

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

265; 14A-26	Mt. Toby	E	AMH. 254
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Photograph



Town/City: Amherst

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Prospect-Gaylord National Register District

Address: 125 Amity Street

Historic Name: Samuel Cutts Carter House

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

Date of Construction: c. 1830

Source: Valuations

Style/Form: Cape/Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: probably Warren S. Howland

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Fieldstone

Wall/Trim: Wood clapboard/wood

Roof: Asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Barned replaced by garage and rear apartment (c. 1971)

Condition: Excellent

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: .41 acre

Setting: Residential, rural college town.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Steve Bloom/Ed Wilfert

Organization: LHDSC

Date (*month / year*): September 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMHERST

125 AMITY ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

Area(s) Form No.

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

E	AMH. 254
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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.

Perhaps the most important identifying feature of this charming early nineteenth-century colonial cottage is the central chimney. The old stone edging in front adds to the charm of the place and sets it off from neighboring houses. Symetrically organized façade with central door flanked by two windows. Door has a small porch with decorative brackets. Two attic windows on façade feature lovely decorative mullions.

****SELECTED TO NATIONAL REGISTER DISTRICT (2/4/1993)****

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.

The land on which the house stands was sold in 1828 by Rufus Cows, a local physician, to Warren Howland, a carpenter (Book 59, p. 246). That same year, Warren Howland sold the land to Samuel Cutts Carter, a bookbinder (Bk. 59, p. 296). The land, "about one acre and a quarter," extended along Amity Street (the Old King's Highway) east to land "which Simon Strong lately sold to the College." The house was built for Carter and appears on the Amherst Maps of 1856, 1860 & 1873.

Samuel Cutts Carter came to Amherst in 1825 with the Adams brothers and was the bookbinder for their printing business. Later, he became a bootmaker and served as treasurer of the Amherst Savings Bank, founded in 1865. He also served as the librarian for the early Amherst Lyceum, as a legislator in 1847 and as postmaster. He was an organizer of the Amherst Firefighter Company. Church stalwart and a temperance man, Carter was a public servant in Amherst until his death in 1889.

In 1889, Carter sold the "land with buildings" to Amanda D. Munsell (Bk. 425, p. 389), who in 1892 deeded the property to her daughters, Ellen Munsell and Esther Thompson (Bk. 448, p. 229). Esther Thompson sold the house and land (about one acre) to the Rev. Hervey Parke, father of Priscilla, the subsequent owner, in 1929 (Bk. 854, p. 87). The Hervey Parkes later owned the Emily Dickinson House on Main Street for many years.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Carpenter & Morehouse, "History of Amherst."

"History of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts," Volume 1 (1879), p. 250.

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

Priscilla Parke, prior owner and occupant

Registry of Deeds, Northampton, Mass.