

AUG 04 1989

1278

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA FORM NO.

East  
Somerville 158

Town Somerville MRA

Address 65-67 Perkins Street

Historic Name Gustavus G. Prescott House

Use: Present residence

Original residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1840-1850

Source map research

Style Greek Revival

Architect none

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) some 6/6  
window sash with 2/2

Condition excellent

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage less than one acre

Setting The Prescott House is now within  
a densely built residential  
area of two-and three-family  
residences.

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg, Preservation  
Planner

Organization Mass. Historical Commission

Date May 1986

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

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

See Attached Assessor's Map

Z E N

UTM REFERENCE 19 - 328/830 - 4694/320

USGS QUADRANGLE Boston North

SCALE 1:25,000

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

A survivor in East Somerville, the Prescott House is significant architecturally as evidence of the Greek Revival style in the vernacular, expressed in a building, or traditional plan. Retaining integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, the Prescott House fulfills 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 Prescott House is extremely important as a rare and well-preserved example of the early domestic Greek Revival architecture in East Somerville, based on the traditional five-bay center hall plan. The building is two bays deep, and has a series of rear ells. The foremost feature of the Prescott house is the colonnaded wrap-around portico with fluted Doric columns. Also of note is the flushboarding of the lower story, the wide overhand of the eaves, and the survival of some 6/6 divided moveable sash windows. The windows of the lower story along the facade are full-length 6/9; the lower section of the exterior blinds are still in place. The rear ell was built in several stages. Adding to the significance of the Prescott House is the irrevocable damage done to what was originally a trim house, still standing on the opposite corner at 69-71 Perkins Street.

