

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

41-179

Newburyport
West

AME.546

Town/City: Amesbury

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Address: 2-4 Elmwood Street

Historic Name: Stover-Larochelle Two Family

Uses: Present: two family dwelling

Original: two family dwelling

Date of Construction: 1891

Source: newspaper, 12/31/1891

Style/Form: No style

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: brick

Wall/Trim: Tyvek, wood clapboards/wood

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

ca. 1960 – new front porch with jalousie windows
2025-undergoing renovation, most windows boarded, siding
and chimneys removed, rear deck

Condition: fair

Moved: no ☒ yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.31 acre

Setting: mixed residential neighborhood

Locus Map (north at top)



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Preservation Consultant

Date (*month / year*): November 2025

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

AMESBURY

2-4 ELMWOOD ST.

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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.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

The two-family dwelling at 2-4 Elmwood Street is a 1 ½-story, side-gabled building set on a brick foundation and capped by an asphalt-shingled roof with gable wall dormers centered on both the façade and rear elevations. Two interior brick chimneys were located on the ridge but have been removed. The duplex is currently undergoing renovation and the previous aluminum siding has been removed with Tyvek now covering the walls in preparation for the installation of wood clapboards. Plywood currently covers most of the window openings. A single-story enclosed porch is centered on the façade, set on a concrete block foundation and fitted with jalousie windows. The north side of the rear elevation has a screened porch and a new wooden deck has been constructed on the south side. New doors and patio doors have been installed.

To the west there is a dilapidated side-gabled garage sheathed in asphalt shingles with holes in the asphalt-shingled roof. Two modern overhead garage doors face the street.

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.

On November 1, 1890 Elias P. Collins, Charles Goss and Dudley Marston sold Andrew L. Stover a piece of land on the southwest side of a new street 50 feet wide leading northwest from Congress Street for \$600.¹ It was part of an eight acre plot of land that they had purchased for \$8,000 from Archelans Morrill in 1890. The land was located in the area of Amesbury recently annexed from Salisbury.² On December 31, 1891, the *Amesbury and Salisbury Villager* reported that 43 new dwellings had been built in Amesbury during the year and the list includes a house built for A. Lincoln Stover on Elmwood Street.³ Stover also acquired additional land from Lambert Hollander on Elmwood Street in 1902.⁴

Andrew Lincoln Stover (1847-1919) was a provisions dealer who lived at 102 Market Street. He was born at Cape Neddick, Maine and followed the sea as a young man. He came to Amesbury about 1869 and initially worked as a carpenter before entering the provisions business with his brother Charles. He served as the Town Tree Warden for many years and was the first superintendent for the suppression of the gypsy and brown tail moths.⁵

In the late 19th century Amesbury was a major carriage making city. After 1900, carriage factories were rapidly electrified and converted to the production of auto bodies. From 1900 to 1930 Amesbury was a center for building automobile bodies and there were 20-25 firms in the business. Many of the occupants of 2-4 Elmwood were employed in these two industries during this period. In 1895 the newspaper includes a small ad for Stover's six room tenement on Elmwood Street, located off Congress Street and a five minute walk from Carriage Hill.⁶ Census records indicate that in 1910 Roderick McKenzie was renting 2 Elmwood. He had come from Canada in 1883 and worked as an automobile blacksmith, living here with his wife and son. William Austin, an auto body maker, was the tenant at 4 Elmwood. He had immigrated from Canada in 1893 and lived here with his wife and two daughters.

¹ Essex County Registry of Deeds Book 1296, Page 516.

² ECRD Book 1285, Page 166.

³ *Amesbury & Salisbury Villager*, Dec. 31, 1891, p. 1.

⁴ ECRD Book 1706, Page 34.

⁵ *Amesbury Daily News*, Feb. 5, 1919.

⁶ *Amesbury Daily News*, March 5, 1895.

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After her husband's death, Elsie Stover sold the two-tenement house with 48 square rods of land to Antti Sini in 1920.⁷ The following year Sini sold the house in April 1921 to Adelard Larochelle.⁸ Adelard Larochelle (1876-1921) immigrated from Quebec in 1905 and worked as a metal worker in an auto factory. At the time of the 1920 Census he and his wife Marie were living on Ellis Court with their nine children, ranging in age from infancy to 19. Adelard apparently died within months of buying the house. In 1920 the unit at 2 Elmwood was rented to Henry Perkins, also a metal worker at an auto factory. He lived here with his wife and three young children. The tenant at 4 Elmwood was Arthur Kimball, an automobile woodworker, who resided with his wife, three sons, and brother-in-law.

After the Larochelles purchased the property in 1921, 2 & 4 Elmwood were owned and occupied by family members until the late 20th century. At the time of the 1930 Census Clovis Proulx was living at 2 Elmwood with his wife and three young daughters. He had come from Canada in 1924 to work for Biddle and Smart Co. who made auto bodies for the Hudson automobile. He was married to Rose Larochelle; they paid \$21/month in rent. Mary Larochelle was living at 4 Elmwood with four of her children – Omer, Lillian, Adrien and Annette as well as daughter Amelia who was married to Denis Proulx and daughter Rosella who was married to Paul Gouin. When the 1940 Census was taken Clovis and Rose Proulx were still living at 2 Elmwood with their five children; he had opened an auto body shop. Mary Larochelle was occupying 4 Elmwood with Omer, Adrian and Annette. In 1950 Clovis and Rose were at 2 Elmwood. Mary Larochelle had died in 1945 and 4 Elmwood was now occupied by her son Omer and his wife Antoinette. Omer Larochelle was produce manager at Vermette's supermarket for 42 years; he died in 1993.

After Rose Larochelle Proulx (1905-1997) died, the two-family was sold by her surviving children to Robert and April Kyle in 1998 for \$200,000.⁹

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Amesbury and Salisbury Villager, various dates.

Amesbury Daily News, various dates.

Ancestry.com (U.S. Census, directories, etc.)

Boston Globe, various dates.

Essex County Registry of Deeds, Beverly, MA

Sanborn Insurance Maps, Amesbury, 1889, 1894, 1899, 1904, 1909, 1918, 1930, 1945.

⁷ ECRD Book 2447, Page 85.

⁸ ECRD Book 2480, Page 490.

⁹ ECRD Book 15051, Page 438.

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Google street view, October 2024





