

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: 219 Lincoln Avenue

Historic Name: Noah Lee/ Joseph Lindsey House

Uses: Present: Single-Family Residence

Original: Single-Family Residence

Date of Construction: 1889

Source: Deeds, town valuations, *Springfield Republican*

Style/Form: Italianate

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: not visible

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboard; Wood

Roof: Metal/Tin

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

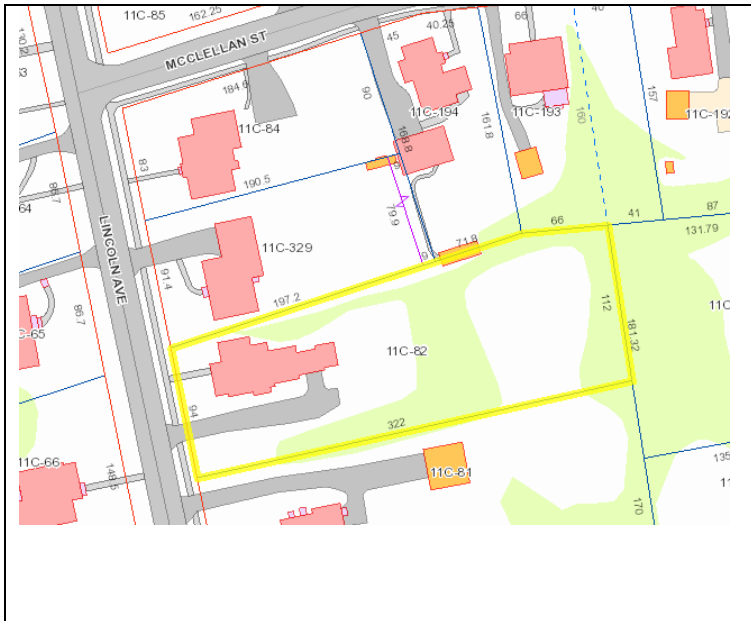
Condition: Excellent

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .77 acre

Setting: On a tree-lined residential street, this house has a large back yard.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Steve Bloom/Suzannah Fabing

Organization: LHDSC

Date (*month / year*): September 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

219 Lincoln Avenue

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

E

AMH.171

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 asymmetrical building with a single hipped roof is one of about twenty Italianate houses in Amherst. More than half of them are clustered in the Whitney-High Street and North Prospect-Lincoln Avenue areas. Typical of the smaller-scale examples found on Gray and Taylor Streets, this house is set back from the street, emphasizing the picturesque, rural landscape for which it was intended.

This small, late Italianate house has a three-bay sidehall plan and is related in scale and plan to the James Deuel House at 154 Lincoln. The façade shows evidence of a one-bay addition on the north side. Large projecting brackets are paired on exterior corners. The front porch contains paired brackets, square porch supports and a geometric balustrade.

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.

This house does not appear on the 1873 Beers map, but the land was then the property of Stockbridge and Westcott, the initial developers of real estate on Lincoln Avenue. Noah H. Lee purchased the land for \$600 in 1883. House construction was in progress in 1889, and the finished house was valued at \$2000 in 1890. The *Springfield Republican*, reviewing new buildings in Amherst in 1889, pegged its construction at \$2500. It was one of only three houses on Lincoln Avenue north of Elm Street to appear on the 1910 Sanborn map.

Lee (c. 1850-1938) was a principal in the Lee and Phillips Company, a firm that made and serviced hot water boilers, stoves and tin plumbing. His wife was Mary E. (b. ca. 1852), and their children were James and Mary T. They lived on Hallock Street before building this house, and had moved to Northampton by 1898.

Joseph Bridego Lindsey (1862-1939) and his family had moved into the house by 1900. He was a member of the MAC class of 1883 and became a Professor of Chemistry there. In 1888 he married Hannah Frances Dickinson (1861-1948), and their children were Amy B. (b. 1893) and Joseph B. (b. 1897). The household included an Irish housemaid in 1900 and a Polish servant in 1910. Joseph and Frances were still living in the house in 1937. One subject of Lindsey's research was animal feeds. His passion for animal nutrition and farmers led him to fight for the right of researchers to collect samples of cattle feed, a right which became a state law in 1897, thus protecting farmers from adulterated feeds. Lindsey headed the MAC Chemistry department from 1911 until 1928. He retired in 1932.

In 1910 this house (then #47) was surrounded by the homes of a bookkeeper at #50, professors at #42 and #5, and a druggist at #30. Many houses took in student and non-student boarders at this time. There were also several domestics working and boarding on Lincoln Avenue, including Frank Elkey of 13 Lincoln, a butler.

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Beers Map 1873.

Springfield Republican, 1 January 1890, p. 1.

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Sanborn map 1910.

US Census 1880, 1900, 1910, 1920, 1930.

Amherst City Directories.

National Register of Historic Places, Registration Form, Lincoln-Sunset Historic District, Amherst, section 7, p. 4.

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

Hampshire County Registry of Deeds, Book 429/221-222, land purchase by Noah H. Lee, 2 September 1889; 466/120. Additional land, 2 April 1894. Thanks to Ed Wilfert for deed research.

On Joseph B. Lindsey, see his papers in the Archives and Special Collections of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.



219 Lincoln Avenue can be seen in the background at right in this photograph of 91 Sunset, taken around 1895. Original in the Jones Library, Special Collections.