FORM B – BUILDING

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Photograph

Topographic or Assessor's Map

Town: Dartmouth
Place: (neighborhood or village) Russells Mills Village
Address: 1228 Russells Mills Road
Historic Name: Davoll’s General Store
Uses: Present: Davolls Store & Apartments
Original: Store
Date of Construction: c1800
Source: MACRIS
Style/Form: Federal
Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:
Foundation: Granite & Concrete
Wall/Trim: Clapboard
Roof: Asphalt Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (with dates):
Side & Rear Additions (Mid 19th Cen)
Gas pump removed 1983-2010

Condition: Good
Moved: no □ | yes X | Date
Acreage: 0.63 Acres
Setting: Set in a dense village area of residential and mixed use properties.

Recorded by: Julie Larry
Organization: ttl-architects, llc
Date (month / year): July 2011
Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:
Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The store at 1228 Russells Mills Road is centrally located in the village on a lot formed by four major roads. The building is composed of a two and a half story store with a rear ell and three connected one-story ells to the northwest of the store. The store has a front gable roof and the side ells have side gable roofs. All of the roof forms are sheathed in asphalt shingles. An interior chimney projects through the south slope of the gable roof in the store and rear ell. The store and rear ell are clad in wood clapboards while the side ells are clad in painted wood shingles. A pair of wraparound concrete stairs leads to a wide concrete landing in front of the store. The central entrance is comprised of a pair of wood panel and glass swinging doors. Above the entry doors is a narrow divided transom. The door and transom are framed by a simple wood surround and capped by a shallow cornice. The entrance is flanked on each side by a 2/2 wood sash window. Above the first floor entrance, 6/6 wood sash windows are symmetrically arranged in the gable end. All the windows are topped by a decorative crown and flanked by shutters.

The rear ell projects beyond the south wall of the store. A wood panel entrance door is located on the west façade. To the rear of the entrance on the south façade is a recessed porch. The porch is framed by wood boards and the opening is capped by a decorative crown. To the rear of the front gable ell is a one story hip roof addition.

The three side ells on the northwest side of the store face Russells Mills Road. The first ell, connected to the store, has a steeply pitched side gable roof. The ell is three bays wide and consists of a central entrance flanked on each side by a 6/6 sash window. The central entrance is a wood panel door with a wood multi-pane storm door framed by a simple flat wood surround. The second ell to the west has a less steeply pitched side gable roof. Also three bays wide with a central entrance, the fenestration and door are of the same materials and style as the first ell. The third ell has a flat roof and is three bays wide. The fenestration and door are of the same materials and style as the first two ells. Each ells’ entrance is accessed by separate concrete stairs.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE
Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Known locally as Davoll’s Store, it was not purchased by the Davoll’s until the early 20th century and was known in the second half of the 19th century as Slocum’s Store. It is purported to have been used as a store since 1793. The store is listed on the National Register of Historic Places as a contributing building in the Russells Mills Historic District (also a designated Local Historic District). The older portions of this complex appear to be the low sections to the left of the main building. In the 19th century this was a general store operated by the Slocum family. A wood-burning stove still provides heat for the main store, and until recently, a setting for conversations for the men of the village in winter. The location of the Russells Mills post office for many years from the 19th century to the present: C. 1810 Abraham Tucker was the postmaster.

Originally this structure consisted of the 2.5 story Federal house and store. This was a gable end structure with moderately pitched roof. Soon after this section was built, c 1795, the rear addition attached to it was constructed. It too is a pitched roof structure and not unlike the original in appearance. At the rear of the second built structure is a third addition, two stories in height and flat roofed. This may have been added c1825. A one story pitched roof addition to the left side of the original structure and behind this addition at the rear is an attached storage building and barn built mid 19th century, perhaps when one of the additions was being constructed. (Ken Weinstein & K Fair, Dartmouth Historical Commission, 1983)

Owners include: Michael Wainer (1780); William Howland (1792); Benjamin Cummings & Joshua Howland (1801); Jonathan Allen (1805); Caleb Slocum (1809); Henry & Benjamin Tucker (1810); Rebecca Church ½ interest to Abner Tucker and
Benjamin and Nancy Potter ½ interest to Abner Tucker (1842); William Tucker (1849); Charles Tucker (1851); William Allen & James H Slocum (1862); Nancy Slocum to John Sherratt, Frank Davoll, & Raymond Davoll (1901); and Wilfred & Virginia Morrison, and their daughter Beverly and her husband Joseph Glennon (1974).

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Beers, F.W. & Co. *Dartmouth, Dartmouth, Smith Mills Town, Russells Mills Town.* Bristol County 1871. [available online at historicmapworks](http://www.historicmapworks.com)

Everts & Richards. *Dartmouth Town, Dartmouth, Smith Mills.* Bristol County, 1895. [available online at historicmapworks](http://www.historicmapworks.com)

FamilySearch


Street Directories.

Town of Dartmouth. Assessors Records.

U.S. Commerce Dept. Census Bureau, 1840-1930.

USGS MAPS 1893, 1935, 1941. [UNH]
