

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	CON.BD
Historic Name:	Lexington Road Area
Common Name:	
Address:	
City/Town:	Concord
Village/Neighborhood:	East Concord Center
Local No:	
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	
Use(s):	Residential District
Significance:	Architecture; Community Planning
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM A - AREA

Assessor's Sheets

USGS Quad

Area Letter

Form Numbers in Area

CON. BD

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

H-9; I-9

CONCORD

BD

1045-1053



CONCORD

Neighborhood or village) _____

east Concord Center

226-315 Lexington Road

Area _____

residential

Use _____

Construction Dates or Period _____ 1895 to 1930's

Condition _____

good to excellent

Intrusions and Alterations _____

two modern houses

ca. 10 acres

Acreage _____

A. Forbes

Recorded by _____

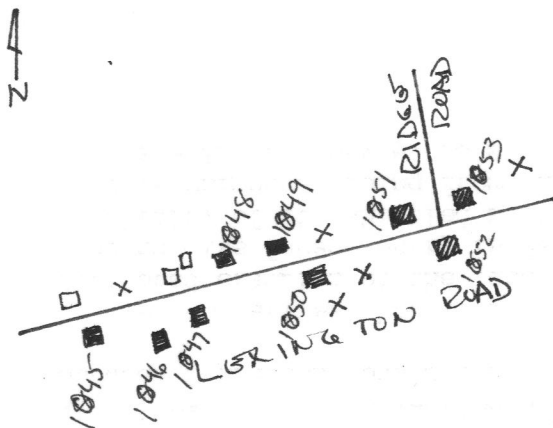
for Concord Histor. Comm.

Organization _____

June, 1992

Date (month/day/year) _____

252, 242, 226 Lexington Road
Sketch Map (CON. 1047, CON. 1046, CON. 1045)
Draw a map of the area indicating properties within
it. Number each property for which individual
inventory forms have been completed. Label streets
including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate
sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate North.



AREA FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural, structural and landscape features and evaluate in terms of other areas within the community.

A cluster of nine houses between Cambridge Turnpike and Ridge Road, built between ca. 1895 and the 1930's, break the prevailing pattern of Lexington Road as a street of residences from the Colonial period and nineteenth century. Five of the houses are located on the south side of the road, which consisted of open fields descending southeast to Cambridge Turnpike and the Mill Brook, with only a few scattered outbuildings, until well after the turn of this century. Several recent houses are also located in this section and nearby, and thus these nine act as a visual link between Lexington Road's early history and the present day.

Of the two earliest houses in the area, #299 is one of Concord's most fully developed examples of the late Shingle Style. A large 2-story residence of complex massing, its facade entry is deeply recessed under a broad archway, and the simplicity of its shingled surfaces is broken by exposed rafter ends and tall massive chimneys rising from the slightly flared roof. #261, also built ca. 1900 in the late Shingle Style, is simpler in form. (Cont.)

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Explain historical development of the area. Discuss how this area relates to the historical development of the community.

#261, probably the earliest house in this area, was put up on the site of the old "Dutch House" in about 1897 by Harriette L. Tolman, wife of Adams Tolman. Adams Tolman, a noted local historian, was clerk, then secretary, of the Middlesex Mutual Fire Insurance Company on Monument Square, and also partner with Ralph Holden in the insurance firm of Tolman and Holden.

Most of the other houses flanking Lexington Road just east of the former Moore farmhouse, were built as the result of two land divisions. The first was the two-stage break-up of the former Moore Farm, which was purchased in 1900 by George Albree, excepting the farmhouse at #345, which remained the property of Mrs. Sarah Moore. (Cont.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Maps and atlases: 1906.
Town Directories and tax lists.
(See bibliography for #343-355 Lexington Road.)

☐ Recommended as a National Register District. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD226-315 Lexington Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

BD

1845-853

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION, cont.

It is a high 2 1/2-story building with a "saltbox" profile, a one-story bow window on the facade, and its main entry in a sunporch on the east side. Between the two at #271 is an infill building of the 1920's--a well-preserved Dutch Colonial Revival house.

The four houses on the south side represent four different house-types of the early modern period. They include a small American Four-Square of ca. 1911-12 at #226, and a 2 1/2-story shingled Colonial Revival gable-end house of similar date at #242. The latter has the "skirted" gable and Tuscan-columned porch typical of the era. #252 is an excellent example of a 1-story Craftsman Bungalow, with deeply-overhanging shallow pitched roofs punctuated with exposed rafter ends. Further east, #274 is a ca. 1920 two-story Colonial Revival house with a pair of exterior end chimneys. Its pedimented dormers, wide-pedimented entry porch, and wide multi-paned sash windows are typical of the housetype, as is the den on the east end. (The upper story of the east wing appears to be a later addition.) #315, probably built in about 1915, is more Classical Revival in character. #310, probably the latest building of the group on the south side, shows the Colonial Revival in another guise--the little 1 1/2-story Cape Cod house of ca. 1930, with a long east wing, and casement windows with vertical-board shutters.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

George Albree (1860-1929) was superintendent of the New England Telephone Co. in Boston. He built #299 for his own residence, and farmed the land until about 1911. In that year, several acres just to the west, belonging to the B. H. Huttman family, including the houses at #s 201 and 215, were sold for houselots at auction. Lots on the south side of the road were bought by Dr. Philip Flavin, Peter Severinson, and the Misses Mary Barrett and Elizabeth (Mimi) Everett, all of whom put up houses here, probably #s 226, 242, and 252.

