

FORM B – BUILDING

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

14/117	Boston North		1565
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town: Lexington

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)
East Lexington

Address: 49 Fern Street

Historic Name: John Felt House

Uses: Present: residential
Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1902?

Source:

Style/Form: Queen Anne/Shingle

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation:

Wall/Trim: wood shingles

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
shed

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Date? – rear addition, new windows

Condition: good

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

Acreage: 0.45 acre

Setting: mixed 19th century residential on narrow road off Pleasant Street

Photograph



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

49 FERN STREET

	1565
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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 49 Fern Street is a 2 ½-story gablefront dwelling constructed in the late 19th century or early 20th century. It is sheathed in wood shingles with decorative shingles filling the front gable. A single-story porch spanning the façade is partially enclosed and there is a lesser gable projection with clipped corners resting on the east end of the porch roof. Windows contain a mix of 6/1 and 1/1 sash. A deck spans the west elevation and there is a single-story addition at the northwest corner.

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 appears to have been constructed at the turn of the 20th century for the Felt family. John Felt is described in the 1899 directory as a poultry fancier. John Felt married Charlotte Avery on August 5, 1898. The couple appears to have lived on Pleasant Street. It was sold by Charlotte Felt's estate in 1902 to George Parsons of Cambridge. The deed indicates that the land with buildings sold for \$1,385.

George Parsons sold the property to Florence Sanborn, wife of Frederick Sanborn in 1907. Florence Sanborn Millan sold it to John Whitney in 1915. It remained in the Whitney family until about 1940. The current owner has owned the house since 1977.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Minute-man, April 26, 1902; Oct. 5, 1907.

Town Directories

U.S. Census, various years.