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

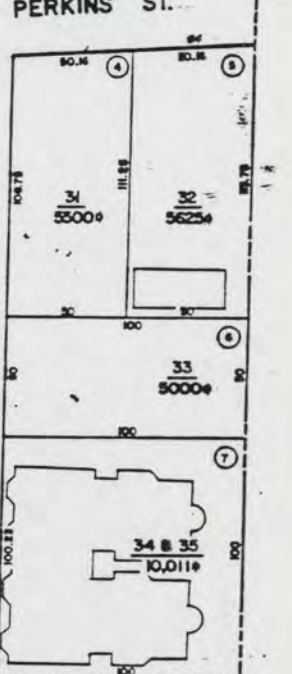
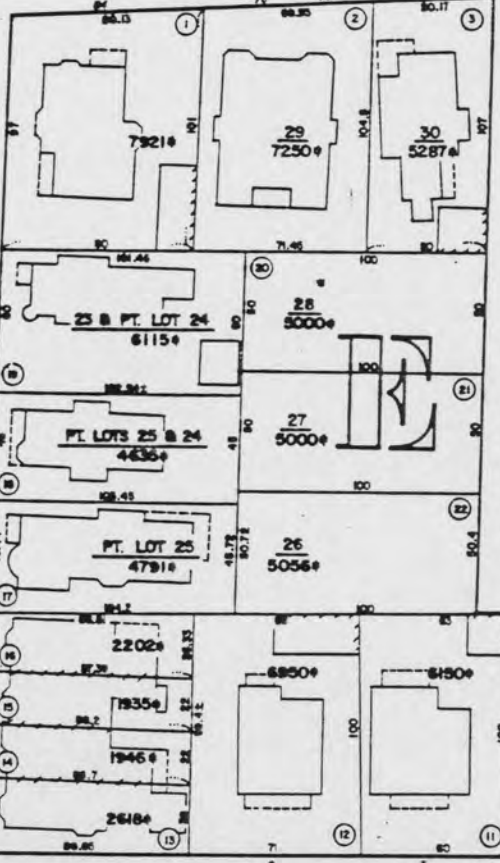
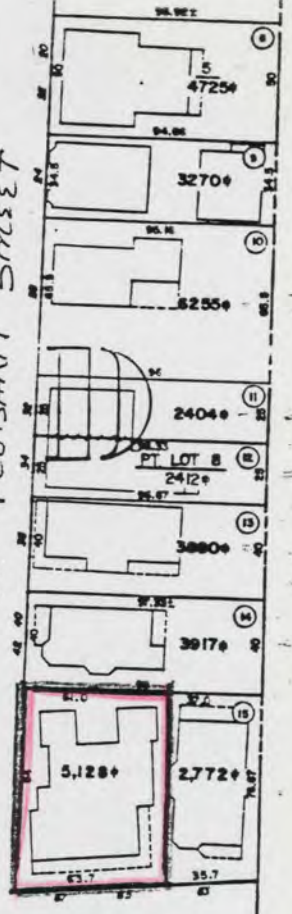
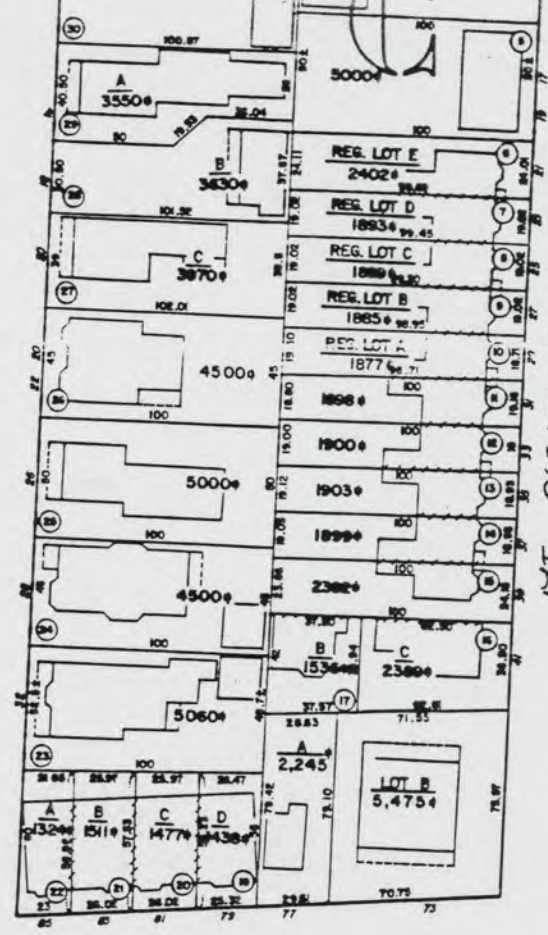
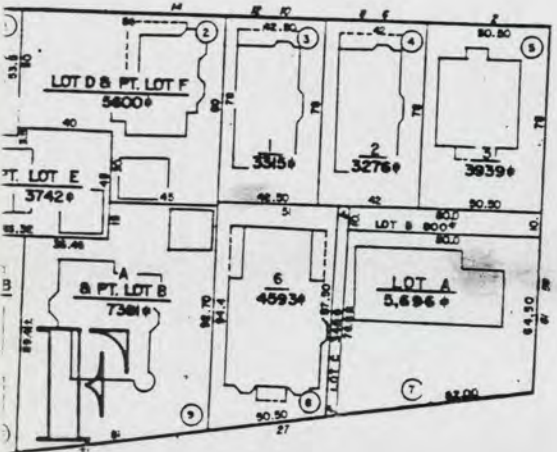
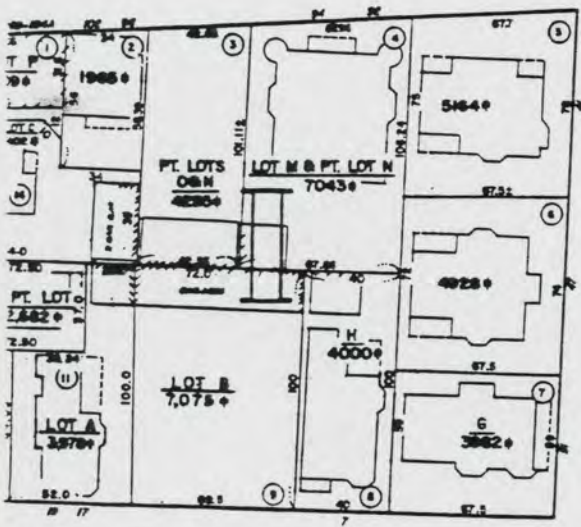
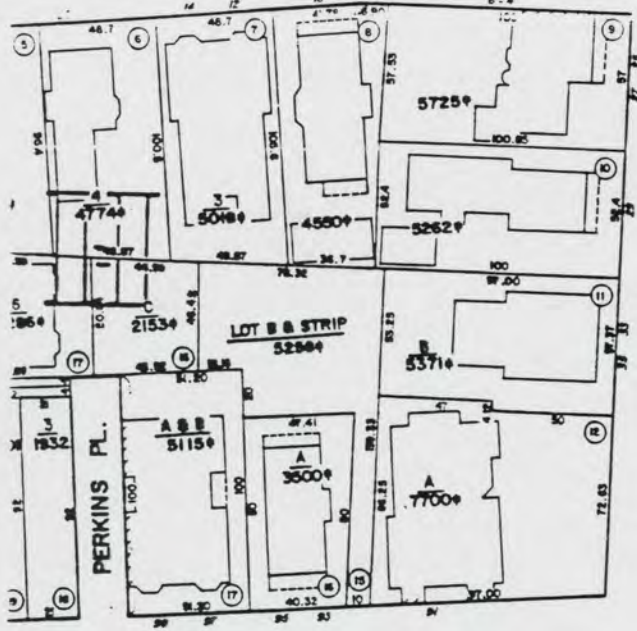
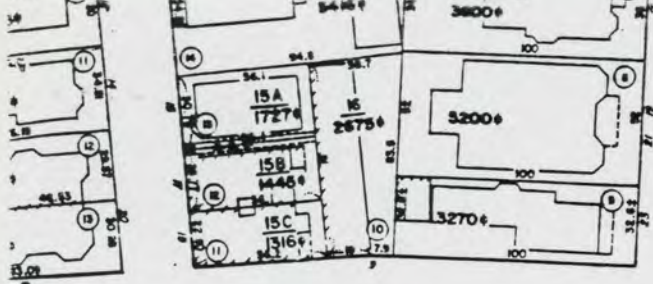
Gustavus Prescott was a Charlestown merchant, according to the 1851 Directory of Somerville. Local tradition has it that this structure was built as a small inn, as was the twin house at 69-71 Perkins Street.

