

# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number  
Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

11C-9	Mt Toby	E	AMH.
-------	------------	---	------

Photograph



**Town/City:** Amherst

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*):  
Amherst

**Address:** 164 Sunset Avenue

**Historic Name:**

**Uses:** Present: Single-family residence

Original: Single-family residence

**Date of Construction:** c. 1942?

**Source:** street lists and City Directory

**Style/Form:** Colonial Revival

**Architect/Builder:**

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: not visible

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding

Roof: Asphalt shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
one-bay garage (attached)

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

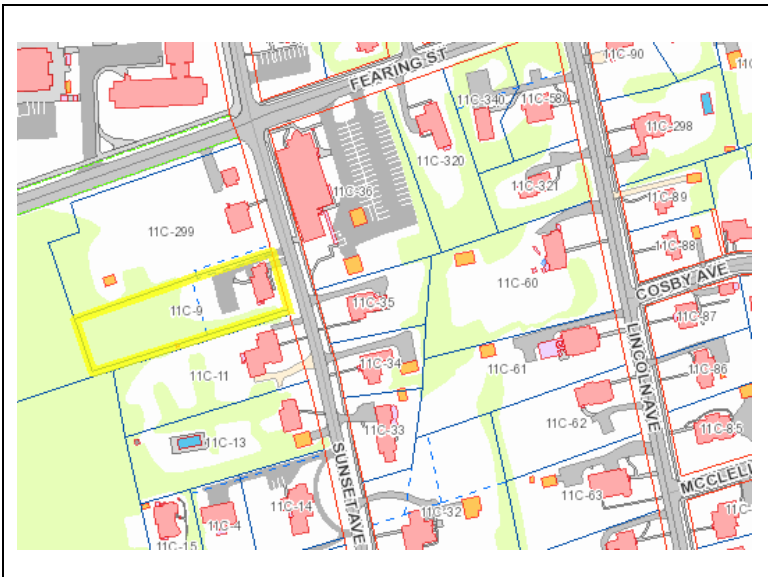
**Condition:** fair

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** .73 acre

**Setting:** Across from the former Amherst Creamery and near the southern perimeter of the University of Massachusetts campus.

## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Suzannah Fabing

**Organization:** LHDSC

**Date** (*month / year*): March 2016

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

164 SUNSET AVE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

E

AMH.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*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.*

This side-gabled two-story Colonial Revival house has an off-center entrance in its east facade, the door flanked by one window on each side, unevenly spaced and of unequal size. Some of its windows have been crudely resized, and the larger original opening has simply been boarded up to adjust to a smaller, newer window. These windows and the door have a prominent wide entablature above them. The original front door is framed by fluted pilasters, and there are dentils in the entablature above it. There are three windows in the second story above. The current principal entrance is recessed under an arch, adjacent to the attached garage. Another door is found in the south facade, along with two windows on each floor and one in the gable end. Fenestration on the north mimics that of the second floor and attic south facade. The broad chimney reflects Colonial precedents.

## 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.*

No house with this address is listed in Amherst Street Lists prior to 1943, though the main block of this house shows signs of being an older building. The first occupants, recorded in the 1942 City Directory and the 1943 street list, were W. Burnet Easton, Jr., and his wife Esther. Rev. Easton (1905-1975) was director of religious activities at the MAC around 1942-1946. He had married Esther Goldthwaite Ward (1909-2005) in 1933.

By 1947 the house was owned by Gilbert L. and Mary L. Woodside, he a professor of zoology. He expanded offerings in zoology at both graduate and undergraduate levels after becoming Head of the department in 1948. He was named Dean of the graduate school at the University in 1950 and Provost in 1961. In 1964 he left UMass to become Assistant to the Director for Scientific Program Planning at the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development in Bethesda, Maryland, and the couple sold the house at 164 Sunset.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Amherst street lists

Amherst property card 2015

Amherst city directories

University of Massachusetts Amherst Yearbook 1964, p. 109.

Biographical information on the Eastons and Woodsides online at ancestry.com, consulted 23 March 2016.

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

AMHERST

164 SUNSET AVE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

E	AMH.
---	------

---