

# FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING  
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD  
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

## Photograph



## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Kristi Chase

**Organization:** Historic Preservation Commission

**Date (month / year):** 3/12

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

34-E-13

Boston  
North

**Town:** Somerville

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)  
e

**Address:** 146 Hudson Street

**Historic Name:** Edward J Heath House

**Uses:** Present: Single-Family

Original: House and garages

**Date of Construction:** <1924

**Source:** City Directories

**Style/Form:** Bungalow

**Architect/Builder:** Unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: Rusticated Concrete Block

Wall/Trim: Aluminum

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:** 5-Car Garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*): Aluminum Siding

**Condition:** Good

**Moved:** no | X | yes | | **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

**Acreage:** 6,461 SF

**Setting:** Constructed on the uphill slope near the dog-leg in Hudson Street in a residential area with many late 19<sup>th</sup> century style houses. A new multi-family building was recently constructed next door.

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

[SOMERVILLE ]

[146 HUDSON STREET]

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\_\_\_ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

*If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

This 1 ½-story bungalow or cape style house has a classic 1920s rusticated concrete block foundation. The covered porch extends just beyond the center entry. The pre-1958 aluminum siding makes it difficult to fully interpret. A building permit from 1920 allows for the conversion of a barn into a dwelling unit. Apparently the hay loft is facing away from the street so it is not obvious. Simple curved brackets enliven the corners and the porch. See detail below.

The 5-car concrete block and brick garage retains some elements of the most basic form of the apartment garage.

Original elements such as the doors and cornice are still intact.



## HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

Originally 146 and 150 Hudson Streets were one lot, therefore the history of the house at 146 Hudson Street is linked to that of 150 Hudson. Ownership of the existing buildings was shared through at least 1934 as the buildings are both located on the same lot per 1934 Sanborn Map. While no structures beyond the house at 150 Hudson Street could be found on the maps until the 1934 Sanborn, an oral history from Arlene Quinn of 150 Hudson Street stated that a barn had been moved to 146 Hudson Street and converted into a house. A building permit for 150 Hudson Street was found from 1920 that gives G. Pride authorization to alter a barn into a house. At the same time, another permit allows for the construction of a 10-car garage. An earlier permit was given to A. Pride for a single cement garage in 1914 which matches the total number to be seen on the 1934 Sanborn for 146-150 Hudson Street. No permits were found to move any of the near-by barns that had been in existence on Hudson and Albion Streets prior to 1934.

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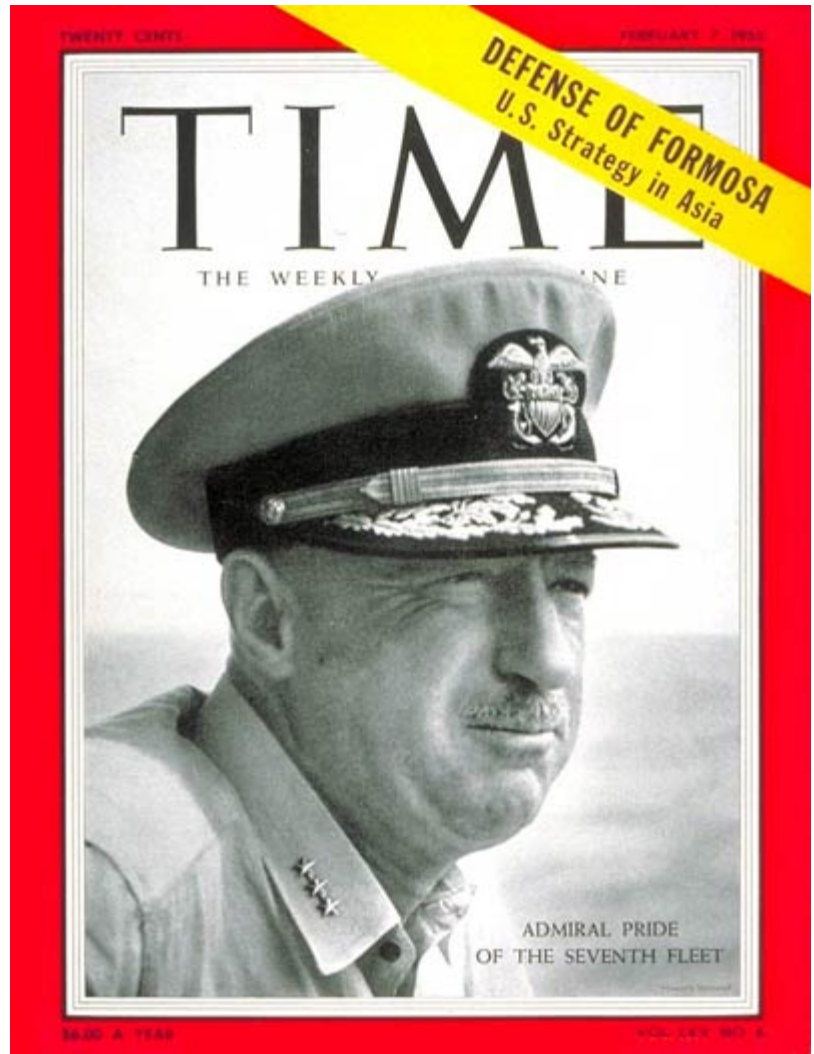
Per City Directories, this house was constructed on land formerly owned by Aletha Buffum in 1924 and belonging to Alfred Pride. The first known residents of 146 Hudson Street were Edward J Heath and his wife Edna. He is listed as a foreman and had a telephone. Another foreman, Ernest W. Leonard and His wife Charity also lived there at the time.

