

# 5 Linden Lane

(no photo)

## *Martha Austin House*

<b>Form No.</b>	59
<b>Town</b>	Sherborn
<b>Address</b>	5 Linden Lane
<b>Historic Name</b>	Martha Austin House
<b>Uses: Original</b>	Residence
<b>Present</b>	Residence
<b>Ownership, 1981</b>	George Wilkins, Jr.
<b>" Original</b>	Undetermined
<b>Constructed</b>	ca. 1850-1875
<b>Source</b>	Visual, appears on 1875 map
<b>Style/Form</b>	Mid 19th Century frame vernacular
<b>Architect</b>	
<b>Ext. Wall Fabric</b>	Clapboard
<b>Outbuildings</b>	Garage and shed
<b>Alterations</b>	Greatly enlarged with additions in the 1940's
<b>Moved</b>	No
<b>Acreage</b>	Less than one acre
<b>Setting:</b>	Situated at the foot of a cul-de-sac off Zion-Lane. It is hidden from view by tall shrubs and mature trees.
<b>Recorded by</b>	Edward W. Gordon, July 1981

## **ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE**

This Simple cottage has been modified by additions and dormer windows. Its volume or form, if not its surface treatment, is Greek Revival. Its ca. 1940;s colonial front door is located on the house's three bay eastern gable. This dwelling, along with #5 and #8 Zion Lane, forms a charming country village enclave of pre 1875 cottages.

## **HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE**

This house's early history is difficult to determine. The house appears on the 1875 map and was occupied at that time by Martha Austin. By 1889, William Lewis, a Civil War veteran, owned this property. He lived here until the 1920's. Dean Wheatly remodeled and nearly doubled the size of the house in the 1940's.

The Zions Lane-Linden Lane enclave evolved between the 1850s and the 1890s. Its building stock is composed of ells from older residences, diminutive cottages and enlarged out-buildings of undetermined original location. Linden Lane was once a cattle road off Zions Lane (variously called Pratt St. and Linden Court in the late 19th and early 20thc.)

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES**

- Margaret Dowse Buntin's research
- Maps of 1857, 1875 and 1889