

24 Prospect Street



Shedd-Stratton House

Form Nos.	120 house, 328 garage
Area	
Town	Sherborn
Address	24 Prospect Street
Assessor's Map	5/66
USGS Map	Framingham
Historic Name	Shedd-Stratton House
Uses: Original	Residence
Present	Residence
Ownership, 1981	Steve Solomon
" Original	Dr. John Merriam
Constructed	House 1906, garage ca. 1915
Source	Margaret Dowse Buntin's research
Style/Form	Elements of Colonial Revival
Architect	
Ext. Wall Fabric	Shingle
Outbuildings	Garage
Alterations	
Moved	No
Acreage	1.00 acres
Setting:	Close to road, stone wall along driveway pre-dates house.
Recorded	August 1981, by Edward W. Gordon

Updated 1999, by Sanford Johnson

Film Roll/Negative Roll 6

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

1981 Survey

This attractive dwelling is two and one half stories tall, constructed of wood, and swathed in wood shingles. Its main 3 bay facade features a recessed porch and a small square second floor window which contains stained glass panels. This house culminates in a gable roof and has a brick central chimney.

1999 Update

The house at 24 Prospect Street (**#120**) survives as it is described on the survey form completed in 1981. No major changes have been carried out since that time.

The outbuilding (**#328**) at 24 Prospect Street is clad in novelty board, a popular building material around 1910-1930. The one-bay, one-story garage is lit on its west wall by a 2/2 double hung sash adjacent to an unornamented Dutch door. The south elevation, adjacent to the street, is clad in board and batten and may be a blocked garage-door opening. The roof is clad in asphalt shingles, and the foundation is built of cinderblock. Simple trim accents the corners and the eaves of the small building.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

1981 Survey

This house's driveway was no. 20 Prospect Street's original driveway. No. 20 Prospect Street was moved back from the road to its present hilltop location ca. 1904. One might surmise that no. 24 was built as a caretaker's house for no. 20. The house at 20 Prospect Street and the 150 acre dairy farm was owned by Dr. John Merriam from 1899 to the nineteen teens at which time he sold the property to James and Hattie Shedd. In 1926, Joel H. Stratton bought this house and one acre of land from Mr. Shedd.

1999 Update

Dr. John and Annie C. Merriam, residents of South Framingham, owned the large farm at 20 Prospect Street and built 24 Prospect Street as a guest or caretaker's house by 1906. Property valuations form that year describe a "new house". Caretakers or visitors would have known of the Merriam's 40 cows, 75 fowls and 6 horses. A silo and private water works were built at the main house around 1910. By 1915, a garage worth \$200 was also present and listed with the caretaker's dwelling, or "new house", indicating the one-bay garage at the lot's front edge. Joel Stratton of Medfield was a subsequent owner by 1935, and maintained ownership of the caretaker's house and the garage into the second half of the 20th century. Mr. Stratton kept no animals on the property and may have been a summer resident. The land was considered stony pasture with some hay and an orchard by W.P.A. cartographers in 1939.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

1981 Survey

- Margaret Dowse Buntin's research

1999 Update

- 1981 MHC B form from survey by Edward Gordon
- Conversation with Betsy Johnson, 1/99
- Town property valuations, 1865-1945
- 1939 W.P.A. Map