

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

63/54	Boston North		
-------	-----------------	--	--

## Photograph



**Town:** Lexington

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*)  
Upper Meriam Hill

**Address:** 26 Hayes Avenue

**Historic Name:** Henry L. & Marion Wadsworth House

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** 1912

**Source:** deeds

**Style/Form:** Craftsman

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

### Exterior Material:

Foundation: rubble

Wall/Trim: wood shingles

Roof: asphalt shingles

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
shed

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):  
none

**Condition:** good

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

**Acreage:** 0.33 acre

**Setting:** early 20<sup>th</sup> century residential neighborhood

## Topographic or Assessor's Map



**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** Lexington Historical Commission

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

**INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET**

LEXINGTON

26 Hayes Avenue

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

--	--

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 26 Hayes Avenue is an expression of the Craftsman style applied to a 2 ½-story, side-gabled form. The house is set on a rubble foundation with stonework also supporting the front and side porches. The exterior is sheathed in wood shingles and the asphalt-shingled roof displays an unusual tapered overhang which is of greatest depth at the apex of the gables. The ends of the gable rakings and other projections display a decorative notched effect and are supported by decorative beams at the top and base of the gables. A projecting two-story gable at the west end of the façade gives visual interest to the three-bay wide façade. The front porch gable is half timbered and the roof is supported by bold, tapered posts. At the west end of the house a brick exterior chimney emerges from the roof adjacent to a single-story porch. Windows include a mix of tripartite, paired and individual wooden windows with 4/1, 6/1, and 8/1 sash in molded surrounds, with shutters. There is a fixed sash with geometric tracery lighting the shed-roofed bay window on the east wall and a shed dormer emerging from the front slope.

**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.*

The house at 26 Hayes Avenue was constructed on land (lot 69) that was part of the Oakmount Park subdivision, initially laid out in 1903. The land was sold by Frank Locke to Marion Wadsworth, wife of Henry in June 1911 (Book 3613, Page 350). The 1920 Census lists the occupants of the house as Henry L. Wadsworth, his wife Marion and son George. He worked as a lawyer in Boston. Mrs. Wadsworth was still living here in 1942.

Later owners included Joan Schur who sold the property to Kathleen Dolan in 1974 (Book 12701, Page 197).

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Lexington Directories, various dates.  
Middlesex South Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass. – Plan Book 145, Page 3.  
Sanborn Insurance Maps  
U.S. Census, various years.  
1906 map