

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

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Photograph



Town/City: Amherst

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Amherst

Address: 328 Lincoln Avenue

Historic Name: John C. Graham

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling House

Original: Single Family Dwelling House

Date of Construction: 1913-14

Source: Tax Valuations

Style/Form: Craftsman

Architect/Builder: Michael Britt

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Unknown

Wall/Trim: Wood; Wood Shingle

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
Garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .38 acre

Setting: Residential

Locus Map



Recorded by: Priscilla White; EWW

Organization: LHDSC

Date (*month / year*):

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

328 LINCOLN AVE

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 Colonial Revival house also incorporates elements of Queen Anne, Arts & Crafts and Shingle styles and might best be described as early 20th-century Eclectic. It is a side-gabled structure with a sidehall entrance on the north end of the Lincoln Avenue facade. The exterior walls are shingled. The entry has a pedimented portico supported by paired columns, with Arts & Crafts detailing. It has a shed dormer with four double-hung windows (three panes in each upper sash) on the east side of the building, facing the street, and an attic "eyebrow" window at the point where the dormer roof meets the main roof. There are two dormers on the west side and a small enclosed rear addition. A circular porthole window is set to the left of the front entry. The house has a central brick chimney.

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.

According to the Assessor's card, the house at 328 Lincoln Avenue dates from 1914, but the source of this date is unknown and cannot be confirmed from either map evidence or street/poll tax lists. The house and its garage – which fronts to the rear (west) and is accessed from McClure Street – first reliably appear on the 1916 Sanborn map and again on the 1930 and 1950 Sanborn maps. In 1916, it was one of only four houses on the west side of Lincoln Avenue north of Fearing Street. Its street address was 68 Lincoln Avenue until a town-wide street re-enumeration occurred in 1937, after which it became 328 Lincoln Avenue.

A house and outbuilding are shown in approximately the same location on the 1886 Batchelder perspective, but the gable end of that house faces the street, so it is more likely to be the house currently numbered 318 Lincoln Avenue, just to the south. The house and stable/garage are contemporary with one another.

This section of Lincoln Avenue between Fearing Street and North Hadley Road was originally set out by the County in 1854 and revised in 1883. The houses on this block were built in the early 1900's and correlate historically with the expansion of Mass Agricultural College (MAC) into a state university.

The 7-acre parcel that includes the west side of Lincoln Avenue was owned by William Clark, President of MAC from 1867 to 1879. After his death, his widow Harriet sold the 7 acres to L. V. B. Cook in 1886 for \$1000. Cook sold it to T. B. Beecher of the P. B. Moore Company for \$1. The "Cook lots" 1/8 acre each, were auctioned by Beecher on Sept. 12, 1899, and many were bought by Irish immigrants and African Americans. A number of them were purchased by Michael Britt, an Irish immigrant and respected stone mason, who built houses on Lincoln and Fearing. Born in Waterford, Ireland in 1842, Britt came to Massachusetts in 1858 and lived in Amherst for more than 50 years, from 1860 until his death in 1918. During much of that time he was the leading stone mason in Amherst and was noted for the construction of many important buildings and homes throughout the town. In the 1879 Amherst Street Directory, he is listed as residing on Fearing Street. His survivors included 7 children and 9 grandchildren. He was buried in Plainville (St. Brigid's) Cemetery.

The 1918 Amherst Street Directory includes teachers, a farmer, a herdsman, an engineer, a carpenter and a mechanic among the inhabitants of the 300 block of Lincoln. Subsequent street directories include professors as well as merchants and tradespeople.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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1913 & 1914 Tax Valuations, Special Collections of Jones Library

James Avery Smith's burial list of St. Brigid's Cemetery, Hadley. (at Jones Library)

