

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town/City: Amherst

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Prospect-Gaylord National Register District

Address: 82 North Prospect Street

Historic Name: Thomas Young House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Residence

Original: Single-Family Residence

Date of Construction: ca. 1863

Source: *Hampshire & Franklin Express*, 11 Sept. 1863, p. 3

Style/Form: Victorian Eclectic

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: unknown

Wall/Trim: aluminum siding/wood

Roof: slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage (1985)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

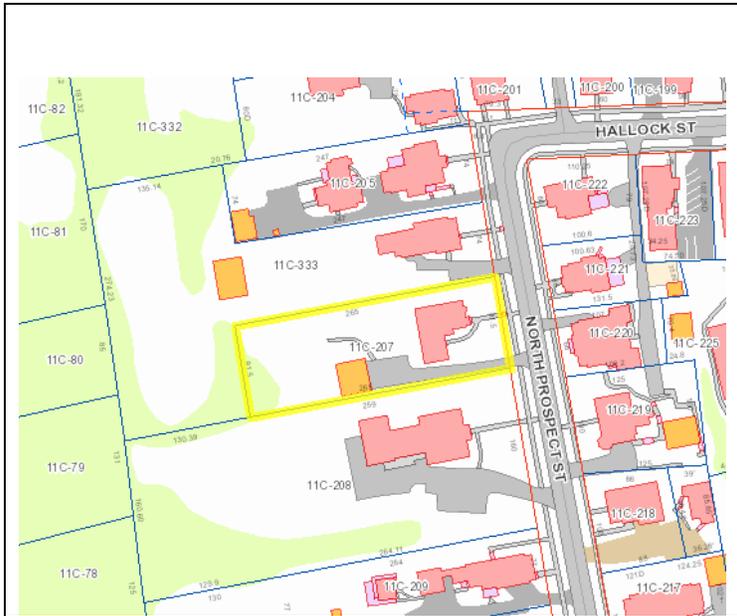
Acreage: .56 acres

Setting: This house stands on a tree-lined residential street of 19th century homes.

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Suzannah Fabing

Organization: LHDSC

Date (*month / year*): August 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

82 NORTH PROSPECT ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

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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 two-story house features an L-shaped plan, with a front gable facing the street and a side gable in the L, which runs parallel to the street. There is a triple window in the front gable, a small gabled portico around the arch-topped front door, and a windowed polygonal bay on the first floor, to its right. The fenestration is aligned. A second entry door, in the L, also faces the street, and a veranda runs the length of this section. The tops of the posts supporting the portico and veranda have elaborate recurved profiles, but otherwise the house incorporates little decorative detail.

A modern garage stands to the south and rear of the house.

This property is part of the Prospect-Gaylord Historic District, which was designated a National Register Historic District on 4 February 1993.

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.

The land on which this house stands was part of Dr. Rufus Cowles's farm, which was sold in the mid-19th century to Osmyn Baker, who collaborated with a partner in laying out North Prospect Street as far as what is now Cowles Lane. Baker in turn sold much of the land along the northwest of today's North Prospect Street to Leavitt Hallock, who extended the street to its present terminus and created Hallock Street as well.

Hallock sold this plot of 75 ft x 16 rods to Thomas Young, Jr., in 1863, and Young appears to have begun building the house right away. The *Hampshire and Franklin Express* of 11 September 1863 noted that, "There have been several fine houses built on this street [Prospect] in the past two years, and one under construction now by Mr. Young, of the firm Marsh & Young, and in time we think this street will present a fine appearance."

Thomas Young, his second wife Vienna (née Grout), and two children were listed living in Amherst in the 1865 Massachusetts State Census (no street address given). Young (1828-1915), son of a ship's carpenter from Wareham, was a furniture dealer and undertaker, together with his brother Jeremiah (who would live at #90 and later #65 North Prospect). For a time around 1863 they were in partnership with Merrick M. Marsh in a firm called Marsh & Young. (Marsh lived at #44 North Prospect, and his son Edwin, who also became a cabinetmaker, lived first at #44 and later at #38, making on North Prospect Street a notable concentration of families in the furniture trade.) The firm of Young Brothers, "furniture, wooden and wicker ware, coffins, caskets &c," was listed at 2 Pleasant Street, "near Main," in City Directories of 1869 to 1873. By 1880, however, Thomas and family were living in Spencer MA, and by 1900 in Brockton.

In the 1880 US Census, Edward W. Smith (ca. 1847-1911), his wife Ida L., and children Robert C. (age 3) and Mary L. (11 months) appear to be living in this house; they are listed on the roster between John Ward, who was living at 62 North Prospect, and Frank Howes, and near the Pratts (at #90) and Rufus Stratton (at #94), although street addresses are not given. This census records Edward as owning a meat market. Their household included three servants: two men who worked in the meat market, and one woman who did house work. Edward appears to have had a checkered career. City Directories show him variously as a cattle dealer, agricultural implement salesman, and farmer. The house number vacillates between 30 and 44.

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The 1900 US Census shows the Smiths at 36 North Prospect [sic], listed between Oren Williams at #46 and Wilbur Ward at #24 (their actual residences were today's #90 and #62). Two public school teachers were boarders, as well as a student. There were three servants from Poland living at the house—two male farm laborers and a female kitchen girl.

In 1910 Edward and Ida shared the house with three Austrian/Polish farm laborers and one female servant of the same background. Following Edward's death in 1911, Ida remained in residence. She was taxed on the property in 1919 and still appears there in the City Directory of 1927. She died the following year. William N. Lambert and his wife Mabeth are listed at this address in the 1933-1942 City Directories. He was a gas station attendant. Their son, William Jr., served in the U.S. Army in WW II and beyond.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Hampshire and Franklin Express, 11 September 1863, p. 3.

Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 214/164, Leavitt Hallock to Thomas Young, Jr., 31 August 1863. Thanks to Ed Wilfert for deed and tax research.

1865 Massachusetts state census

Beers Atlas map, 1873

U. S. Census, 1880, 1900, 1910.

Amherst City Directories 1869-79, 1886-1909, 1927-1942

Town of Amherst tax records for Ida Smith, 1919, Jones Library, Amherst, Special Collections.