

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

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Photograph



Town/City: Amherst

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Lincoln-Sunset National Register District

Address: 242 Lincoln Avenue

Historic Name: Frank A. Thompson House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Residence

Original: Single-Family Residence

Date of Construction: 1900

Source: C.M. Walker article, 5 January 1901

Style/Form: Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: not visible

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboard; Wood

Roof: Slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

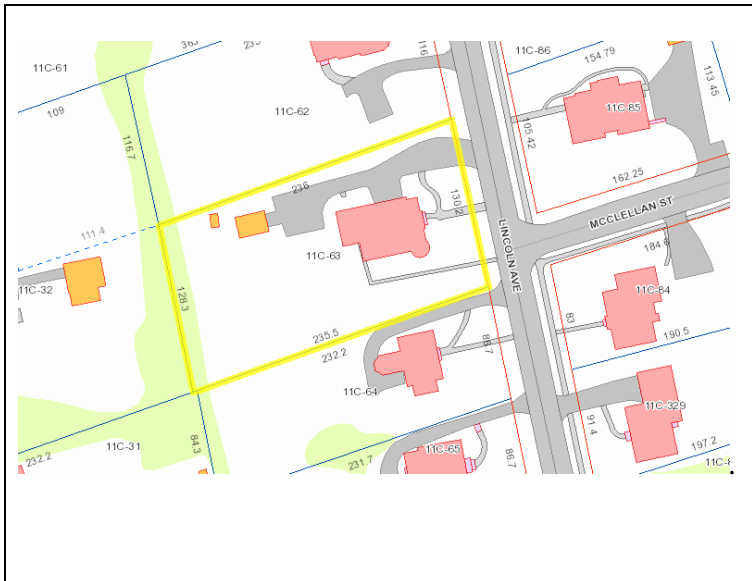
Condition: Excellent

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

Acreage: .7 acre

Setting: On a residential street, this house stands opposite the point at which McClellan Street and Lincoln Avenue intersect.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Steve Bloom/Suzannah Fabing

Organization: LHDSC

Date (*month / year*): September 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

AMHERST

242 Lincoln Avenue

Area(s) Form No.

E

AMH.172

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 large house with hipped roof and pedimented dormers is related to about fifteen Colonial Revival homes, mainly in the Lincoln-Amity area. Common to all are the large scale, fanlights and sidelights at the doorway, and free use of colonial details. This example features Adamsesque swags in dormers, cornice brackets, tripartite side windows and nicely detailed doorway lights. A high-style Colonial Revival residence, this house is 2 ½ stories in height. Corner pilasters support a broad cornice beneath the hipped roof. A wide eave overhang is supported on Craftsman-like brackets. Two pedimented dormers with diamond-pane sash are on the street façade. Each of the pediments is filled with Neo-classical garland-and-swag ornament. The three-bay façade has an elliptical fanlight in its entry surround, with beveled glass in the transom and sidelights. The porch wraps to the south toward the large garden that leads to a spacious yard. A very small pitched-roof garage stands to the northwest of the house.

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.

An article from an unidentified newspaper, by C. M. Walker, dated 5 January 1901, states that "F. M. Thompson and Patrick Honey have new houses on Lincoln Avenue." Thompson and his wife Jessie are recorded there in the 1910 US Census. Frank M. Thompson, a merchant of men's clothing in the firm of Sanderson & Thompson, still lived in the house in 1928, and his widow was still there in 1937.

Lincoln Avenue had been divided into building lots by 1873. They were owned by Stockbridge and Wescott, who occasionally sold them with deed restrictions pertaining to new construction: set-back, craftsmanship and valuation. After 1910, directories indicate an increase in the number of Amherst College and Massachusetts Agricultural College faculty members and in the number of boarders on Lincoln, joining the previous majority of merchants and clergy. Many households had domestics, reflecting the affluent lifestyle this architecture represents.

****SELECTED TO NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT (2/22/1993)****

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps: Beers 1873, "Bird's-Eye View" 1886 .

Sanborn map 1916.

Walker, C. M., article on building in Amherst during 1900, 5 January 1901, in Vol. 1 of ten scrapbooks compiled by C. M. Walker, now in the Jones Library Special Collections.

Amherst Street Lists and City Directories.

National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form, Lincoln-Sunset Historic District, Amherst, section 7, p. 10.

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

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

242 Lincoln Avenue

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On Frank Thompson: Lockwood, John H. *Western Massachusetts: A History 1636-1925*, Vol. 4, New York: Lewis Publishing Co., p. 85, online at www.ebooksread.com.