

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA FORM NO.  
423

Winchester, Mass. MRA

Town WINCHESTER

Address 237 Highland Avenue

Historic Name Amy B. Mitchell House

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date c1909

Source historic maps

Style Medieval Revival

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric banded shingles

Outbuildings garage-C

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition excellent

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage 7,047sq.ft. / .16A / 04-0234

Setting residential street adjacent to the hilly Middlesex Fells Reservation.

Recorded by Carol Ely

Organization Winchester Historical Comm.

Date 12/78; 10/87 revised by C. Jenkins

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north



UTM REFERENCE 19.3 24880.47 02110  
USGS QUADRANGLE LEXINGTON, MASS.  
SCALE 1:25,000

**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

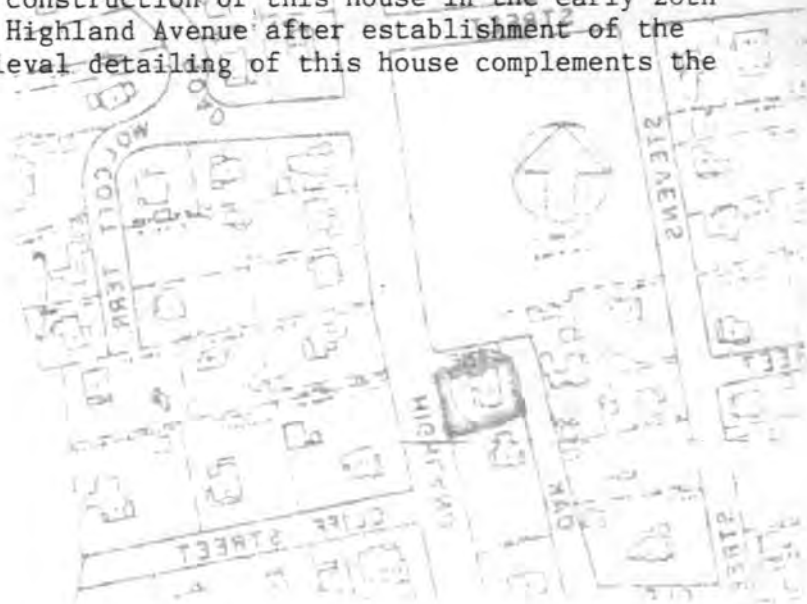
The Amy B. Mitchell House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and associations. It is significant as an unusual and exceptionally well detailed example of the Medieval Revival style which eschews the half-timbering typical of most examples. Its fine features include jerkin head gables with decorative vertical valances, exposed rafter and joist ends, overhangs at the second story, a sleeping porch and a rustic fieldstone chimney. The house meets criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places.

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.**

The Mitchell House is a 2½ story structure that is sheathed with banded shingles and is enclosed by a jerkin headed gable roof. The asymmetrical facade is framed by two unequally sized jerkin headed cross gables, both with exposed rafter and joist ends, and vertical sawtooth valances. The smaller gable to the south contains a recessed sleeping porch reminiscent of Shingle style designs. The northern gable contains a single window in the attic story, a paired window at the second story, and a tripled shed roof oriel at the ground story. An entry with sidelights is located between the gables and beneath a simply detailed porch. A third jerkin headed gable with superimposed gable with valance rises along the south elevation. A fieldstone chimney rises along the north elevation. The closest stylistic counterpart to this house is the Russell House (#253).

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.**

Research to date has revealed nothing about the history of this house other than the name of its first owner, Amy B. Mitchell. It is unusual that a single woman owned such a large and architecturally distinguished house. The construction of this house in the early 20th century illustrates the growing popularity of Highland Avenue after establishment of the Middlesex Fells Reservation. The rustic, medieval detailing of this house complements the wooded setting.



**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Winchester Archival Center resources: historic maps, town directories.

Organization: Winchester Archival Center  
Date: 10/1/81  
Scale: 1" = 100'

MAY 22 1989

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number \_\_\_\_\_ Page \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Winchester MRA  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review		Date/Signature
31.	Hatch, Horace, House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
32.	Maxwell, Louis N., House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
33.	McCall, Samuel W., House Multiple Resource Area Review	Keeper <u>Bob L. Savage</u> 7-5-89 Attest _____
34.	Mitchell, Amy B., House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
35.	Moore House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
36.	Oak Knoll Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
37.	Parker House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
38.	Parker, Edmund, Jr., House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
39.	Parker, Harrison, Sr., House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____
40.	Pressey--Eustis House Entered in the National Register	Keeper <u>Melrose Byers</u> 7/5/89 Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Mitchell, Amy B., House  
NAME:

MULTIPLE Winchester MRA  
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/22/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/06/89  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/22/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/06/89  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000653

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N  
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N  
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT  RETURN  REJECT 7/5/89 DATE

Entered in the  
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA \_\_\_\_\_  
REVIEWER \_\_\_\_\_  
DISCIPLINE \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

---

CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

---

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

---

FUNCTION

historic       current

---

DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

---

SIGNIFICANCE

Period      Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates      Builder/Architect  
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

summary paragraph  
 completeness  
 clarity  
 applicable criteria  
 justification of areas checked  
 relating significance to the resource  
 context  
 relationship of integrity to significance  
 justification of exception  
 other

---

BIBLIOGRAPHY

---

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

---

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps     USGS maps     photographs     presentation

---

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



<sup>4-11-88</sup>  
Mitchell House

237 Highland Ave 1/88

Winchester MA 01890

MHC Inv #423

Please refer to the map in the  
Multiple Property Cover Sheet  
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000303