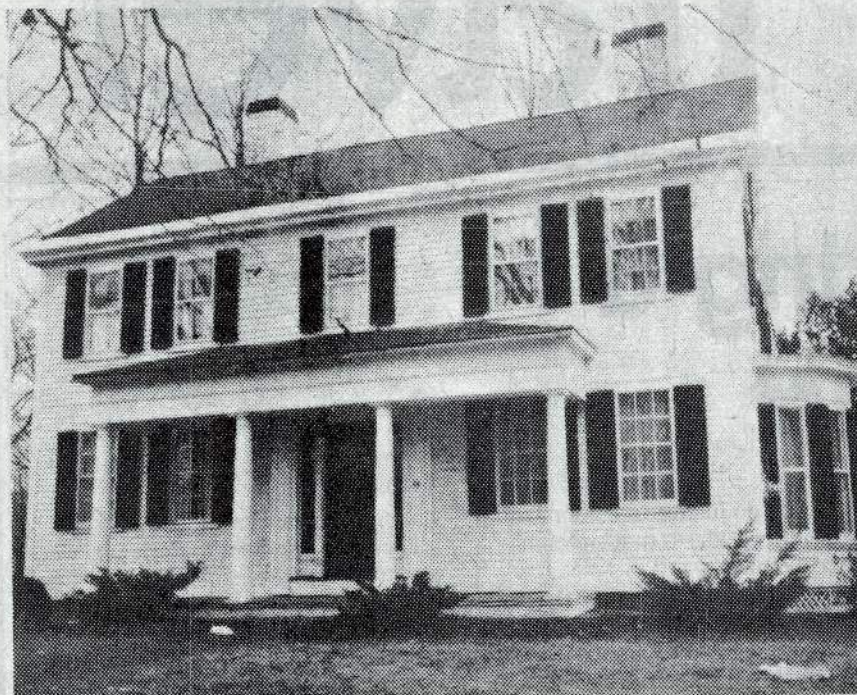
ABBOT'S FOLLY

This three-story brick-end colonial

house was copied in 1800 by a young lawyer who was impressed by Salem houses. It was thought to be rather pretentious for his bachelor state (hence its name, Abbot's Folly). The third floor ballroom was once used as a dormitory for the local Academy and for town meetings. It has been said the house was used in the underground railroad. For a period, Harrison B. Hall kept a store in the ell of the place. The large central hallway runs clear to the back of the house. The staircase is unusual for it ascends to the second floor levels, and descends to the first floor at the rear of the front hall. Until her death in 1977 Miss Marian Winnek, the great granddaughter of J.V. Fletcher, Library donor, lived here. It was she who gave the first children's room to the library. Location: 6G—24 Main Street, 2nd house on right beyond Main St., and Graniteville Road fork.

REV. LUCE HOME

The first pastor of the Union Congregational Church, Rev. Leonard Luce, built this dwelling about 1830. Originally it was a nine room house. At the time of its erection, it cost \$1,050.00 including three coats of white lead paint inside and out. Highlights here are the handmade Christian doors and the preserved handwritten instructions to the builder by Rev. Luce specifying a "marrying room"—the small room on the southeast corner of the main house. Besides Mr. Luce's duties as a clergyman, he devoted much time to the raising of doves and cultivation of flowers. When children met him on the street, they were supposed to make their best bow or curtsy. Location: 25 Main St., Westford Center.



The first parsonage of the Union Congregational Church was built about 1830 and cost \$1,050.00 including three coats of white lead paint inside and out. (From WESTFORD RECOLLECTIONS)