In 1914 George Albree put up the 65 open acres of the Moore farm east of his residence for sale, envisioning a neighborhood of small farms here, where "the benefits of a large country estate (could) be secured and enjoyed by the holders of the small farming properties at moderate cost." The plan, borrowing from the Brook Farm ideal "without the Brook Farm communistic mode of living" was to reserve the "common centre" of the properties for horticulture and agriculture, while building only along the street front. Architects Derby and Robinson were to design the houses, and Arthur Shurtleff the landscape plan.

Albree's intentions for the neighborhood seem to have been at least partly fulfilled, as some of the large properties in the triangle west of Hawthorne Lane, including #s 274 and 310, still attest. Many house lots of less than an acre have since been developed along the roads, however, and much of the portion north of Lexington Road eventually went to make up the early- to mid-twentieth-century neighborhood in the Ridge/Revolutionary/Authors Road area.

George Albree evidently embarked on other projects on the property here, as well. In the 1920's #299 was opened as the "Tomora Inn," and a stock farm, called the Paul Revere Stock Farm, was run from the old Moore barn across from #345.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

CONCORD226-315 Lexington Road

Massachusetts Historical Commission
80 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Area(s) Form No.

BD

1845-1853

AREA DATA SHEET

(Asterisk indicates property is covered on an individual form)

MHC #/ Parcel #	Address	description	approximate date
1845 H9-107	226 Lexington Road	Four-Square; rubble foundation	ca. 1911-12
1846 H9-104	242 Lexington Road	Colonial Revival; rubble foundation	ca. 1911-12
1847 H9-103	252 Lexington Road	Craftsman Bungalow; rubble foundation	ca. 1911-12
1848 I9-29	261 Lexington Road	Shingle Style; fieldstone foundation	late 1890's
1849 I9-30	271 Lexington Road	Dutch Colonial Revival; concrete cinder-block foundation	1920's
1850 I9-102	274 Lexington Road	Colonial Revival; concrete cinder-block foundation	1920's
1851 I9-32	299 Lexington Road	Shingle Style; rubble foundation	ca. 1900
1852 I9-92	310 Lexington Road	Col. Revival "Cape Cod" cottage	ca. 1930
1853 I9-91	315 Lexington Road	Classical Revival 2-story house	ca. 1915

AREA BD
PL- EAST CONCORD
USGS- CONCORD
SECTION- B

1045 - 226 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1046 - 242 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1047 - 252 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1048 - 261 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1049 - 271 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1050 - 274 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1051 - 299 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1052 - 310 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)

1053 - 315 LEXINGTON RD (ALSO DS-LHD 3/6/61)



242, 226 Lexington Road (CON. 1046, CON. 1045)



299 Lexington Road (CON. 1051)



261, 271 Lexington Road (CON. 1048, CON. 1049)



274 Lexington Road (CON. 1050)



310 Lexington Road (CON. 1052)



315 Lexington Road (CON. 1053)

60N.8D

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

Concord

226-315 Lexington Rd.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)
BD

Form No.
1045-1053

Additional information by Anne Forbes, November, 2000:

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION, cont.

315 Lexington Road (MHC #1053): The results of an interior inspection of the frame of this building, reputed to be a pre-Revolutionary public bathhouse, are consistent with a construction date in the late eighteenth century. The roof structure is composed of four sets of hewn principal rafters, and 5 1/2" by 5 1/2" common rafters spaced 36" on center, which rise without purlins to a heavy 5-sided ridge beam. The upper end of each rafter is tapered in a large curve; the rafter feet are set flush on the plates. The single continuous ridge beam and the diagonal bracing at each principal pair of rafters reveal no evidence of the presence of a chimney--an indication that the building was not a residence, but, if a bath-house, may have had fireplaces in a wing or an ell.

2 x 6" basement joists, spaced 16" on center, are more likely to date to the ca. 1840 moving of the building.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE, cont.

As a result of a recent owner's research, additional information has come to light about 315 Lexington Road (MHC #1053). It was apparently a utilitarian structure, reputed to have been Concord's turn-of-the-nineteenth-century public bath-house, or "the old bath house for hot and cold baths" that once stood at the center of town. It was moved here by Abel Moore around 1840 to what was then part of the Prescott/Moore farm to become an outbuilding associated with the house Mr. Moore had built or enlarged at 343-355 Lexington Road in 1839 (see Form #164).

After developing some of the old farm into residential properties around the time of the First World War, in 1922 George Albree renovated the old bath-house into a spacious colonial revival dwelling. That spring a newspaper article reported that "Mr. Albree is making an eleven room house with all modern improvements out of this old relic, sleeping porches, modern plumbing, a breakfast room 'up-to-the-minute,' . . . two fireplaces, French windows, a genuine Dutch door brought down from the old Wright house at Nine Acre Corner, a dry cellar and a semi-circular drive way in front with a two-foot stone wall and a planting hedge." It is not known whether Derby & Robinson, the architects, or Arthur Shurtleff, landscape architect for the first part of Albree's "Mooreland" development, were involved in the renovation.

BIBLIOGRAPHY/REFERENCES, cont.

"'Mooreland' comes into the foreground." Marlborough Weekly Enterprise, 4/19/1922.
Forbes, A. Interior inspection, 3/27/00.
Research by Anne Hayden, 1997-2000.

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