

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

14/125A	Boston North		
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Photograph



Town: Lexington

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)
East Lexington

Address: 15 Fern Street

Historic Name: Buttrick House

Uses: Present: residential
Original: residential

Date of Construction: c.1880

Source: maps

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: rubble

Wall/Trim: wood clapboard

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
shed

Major Alterations (*with dates*):
Date? – addition to north

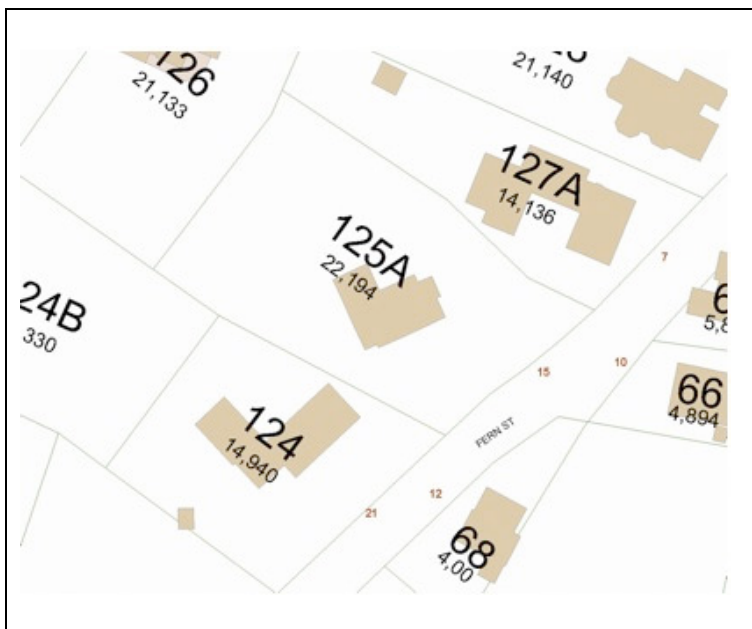
Condition: good

Moved: no | x | yes | | **Date** _____

Acreage: 0.49 acre

Setting: mixed residential on hill above Pleasant Street

Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Lexington Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): Feb. 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

LEXINGTON

15 FERN STREET

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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.

Setback on a low hill, 15 Fern Street is a 2 ½-story, clapboarded dwelling dating to the late 19th century and displaying minimal Queen Anne style decorative details. It is oriented with its long elevation facing Fern Street and its gable front facing Pleasant Street to the east. It is set on a rubble foundation with a rectangular plan and an addition extending to the rear (north). The shed-roofed front porch on the east end has a decorative raking, turned posts and a spindle frieze. The same decorative raking also decorates a gable dormer on the south side and the rear porch (not original?). Most of the windows contain 2/2 sash set into molded surrounds. There is an angled oriel on the south wall, toward the front.

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 house was constructed between 1875 and 1889. F. Buttrick is shown as the owner on the 1889 and 1898 maps. By 1907 the house had been acquired by William B. Foster who lived next door at 7 Fern Street. Foster was in the real estate business and was a Mason. He held various town offices – selectman, fire engineer, board of health, constable and chief of police – and was also a trustee of the Lexington Savings Bank. He also owned 3 Fern Street.

Over the years the house (known as #11) was rented to number of tenants. The property was later acquired by Joseph Stoney who sold it to Albert & Alice Coyle in 1955. The Coyles owned the property for 20 years before selling it to Robert and Mary Sweet who sold it in 1995.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Town Directories

U.S. Census, various years.

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