



Lynn

E

90

Town-Winthrop

Place (neighborhood or village) Winthrop Highlands

Address 54 Highland Avenue

Historic Name Green - Benson House

Use: Present private single family residence

Original same

Date of Construction c.1897-1905

Source Winthrop Atlases

Style/Form Colonial Revival,rectangular

Architect/Builder Jeremiah Green,builder-attributed

Exterior Material

Foundation rubble stone

Wall clapboards w/wood trim

Roof hip w/asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures N/A

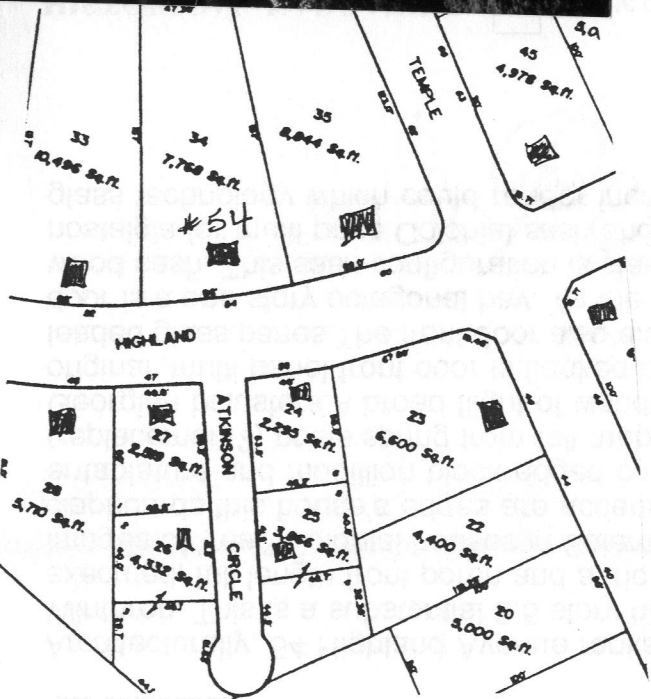
Major Alterations (with dates) Very intact

Condition good

Moved yes no

Acreage less than one acre

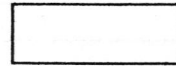
Setting Situated on steep hillside in area of substantial, late 19th/early 20th c.residences.



Recorded by Edward W. Gordon

Organization Winthrop CDO+Historic Comm

Date(month/day/year) September, 1993

BUILDING FORM**ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION** *see continuation sheet*

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

Architecturally, 54 Highland Avenue ranks among the best examples of the Colonial Revival Style in Winthrop. This is a substantial 2.5 story hip roofed house with highly symmetrical facades, a well executed, full length front porch and a trio of pedimented dormers on the main roof slope which evoke images of "real" Colonial houses in Salem, Newburyport or Portsmouth, N.H. Clad with clapboards, this house's edges are accented by narrow corner boards and a well crafted denticulated entablature and modillion block edged cornice. The porch's Tuscan columns and square (replacement?) posts spring from tall rubble stone and mortar piers. The porch's railings exhibit High Georgian balusters. A broad flight of wooden steps leads to the front porch and center entrance. The original, multi panel front door is flanked by side lights with solid lower panels and diamond shaped leaded glass panes. The front door also exhibits well molded enframements. To the right of the front door is a one story octagonal bay. To the left of the front door is a single, large window with 12/1 wood sash. This sash configuration is standard throughout and speaks, on the one hand to a nostalgia for multi pane Colonial sash and on the other hand to a celebration of the new (1890's) glass technology which could render increasingly larger panes of glass.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

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.

This house was built at some point between 187 and 1905. Its lot was part of the City of Boston lands in during the 1870's and 80's. By 1896, this lot was part of Jeremiah Green's extensive land holdings in the Highlands. In addition to being a real estate speculator and developer, Green was a Boston saloon keeper and builder. He may well have been the builder of #54 Highland Avenue. The 1906 Atlas shows this house labeled Jeremiah Green. He apparently owned but did not occupy this house, residing, instead, at 90 Highland Avenue. Greene owned this house until c.1915. In 1916, Sadie and Thomas Benson owned this house. He was a wholesale grocer in Boston. By 1921, this house was owned by Elizabeth W. and William C. McCarthy, salesman in Boston. By 1936, Rose P. Fisher, widow of William B. Fisher and a nurse lived here. During the 1940's, this house was owned by Dorothy C. and Edwin A. Deagle. He was a captain in the Coast Guard artillery at nearby Fort Heath. Also living here in 1947 was Garret L. Hill, enlisted man in the US Army.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Winthrop Maps/Atlases-1886, 1896, 1906, 1914
 Chelsea/Winthrop Directories-1890, 1893, 1895/96, 1901, 1906, 1908
 Winthrop Directories-1911, 1914, 1916/17, 1921, 1936, 1942 and 1947.



Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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

see Area Form E - Winthrop Highlands