The Prescott House was known as "The Ivaloo" and its twin as "The Hawthorne." on the early-20th century, a three decker was added to the east of the nominated property, on the same lot. (Continuation Architectural Significance)

The Prescott House interior retains numerous original features, including gilded anthemion motifs on all interior lintels, high baseboards, elaborate plaster ceiling medallions and an ornate staircase.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Draper, Martin, Map of Somerville  
Hopkins, G. M. Atlas of the City  
1851 City Director of Somerville



MT. VERNON ST.

MT. PLEASANT STREET

PERKINS ST.

PEARL ST.

N 1"=100' #158

Gustavus Prescott  
65-67 Perkins  
Somerville (MKA), Mass.

IRVING  
OSTON

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

AUG 4 1989

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

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

Multiple Resource Area  
Thematic Group

Name Somerville MPS  
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review	Date/Signature
61. Old Cemetery Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
62. Otis--Wyman House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
63. Parker--Burnett House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
64. Prescott, Gustavus G., House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
65. Russell, Philemon, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
66. Russell, Susan, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
67. Schuebeler, Charles, House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
68. Snow, Lemuel, Jr., House Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
69. Somerville High School Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____
70. Somerville Journal Building Entered in the National Register	for Keeper <u>Albion Byrum</u> 9/18/89 Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Prescott, Gustavus G., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Somerville MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/04/89                      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/89  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/89                      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/18/89  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001278

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    9/18/89 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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

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

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



65-67 Perkins

1. 65-67 Perkins Street
2. Somerville, MA
3. C. Zelle
4. 1984
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking north
7. # 157

Prescott, Gustavus G., Base  
Somerville MA, MA

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500253