CHURCH PARSONAGE

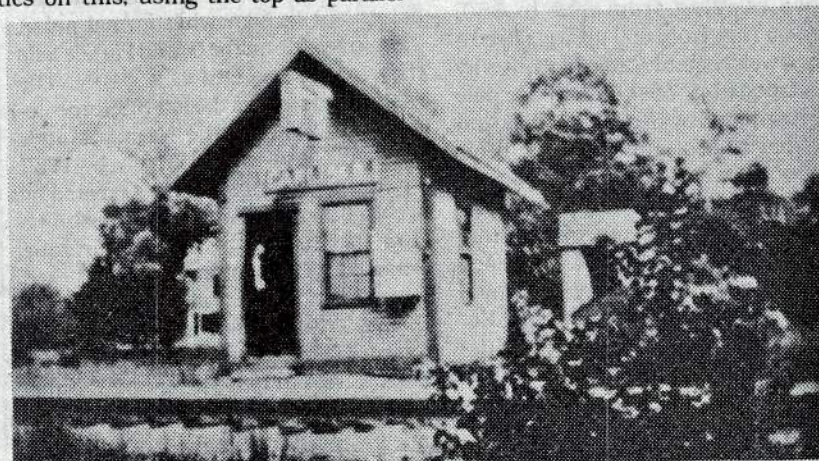
Whereas the Congregational parsonage had been privately owned by the first minister of the church, it seemed advisable for the Congregational parish to build its own ministerial home, which it did in 1872. Between the years 1897 and 1902, Rev. E.H. Roper spend his pastorate here. His daughter, Laura, recalled her days at the parsonage with accounts of the old kitchen pump and Saturday night baths in a tub in the middle of the kitchen floor, followed by the traditional baked bean supper.

Laura wrote, "There was a fence in front, and we had a swing (the kind with a wooden frame that people sit in opposite each other). We used to do gymnastics on this, using the top as parallel

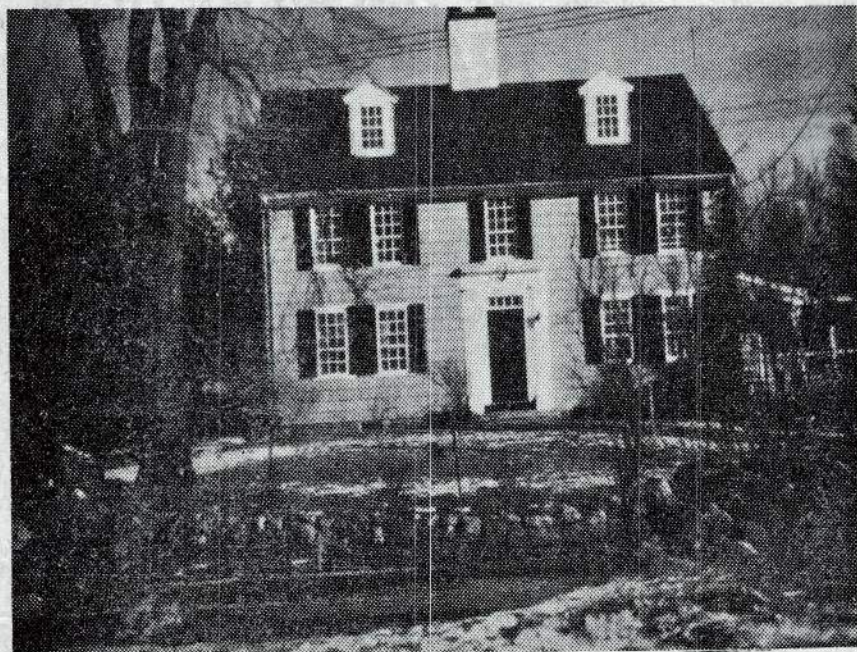
bars. We had a barn, attached to the house by what was, I think, a woodshed."

When the Rev. Charles P. Marshall family arrived in 1905, a series of improvements were made including a bathroom, new range, and all necessary plumbing. By 1909 a piazza, extending across the entire front of the house was added.

Today, the home serves as the parsonage of the First Parish Church United of Westford (merger of First Parish and the Union Congregational Church). In 1972 Rev. and Mrs. George E. Downey shared with church friends and members in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the parsonage. Location: 23 Main Street, Westford Center.



Carlisle Station. The Carlisle Station served the Framingham and Lowell Railroad that twice a day passed through the southeastern section of Westford. The building was moved across the road for a residence; the line has been reduced to local freight service. (From the book WESTFORD RECOLLECTIONS 1729-1979 by June W. Kennedy on sale at the "Book-tique" or from the author)



The old Proctor homestead on Route 225 (the Old Post Road between Concord and Groton) appears on the 1730 map of Westford. (A Kennedy photo from WESTFORD RECOLLECTIONS)