By 1933, Robie E. Kempton, a lawyer and his wife Jessie lived there. He is also noted for having a telephone. He appeared before the Board of Aldermen in 1925 in opposition to the establishment of fire districts

From before 1938 until the mid-1940s, Clarence N Truesdale, manager and later listed as a civil engineer, and his wife Emily P were in residence. The following was found in the BOA minutes of 1940 establishing a corporation. "Allan Roy Kingston, Clarence N. Truesdale and five other persons, not residents of Somerville, under the name of Consumers Purchasing Alliance Inc. for the purpose of the following:- To establish and maintain a place for holding meetings. To promote and encourage civic, educational and economic activities. In particular to acquire and disseminate among its members Information regarding quality and prices on goods used by its members, and to assist them in obtaining the best merchandise at the lowest prices available. To buy sell, mortgage or lease real estate and personal property as may be necessary for the purposes of the corporation, and to do all things permissible under chapter ISO of the General Laws; to be located in the city of Boston, Mass."

No further information has been found regarding Clarence N Truesdale and the Consumers Purchasing Alliance Inc.

However the son of Alfred Pride, Admiral Alfred M Pride, WWI and WWII veteran, grew up at 150 Hudson Street and went on to great prominence.



## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- McAlester, Virginia & Lee. **Field Guide of American Houses**, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984  
Reed, Roger and Greer Hardwicke. **Carriage House to Auto House: a guide to Brookline's transportation buildings to 1940**, Brookline Preservation Commission, Brookline, MA. 2002  
Sanborn Map Company. **Insurance Map of Somerville, Massachusetts**, 1934  
**Somerville City Directories: 1923 to 1943**  
Stadley, George W. **Atlas of the City of Somerville**, 1900

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City of Somerville Inspectional Services Division Building Permits  
Zellie, Carole. **Beyond the Neck: The Architecture and Development of Somerville, MA, 1982, 1990**

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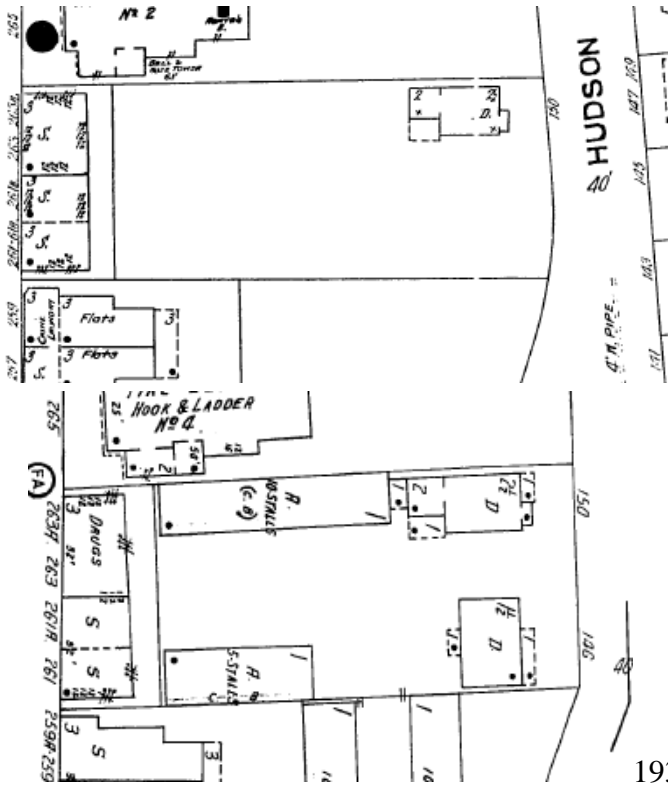
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1900 Sanborn, Plate 31 detail

1934 Sanborn – Plate 247



146 Hudson Street – Summer 1959