

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

13/404	Boston North		
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**Town:** Lexington

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)  
East Lexington

**Address:** 72 Bow Street (at Melrose Ave.)

**Historic Name:** William Waite House

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** c.1920

**Source:** directories

**Style/Form:** Colonial (Dutch) Revival

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: concrete block

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
garage

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):  
date? – vinyl siding, new windows, deck

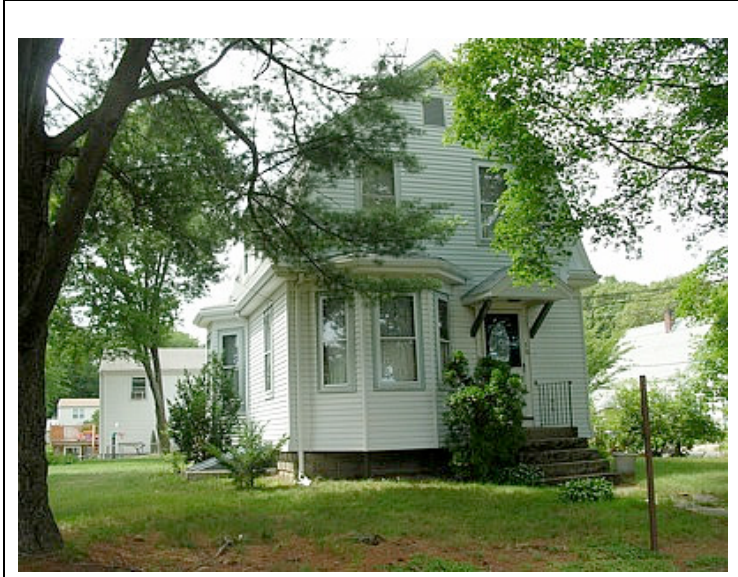
**Condition:** fair (due to siding)

**Moved:** no | x | yes | | **Date** \_\_\_\_\_

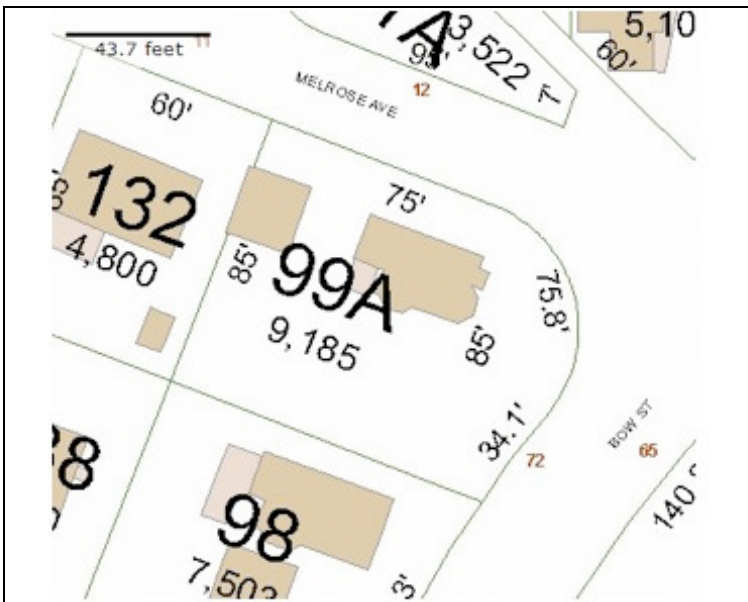
**Acreage:** 0.21 acre

**Setting:** mixed residential neighborhood

## Photograph



## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** Lexington Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): May 2008

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

LEXINGTON

72 BOW STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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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 house at 72 Bow Street is one of several gambrel-fronted dwellings in this neighborhood and was built according to the same plan as its neighbor at 68 Bow Street. Sheathed in vinyl siding, the house rests on a rusticated concrete block foundation. It is two-stories in height with a sidehall entry containing a wooden and oval glass door sheltered by a simple gable door hood. Adjacent to the entrance is a single-story, three-sided bay window. A similar bay window is also located on the south elevation. Windows contain 1/1 replacement sash.

To the west of the house is a detached, hip-roofed garage constructed of rusticated concrete blocks with two modern garage doors facing Melrose Avenue.

## 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.*

This property was lots 33-35 of the Massachusetts Avenue Terrace subdivision laid out by J.W. Wilbur in 1909 (Plan Book 182, Plan 8). This is one of several subdivisions that Wilbur, who lived in Brookline, developed in East Lexington in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. What is now Bow Street, was originally known as Wilson Avenue.

The earliest known owner was William Waite who was living here by 1930. He was the manager of a fish business. His wife Hanna had come to this country from Sweden. The couple was still living here in 1942. The property was purchased by Alexander Liazos in 1973.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.  
Town Directories  
U.S. Census, various years.

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