

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SMV.243
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Eberle, Phillip House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	47 Columbus Ave
<b>City/Town:</b>	Somerville
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Prospect Hill
<b>Local No:</b>	
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	C 1882
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Italianate
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	SMV.AW: Columbus Avenue - Warren Avenue Historic District
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Local Historic District (10/31/1989)



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site ([www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

This file was accessed on:

Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 4:01: PM

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

LHD 10/31/89 (10)  
PI- PROSPECT  
USGS - BOST, N  
SECT B

AREA

FORM NO.

Prospect  
Hill

243

SOMERVILLE

47 Columbus Avenue

ic Name Phillip Eberle

Present residential

Original residential

PTION

1882-1884

maps / deeds

Italianate - gable end

ect

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings

Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition good

Moved Date

Acreage 3544 sq. ft.

Setting North side of Columbus, below  
Prospect Hill Park, northeast corner  
of Prospect Hill Ave. late 19th century  
residential neighborhood

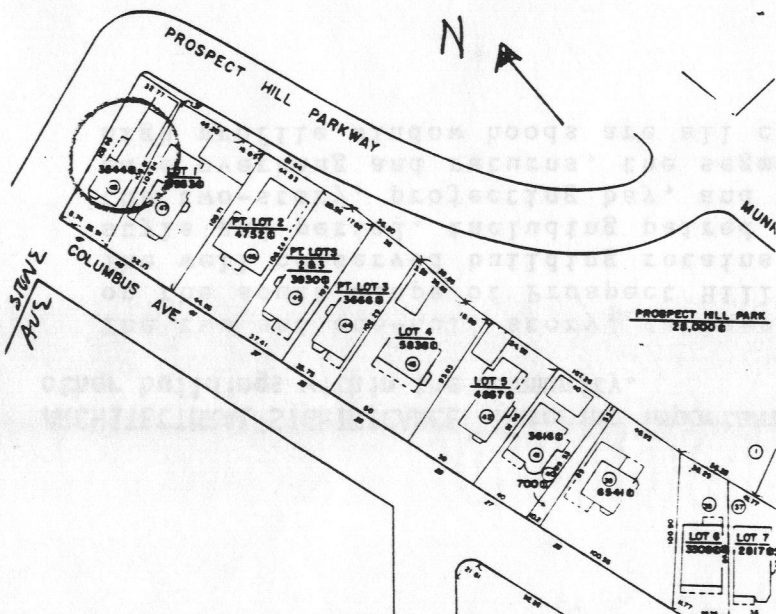
Recorded by Gretchen G. Schuler

Organization Somerville Historic  
Preservation Commission

Date April, 1988



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



UTM REFERENCE

USGS QUADRANGLE

SCALE



**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)****ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

The two and one-half story, gable-end, Italianate dwelling is well situated on the south slope of Prospect Hill near the entrance to the 1903 Park. The well conserved building retains architectural detail reminiscent of the style and period, including paired brackets at the cornice of the house, the two-story, projecting bay, and the enclosed entrance porch. The wide eave overhang and returns, the segmental arched gable peak window, and the high profile window hoods are all characteristics of the Italianate style.

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

Prospect Hill, one of the most substantial residential neighborhoods of Somerville, evolved throughout the late 19th century. Prior to that it was an agricultural community of farms. Columbus Avenue, once known as Warren Avenue, ran from Walnut to Bonner Street until the 1870s when it was continued through Bonner property to Washington Street. Its proximity to Union Square, a center for commercial and transportation activity made it a desirable place to live. Columbus Avenue was and is half way to the top of Prospect Hill and only a few blocks from Highland Avenue where the civic center of Somerville was by the mid to late 1800s.

This property was part of Artemus C. Richardson's land, which he had acquired from the Bonner Estate (the part on which his house, #41 Columbus Avenue) and from the Stones (this lot and #45 Columbus) who owned large areas of land on the south side of Prospect Hill. In 1882 Richardson sold this lot to Phillip Eberle who built the house and lived here by 1884. Eberle had been one of the major investors in the 1869 Masonic Block in Union Square and maintained a boot and shoe shop in that building. Eberle also contributed to the commercial development of Union Square when he built the brick 1884 Eberle Building also in Union Square.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

1. Atlas of Middlesex County, Somerville: 1874 ("Richardson", land only), 1884 ("Eberle"), 1895 ("Phillip Eberle")
2. City Directories, 1870s-1890s.
3. Registry of Deeds, Middlesex County: Book 1604 Page 241.