

FORM B – BUILDING

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

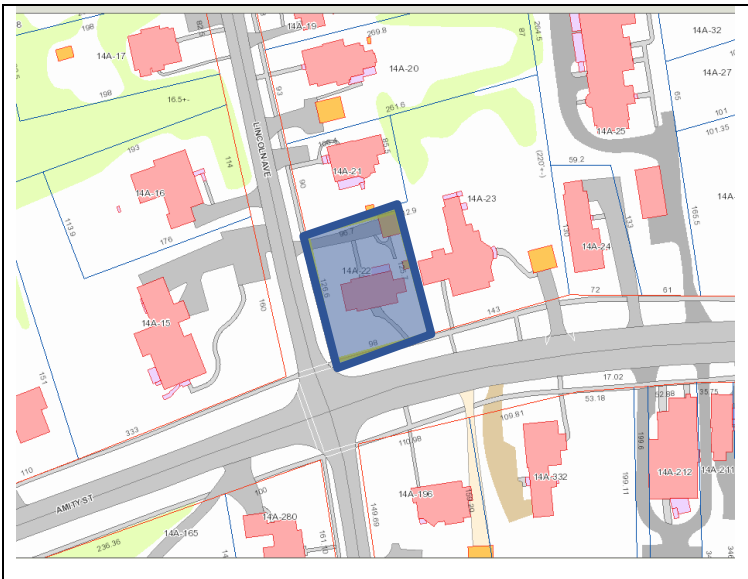
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Photograph



Locus Map



NRHD 2/22/1993

Town/City: Amherst

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

Address: 197 Amity Street

Historic Name: Thomas & Elizabeth Walsh House & Garage

Uses: Present: Single-Family Residence

Original: Single-Family Residence

Date of Construction: 1927

Source: Assessment records and style; valuations (1926, 1927)

Style/Form: Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder: N/A

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Concrete

Wall/Trim: Brick

Roof: Slate

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Garage AMH.1267 (c. 1927)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Rear dormer (1979)

Condition: Good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.28 acre

Setting: Residential area to the west of town center in a rural college town.

Recorded by: Julie Ann Larry/Ed Wilfert

Organization: ttl-architects/LHDSC

Date (*month / year*): September 2014/February 2016

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

197 AMITY STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125

E

AMH.1266 &
AMH.1267

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.

The two-story brick Colonial Revival dwelling at 197 Amity Street (AMH.1266) faces south. The three by three-bay dwelling rests on a concrete foundation. The side gable roof is sheathed in slate shingles. The main entrance is located at the center of the front (south) elevation. A gable roof portico with an arched underside is supported by fluted, circular columns. The wood panel door is flanked by $\frac{3}{4}$ -height sidelights beneath a multi-pane fanlight. To the east and west of the entrance is a tripartite window comprised of a central 8/8 sash window flanked by a 4/4 sash window. Symmetrically aligned above the first floor windows are five openings. Directly above the entrance is a pair of multi-light casement windows. The remaining fenestration is 6/6 sash windows.

To the rear (north) of the dwelling is a two-bay brick garage (AMH.1267). The square plan garage rests on a concrete foundation. The hip roof is sheathed in slate shingles. The front (west) elevation feature two wood panel, overhead garage doors. Each wood panel door has a row of fixed pane windows. A paved drive from Lincoln Street leads to the garage doors.

Listed in the National Register of Historic Places as part of the Lincoln-Sunset Historic District in 1993. The house and garage are contributing resources to the Lincoln-Sunset

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.

In 1925, Frederick M. and Mary S. Johnson of Providence, Rhode Island sold the southern portion of their land at the corner of Amity Street and Lincoln Avenue to Thomas F. and Elizabeth F. Walsh of South Pleasant Street¹ in Amherst. According to tax assessment records, the dwelling was completed a few years later in 1927. Thomas F. Walsh (b. 1876) was the proprietor of a retail men's clothing store, "House of Walsh", which was located at 28 Main Street and later at 36 Main Street. The haberdashery was, for decades, an Amherst institution selling premier men's clothing. An ad in the 1952 University of Massachusetts Yearbook states that the House of Walsh is "[a] casual country store in a college town, featuring merchandise of the highest class, both imported and domestic. Thomas F. Walsh, exclusive agent for Hickey Freeman clothes, Burberry coats, Knox hats, Spaulding athletic goods." Elizabeth (b. 1888) worked as a bookkeeper for the business.

An earlier house on the site, taken down by F. M. Johnson in 1911, was built for the Cutler family, completed in 1838. It was owned by Nancy Cutler, the widow of Isaac G. Cutler (the elder) until her death in 1849, then by her son, Elisha Pomeroy Cutler. After the old Boltwood/Cutler House (243 Amity Street) was sold and moved in 1839, the unmarried children of Nancy and Isaac G. apparently lived in this house. Brothers Robert Cutler, a builder, as well as William and George Cutler, merchants, Elisha Pomeroy Cutler, farmer, and Isaac G. Cutler, Jr., physician, all became prominent in Amherst.

Town assessment records indicate the garage was built in 1975. However, the square-plan garage appears on the 1930 Sanborn Insurance Map and was probably built around the same time as the dwelling c. 1927.

Additional Owners: Thomas & Elizabeth Walsh (1925-1971, Hampshire District Registry of Deeds 814/199); Elizabeth W. Holdsworth (1975); Frederick & Mary Steinway (1975-2006, Hampshire District Registry of Deeds 1847/61); Tambetsu Parks (2006-2010, Hampshire District Registry of Deeds 8641/296); Brian Jeffrey Bowles (2010-2012, Hampshire District Registry of Deeds 10928/340). Current Owners: John Steven & Sharon Judge (Hampshire District Registry of Deeds 11133/349).

¹ 1925 Street Directory.

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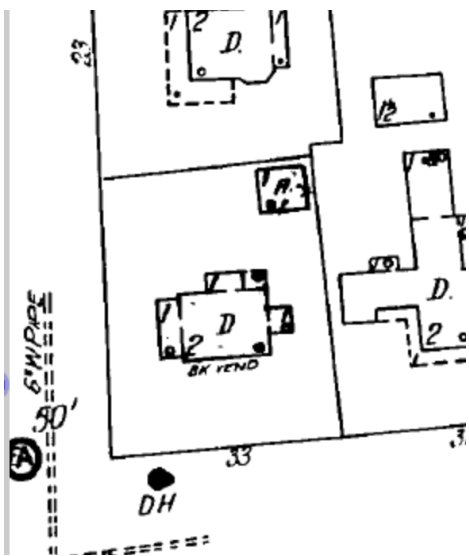
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BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- US Federal Census Records 1930-1940.
- Amherst Street Directories, 1928, 1936, 1942, 1948, 1950, 1957
- Amherst Street Lists.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps.
- Amherst Property Search; Assessor Database
- Amherst Deed and Plan Search 1968-2009, Hampshire County Registry of Deeds.



Garage AMH.1267



Site Layout from 1930 Sanborn Insurance Map

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