

36 Prospect Street



Amanda Davis House

Form No.	121
Town	Sherborn
Address	36 Prospect Street
Historic Name	Amanda Davis House
Uses: Original	Residence
Present	Residence
Ownership, 1981	Richard Darby
" Original	Amanda Davis
Constructed	ca. 1870's
Source	"Rowena Butler's Reminiscences"
Style/Form	Italianate
Architect	
Ext. Wall Fabric	Clapboard
Outbuildings	Garage
Alterations	Screened porch to rear probably 20th century addition
Moved	No
Acreage	4.15 acres
Setting:	Adjacent to sweeping curve of Prospect Street, situated on well maintained tree shaded lot.
Recorded by	Edward W. Gordon, August 1981

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This ca. 1870 balloon frame dwelling is one of Sherborn's most appealing Post Civil War residences. Its irregular plan represents a departure from the rectangular plan of Greek Revival houses built before 1860. Rising 2 1/2 stories to a gable roof with return eaves, its clapboards are painted blue with white trim. Its narrow, round arched attic windows strike an Italianate note.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

This house was built in the 1870's by Amanda Davis who lived at 3 Prospect Street. For many years this was the home of the Alden Adams family. His son Oliver was one of the last people in town to drive a horse and buggy - into the late 1920's. Adens daughters Charlotte and Harriet lived here into 1950s. Charlotte married Perry Dowse of 115 North Main St. and Harriet was a housekeeper for Deborah Dowse Coolidge of 2 North Main St.

This house is one of the very few 'Victorian' houses in town. Older houses continued to be enlarged and modified.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

- Margaret Dowse Buntin's research
- "Rowena Butler's Reminiscences"
- Maps of 1875 and 1889