

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SWN.123
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Smith, Charles House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	208 Seaview Ave
<b>City/Town:</b>	Swansea
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	Touisset;
<b>Local No:</b>	17;
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1914
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	English Revival;
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House;
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture;
<b>Area(s):</b>	
<b>Designation(s):</b>	
<b>Building Materials:</b>	Wall: Stone, Uncut; Stucco; Wood;
<b>Demolished</b>	No



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

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PL-TDVISS  
USGS- FALL

AREA

FORM NO.

123

Town SWANSEA

Address 208 Seaview Avenue

Historic Name Charles Smith House

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION

Date Built 1914

Source Fall River Reg. of Deeds  
#197 pg. 132

Style Tudor Revival

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior Wall Fabric Stucco

Outbuildings 3-car garage

Major Alterations (with dates) No

Condition Excellent well maintained  
and preserved

Moved No Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acres Less than One Acre

Setting Large, spacious grounds  
sloping to the Coles River

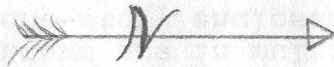
Recorded by Kay Flynn/G. Goff  
Sept. 1978

Organization Swansea Historical  
Commission

Date January 1986

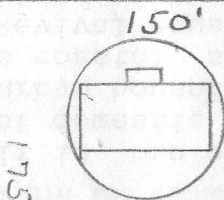


intersection(s).  
Indicate north



Seaview Ave.

150'



175'

COLES RIVER

UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

USGS QUADRANGLE Fall River, Mass. R7 1967-79

SCALE \_\_\_\_\_



## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

**ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE** Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.

Unusual as it is, one of very few intact Tudor Revival houses in Swansea. This style of domestic architecture was used for fashionable early 20th century suburban houses; however was out numbered by shingle style architecture in this coastal, suburban town.

This Tudor Revival house of 1914 is unusual in that a relatively small percentage of Tudor houses have Stucco walls as # 208 Seaview Avenue. The characteristic features of this house are the dominant front gable with half-timbering. The gable ends are also half-timbered. The roof is typically tiled and there are two steeply pitched gable dormers on the front of the house. The windows are in multiple groups of two or three with multi-pane glazing. The one-story enclosed wrap porch is of rubble stone.

**HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE** Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.

In 1906, Jacob Fash developed Touisset, an area bordering on the Coles River, Mt. Hope Bay and R.I. in southwestern Swansea. One of the more fashionable houses of the area was built for Charles Smith in 1914. Charles Smith developed Patent Gold Leaf application by roller but went bankrupt just as the house was completed. It was sold at auction 1918 to W. R. Randall of Providence. The house has undergone little alteration and is a good intact example of a Tudor Revival built for high style and more than average means in Swansea.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

See Jacob Fash Plat of Seaview Ave. dated Aug. 1908 showing Smith lots 100 and 101. In Fall River Registry of Deeds, See book # 197 pg. 132 to Smith, # 248 pg. 125 to Randall, # 474 pg. 111 to Douglas, # 550 pg. 352 to Faria, # 764 pg. 92 to B. Faria

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.

B

Form no.

123



Town Swansea, Massachusetts

Address 208 Seaview Avenue

Name Charles Smith House

Present use Residence

Present owner Blanche Faria

Description:

Date Built 1914

Source Fall River Reg. of Deeds

#197 pg. 132

Style "Spanish Colonial Revival"

Architect New York architect

Exterior wall fabric Stucco on hollow tile

Outbuildings (describe) 3 car garage

Other features Red tile roof. Three stories. Dormers. Verandah. Fine grounds sloping to Coles River

Altered \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less 0.6 Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 150 feet

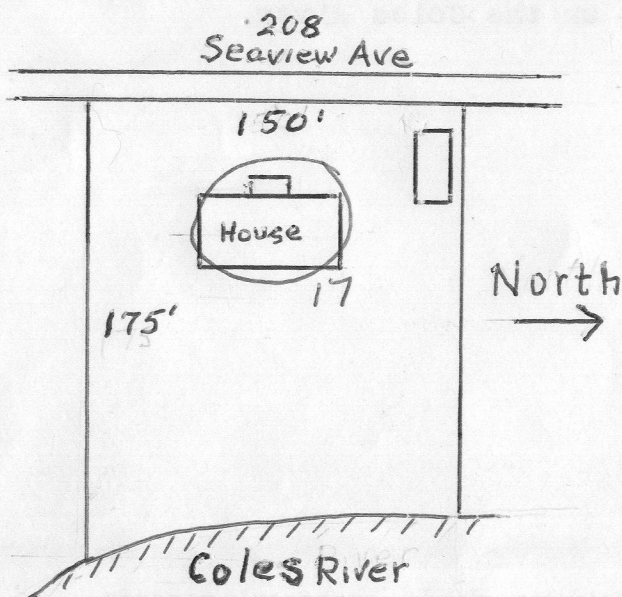
Approximate distance of building from street  
35 feet

6. Recorded by Godfrey Goff

Organization Swansea Historical Society

Date September 20, 1978

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



(over)



7. Original owner (if known) Charles and Fama Smith

Original use Residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>X</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	<u>X</u>
The Arts	_____	Industry	<u>X</u>	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Built for Charles Smith who developed Patent Gold Leaf application by roller but went bankrupt just as the house was completed. Sold at auction 1918 to W.R. Randall of Providence. For sixty years the house was never altered as the architecture was excellent, very admirable today.

A long dock with rustic cedar railings and summer house on the end was destroyed by the ice of 1917 and a later dock was destroyed in the hurricane of 1938 but the house was unharmed. A sea wall extends the entire frontage on the Coles River.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

See Jacob Fash Plat of Seaview Ave. dated Aug. 1906 showing Smith lots #100 and 101. In Fall River Registry of Deeds see book # 197 pg. 132 to Smith, #248 pg. 125 to Randall, # 474 pg. 111 to Douglas, #550 pg. 352 to Faria, # 764 pg. 92 to B. Faria