

FORM B – BUILDING

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

Photograph



View looking east.

Locus Map



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

D5/ 2/ 1/ 1

Blue Hills

AVO.100

Town/City: Avon

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 404 West Main Street

Historic Name: John and Margaret Lynch House

Uses: Present: Single Family Dwelling

Original: Single Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1847

Source: Deed; Visual assessment

Style/Form: Greek Revival

Architect/Builder: Not Known

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Brick

Wall/Trim: Wood Clapboards / Wood Trim

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: None

Major Alterations (*with dates*): Entry porch replaced (late 20th or early 21st C).

Condition: Good

Moved: no ☒ yes ☐ **Date:**

Acreage: 0.69

Setting: Suburban residential setting. Surrounding houses are of similar size and setting, and range in age from mid-19th through mid-20th century. A large wooded property forms the east boundary.

Recorded by: Stacy Spies

Organization: Avon Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): December 2022

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AVON

404 WEST MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

AVO.100

☐ 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.

Located on a sloping lot, the house is oriented to the west, toward the street. A narrow lawn separates the house from the roadway. The 1-story frame house rests on a banked brick foundation and is capped with a side-gabled roof. The roof has a shallow overhang on the east and west elevations and no overhang on the side elevations. An interior brick chimney is located at the north and south ends of the roof ridge. The house is covered with wood clapboards and trimmed with cornerboards, a frieze, and gable-end cornice returns. The 5-bay façade has a center entrance framed by a pilastered surround. The paneled wood door contains two vertical panels below 8 small lights. Windows are 2/2 wood sash with flat surrounds and backband trim. The side elevations are two bays deep with two windows in the gable peak. One window at the east end of the south elevation has been replaced with a metal-frame casement. The raised foundation is exposed on the south elevation and contains two tall 2/2 wood sash windows and a multi-light door. A small 1-story ell is attached to the north end of the rear elevation.

The house is a good example of vernacular Greek Revival architecture in Avon. The building retains a high level of integrity.

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.

404 West Main Street was likely constructed circa 1847, the year in which John Lynch purchased this lot of land.¹ John Lynch (1813-1887)² and his wife, Margaret (1808-1892) were both born in Ireland and lived here with their nine children. John Lynch worked in a boot and shoe factory, as did his sons and one his daughters, as they became teenagers. The Lynch home was part of the "Donegal" area of East Stoughton, so named for the numerous Irish immigrants who settled along West Main Street between Pond Street and Harrison Boulevard. Irish immigrants began arriving in greater numbers to East Stoughton in the 1840s and 1850s. The Irish immigrants "took jobs as day laborers on farms, and later they worked in large numbers in shoe factories."³ John and Margaret Lynch's children, Cornelius Lynch and Mary Lynch Geary, inherited the house after their father's death.⁴ The property remained in the Lynch-Geary family until 1978.⁵

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

City Directories.

Findagrave.com.

Hanna, William F. *The Story of Avon*. Avon: Avon Centennial Committee, 1988.

Hodges, Joseph. "Plan of the Town of Stoughton." 1830. Massachusetts State Archives.

Massachusetts Census. Ancestry.com.

Massachusetts Probate Records. Ancestry.com.

Massachusetts Vital Records.

Norfolk County Registry of Deeds.

Robinson, E. *Robinson's Atlas of Norfolk County, Massachusetts*. New York: E. Robinson, Publisher, 1888.

Sherman, G.A. *Atlas of Norfolk County*. New York: Comstock & Cline, 1876.

Town of Avon. Tax Assessor records.

¹ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 177, p. 69 [137].

² Findagrave.com Memorial #30446721. Accessed October 10, 2020.

³ Hanna: 33.

⁴ John Lynch Will. 1887. Massachusetts Probate Records.

⁵ Norfolk County Registry of Deeds Book 5273, p. 117.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AVON

404 WEST MAIN ST

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	AVO.100
--	---------

United States Census. Ancestry.com.
Walling, Henry Francis. *Map of Norfolk County, Mass.* Boston: Smith & Bumstead, 1858.



View looking northeast.