

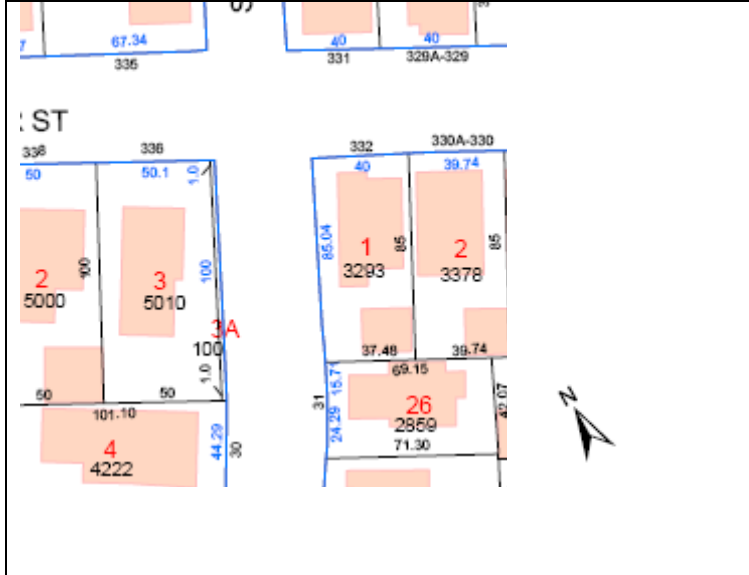
FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Kristi Chase

Organization: Somerville Historic Preservation Commission

Date (month / year): June 2012

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

25/ F/ 3/

Boston
North

Town/City: Somerville

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Davis Square

Address: 336 Summer Street

Historic Name: Joseph Vello House

Uses: Present: 2-Family

Original:

Date of Construction: 1870-1874

Source: Maps

Style/Form: Italianate/rectangular

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation:

Wall/Trim: Vinyl

Roof: Asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Condition: Average

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 5010 SF

Setting: Residential corner just outside Davis Square on an urban minor arterial road.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

TOWN

ADDRESS

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

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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.

2 1/2-story side-hall entry plan vinyl-sided Italianate with vinyl replacement windows and no architectural details remaining.

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.

Quick Map and Directory research reveals that the house was probably constructed between 1870 and 1874. The owner is shown on the maps as Joseph Vello, who according to the Directories worked as a driver for the Union Railroad and then the Charles River Railway. The lot appears to have been carved from the Colonel George A. Meacham Estate that ran from Elm Street to Summer Street. The building's form and massing is in the Italianate style which has been hidden by vinyl siding. It is one of the earliest buildings found on this section of Summer Street which was developed when the Arlington and Lexington Branch of the Boston and Lowell Railroad was completed in 1870. The only Building Permit found was to renovate the bathroom and kitchen in 1995 by B Bailey.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Hopkins, G.M. **Map of Somerville**, 1874, 1884

Stadley, George W., **Atlas of the City of Somerville**, 1900

McAlester, Virginia & Lee, **Field Guide of American Houses**, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984

Samuels, Edward A., **Somerville Past and Present**. Boston: Samuels & Kimball Company, 1897

Somerville City Directories: 1877, 1881, 1884

Somerville City Building Permits: 1895-1999

Zellie, Carole, **Beyond the Neck: The Architecture and Development of Somerville, MA**, 1982, 1990