To: Groton Zoning Board of Appeals

From: Groton Historical Commission

Date: April 13, 2023

Re: Groton Farms/Deluxe Development

 The Historical Commission would like to respectfully submit one point of feedback regarding the Groton Farms/Deluxe development currently under consideration.

 We understand that the developer has attempted to shield the buildings as much as possible from Main Street. However, we feel strongly that the more important viewshed to consider is that from Common Street.

 Common Street forms one of the most intact historic agricultural landscapes in Groton, and the northwestern view is a key part of that. The Deluxe property sits directly in this viewshed, and considering the four-story height of the proposed buildings, we are concerned that the development may impact this important historic landscape. On the other hand, the viewshed from Main Street at the location of the Deluxe property has little to no historic value due to the existing development in the area.

 In sum, we would respectfully ask the developer to consider siting the buildings such that the viewshed from Common Street is not disturbed, even if that means the buildings will be more visible from Main Street.

 Respectfully submitted,

 Groton Historical Commission

 Aubrey Theall (Chair)

 Bob DeGroot

 Michael LaTerz

 Allen King

 Michael Danti

 Joshua Vollmar