

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 Washington Street. Boston, MA 02108



location in relation to nearest  
cross streets and other buildings  
or geographical features.  
Indicate north.

1  
2



Lowell

257 Andover

Historic Name James Nesmith House

Original Residential

Present Residential

Ownership: ☒ Private individual  
Private organization

Public

Original owner James Nesmith

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1889

Source owner

Style

Architect F.W. Stickney

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings

Major alterations (with dates)

Moved                      Date                     

Approx. acreage less than one

Setting Residential

Recorded by Elizabeth Durfee Hengen

Organization DPD Architectural Survey

Date 1/81

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

257 Andover St. is an unassuming late 19th century residence that was erected on John Nesmith's estate. Designed by F.W. Stickney, who was responsible for numerous Lowell civic and private buildings, it lacks the exterior decorative details generally associated with him. The third floor was designed as a studio for James Nesmith; exposed trusses and cross gables create an interesting space.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community)

This house was built by James Nesmith on land owned by his father John Nesmith who, with his brother, developed this area of Belvidere (see 229 Andover Street). James (1856-98) was one of 6 adult children. In 1884 he married Alice Eastman.

Nesmith was a poet and a painter whose premature death at the age of 42 snuffed a promising career. His wife and three daughters continued to reside here; Helen Nesmith, the youngest, is the current occupant.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lowell Sun 7/26/98  
Atlas: 1879, 1896  
Helen Nesmith interview.