

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: 89 North Prospect

Historic Name: George C. Martin House

Uses: Present: Single-Family rental Residence

Original: Single-Family Residence

Date of Construction: 1901-02

Source: tax records for F.A. Cadwell

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: 20-year architectural shingle/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

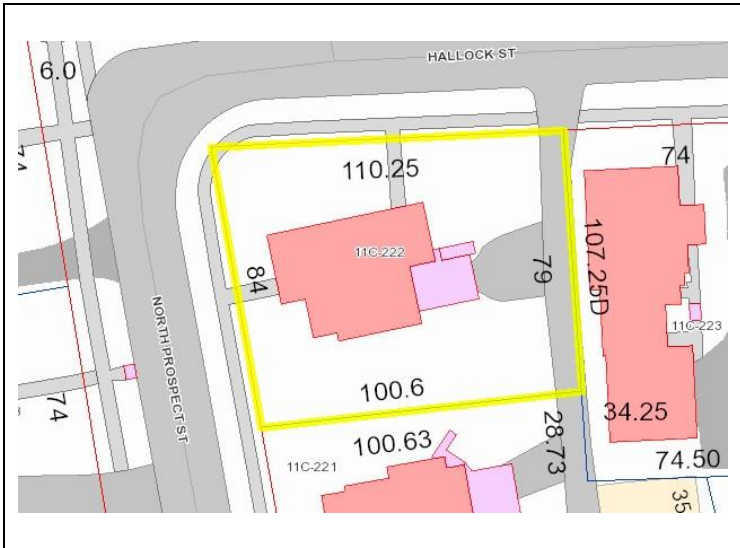
Acreeage: 0.2 acres

Setting: This house occupies a corner lot at the north end of a tree-lined residential street, where Hallock Street joins North Prospect. There is an alley behind it, giving access to three houses at the north end of North Prospect Street and one on Hallock Street.

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Suzannah Fabing

Organization: LHSC

Date (*month / year*): June 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

89 NORTH PROSPECT ST.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

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AMH.210

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 cross-gabled 2 1/2-story house is one of several large, simplified Queen Anne residences found in Amherst Center and scattered throughout the town, with a small concentration on the south end of West Street. The three-window grouping in the gable, with small upper panes, and the asymmetrical, unaligned fenestration on the first two stories are typical of the Queen Anne style, as is the general massing of form. The house has a veranda with a hipped roof on the northern portion of the North Prospect Street facade, supported by paired columns at each end that flare at the top. There is a two-sided oriel bay on the Hallock Street (north) facade, and a small back porch on its eastern end. The modern siding may have obscured additional architectural details.

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 around North Prospect Street was originally part of Dr. Rufus Cowles's farm. When the farm was sold off in the mid-nineteenth century, the family preserved the homestead on what is today Cowles Lane, with some surrounding land. Descendants Fanny and Jenny Cowles in 1895 sold to land speculator Frank A. Cadwell a 92-square-rod parcel that ran southward along the east side of North Prospect Street from Hallock Street. Cadwell divided it into three lots, on which he had houses built over the next several years. This house was the last of the three to be built. Cadwell's tax records indicate that it was built in 1901-02. It must have been rented for several years, until in 1909 Cadwell sold it to George C. Martin. Martin (b. 1869), a Captain in the Eighteenth U.S. Infantry, was, beginning in 1906, detailed as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, the forerunner of the University of Massachusetts. Martin and his wife are listed at #89 (at that time, #35) North Prospect in the 1910 US Census. By 1920, however, he was teaching at the Military Academy in Clay, Florida, and the family had left Amherst. He and his wife, Marion L., sold the property in 1926.

No one is listed at the house in the 1920 Census. Justin W. Guilford, a bookkeeper at the hat factory, bought the house in 1926 and lived there for a quarter-century with two successive wives and several boarders at a time—teachers in the public schools, younger bookkeepers, and a telephone operator, among others.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

U. S. Census, 1910, 1920, 1930, 1940

Amherst City Directories, 1910-1954

Amherst tax records for F.A. Caldwell, 1901, 1902, 1903, Jones Library, Amherst, Special Collections.

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Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 475/23, Jenny and Fanny Cowles to F.A. Cadwell, 30 April 1895; 644/53-54, Cadwell to G.C. and Marion L. Martin, 5 July 1909; 685/205-06, the Martins to Judson W. and Lillian Guilford, 20 Jan 1926; 1106/111, Justin W. Guilford to Stanley Heitzowski, 15 January 1951. Thanks to Ed Wilfert for deed and tax research.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Form B (1988), online in the MACRIS database.

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form, Prospect Gaylord National Historic District, Amherst (1992), section 8, p. 14.

On George Chipman Martin, *Index, Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Massachusetts*, vol. 39 (1909), p. 29.

