

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*):
Amherst

Address: 100 Fearing Street

Historic Name: None

Uses: Present: Single-Family Residence
Original: Single-Family Residence

Date of Construction: 1983

Source: Amherst town property card

Style/Form: Ranch

Architect/Builder: N/A

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Pre-fabricated wood

Roof: Asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .34 acre

Setting: Residential, rural college town.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Gretchen G. Fox

Organization: LHDSC

Date (*month / year*): 10/2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

100 FEARING STREET

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 one-story, Ranch-style house was built in 1983. The late twentieth century pattern styles are not in keeping with those of the older, early twentieth century Vernacular styles seen in the neighborhood. The horizontal design of this straightforward, unadorned ranch house with wide-angled gable roof, and prominent attached garage on the west side, dates to the post WWII era. The pre-fabricated stained wood cladding speaks to its 1980s vintage, a bright modern addition to the longer established Fearing Street neighborhood.

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.

Lyman Goodwin owned this large lot, previously a part of the Hills and Westcott holdings of the Henderson Farm, on the southwest corner of Lincoln Avenue and Fearing Street. With the lot to its south on Lincoln Avenue, it abutted, as the western boundary, H. D. Fearing's 11+-acre estate, as seen on the revised Beers 1873 Map of Amherst. In 1921, it was deeded with buildings by Goodwin's executor Frank W. Goodwin to Anna A. Fisher, under whose estate it was deeded to Frederick G. Ruder, who in turn had the land surveyed and divided into two tracts, east and west, in 1977. The two tracts, approximately a third of an acre each, were acquired that year by Denison H. Jones, a prominent Amherst realtor and landowner, who held them until 1983. Jones had wanted to build six condominiums on the property, but the neighborhood opposition to a special permit under the zoning regulations prevailed. After Jones sold the two tracts, the new co-owners separated the lots between them and together built the two houses as single-family homes, with Girard Roberg the building contractor. The corner lot became 295 Lincoln Avenue, eventually a two-family home, and has been retained by the original owner, and absentee landlord of the two units.

This home, the smaller of the two houses, facing Fearing Street, was intended, according to neighbors, as a home for the co-purchaser and mother of the 1983 buyer, who lived there until 1997. There were two subsequent owners before it was purchased in 2005 by Young Min Moon and his wife, now owner-occupiers with their two children. Young Min Moon, a Korean Canadian artist and prominent art critic of works reflecting east/west relations, is an assistant professor in the University of Massachusetts' Department of Art.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

HLR: Henderson to Hills and Westcott 253/196 (thanks to Ed Wilfert, along with prior history of that farm) and deeds from 1921 to present.

Beers 1873 Map of Amherst (revised)

Guggenheim Fdn. Press Release, "Young Min Moon"

E. Dugas and S. Treyz, long term residents of the neighborhood, interview with Gretchen G. Fox.

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