

FORM A - AREA SURVEY

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

Form numbers in this area 1 - 39	Area no. A
-------------------------------------	---------------

2. Photo (3x3" or 3x5")
Staple to left side of form
Photo number _____

1. Town Lexington
Name of area (if any) Central Business District

3. General date or period 1800-1970s

4. Is area uniform (explain):
in style? No - older frame houses with
Newer brick business blocks
in condition? Yes - well maintained
in type of ownership? No - mixed town, priv.
religious
in use? commercial, residential, relig.
public

5. Map. Use space below to draw a general map of the area involved. Indicate any historic properties for which individual reports are completed on Forms B thru F, using corresponding numbers. Show street names (including route numbers, if any) and indicate north. Indicate with an "x" existing houses not inventoried on Form B.

See town engineer's map for Battle Green Historic District

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE USGS Quadrant _____ MHC Photo no. _____
--

6. Recorded by E. W. Reinhardt
Organization Lex. Hist. Com.
Date 12/1975

(over)

7. Historical data. Explain the historical/architectural importance of this area.

This area covers the main commercial development of Lexington. Here one can see examples of re-cycled buildings, finding new uses before such adaptive reuse became a popular preservation concept. An old schoolhouse is now a real estate office, having once been a paint shop (A-15), a former farm house is now the school administration building (A-4) a barn is now a gourmet food shop (A-19) old houses, once on Mass. Ave. were moved back in the early 20th century to be replaced by modern commercial blocks. A-22, A-23. A-27 are examples of old houses now serving as stores. The original railroad station is now a bank. The mingling of old and new demonstrates the possibility of continuous and harmonious evolution over 175 years of the town's growth.

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

Worthen, Ed. Calendar History of Lexington
Hudson, Charles. History of Lexington