

254 Washington Street



Asa Lenox House

Form No.	158
Town	Sherborn
Address	254 Washington Street
Historic Name	Asa Lenox House
Uses: Original	Residence
Present	Residence
Ownership, 1981	George Penshorn
" Original	Undetermined
Constructed	ca. 1850-1870
Source	First listed on 1875 map
Style/Form	Mid 19th century frame vernacular with early 20th century Colonial Revival modifications.
Architect	
Ext. Wall Fabric	Clapboard
Outbuildings	Garage
Alterations	Enlarged in early 20th century
Moved	No
Acreage	13.60 acres
Setting:	Located to the west of Stongate Farm stand, near Holliston border.
Recorded by	Edward W. Gordon, June - July 1981

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

Once a rather small Cape this dwelling was considerably enlarged in the 1910s and 1920's. While the wide intersecting gables, corvelled chimneys and narrow corner and fascia boards are distinctly 19th century features, a ca. 1920 Colonial Revival porch projects from the Washington Street facade.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

In 1875 this house belonged to Asa Lenox. By 1915 a Mr. Mitchell, editor of the Fox Breeder's Gazette, and Dr. Samuel Wadsworth, a noted Boston veterinarian, established a silver fox farm here. They scientifically raised prize winning show and breeding stock in small buildings and fenced in areas scattered throughout the 50 acres. For many years a formal garden on these grounds attracted visitors from considerable distances.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES

- Margaret Dowse Buntin's research
- Anne C. Shaughnessy - [A Guide to Sherborn](#), 1974
- 1875 Map, also A. Lenox on 1857 map