

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

57/114A [ ] [ ] 2235

**Town/City:** Lexington

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

## Photograph



Front (façade) and right side elevations of house; front façade of garage

**Address:** 58 Hill Street

**Historic Name:**

**Uses:** Present: residential

Original: residential

**Date of Construction:** ca. 1955-60

**Source:** town directories

**Style/Form:** Mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century Modern

**Architect/Builder:** unknown

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation:

Wall/Trim:

Roof:

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

**Condition:**

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 0.52

**Setting:** Located on a winding residential street with heterogeneous development of varied periods, styles, and scales. Opposite Lexington Golf Club.

## Locus Map



**Recorded by:** Wendy Frontiero

**Organization:** Lexington Historical Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): September 2015

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

LEXINGTON

58 HILL STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

	2235
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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.*

*Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.*

## ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

58 Hill Street is built on a hillside at a wide bend in the road. The largely wooded lot rises steeply up from the street, with the house set at an angle to the road. A detached garage is situated at street level, at the back of a short strip of pavement that extends the width of the garage. A narrow stairway constructed of concrete steps with bluestone treads rises from the driveway to the main house, framed by the garage on one side and a retaining wall of flat stone and landscape timbers on the other.

The house consists of a roughly rectangular block that rises two stories (including a fully raised basement) from a poured concrete foundation to a butterfly roof that defines two distinct sections of the building. Walls are clad with vertical wood boards. Windows are a variety of banded picture windows and casement sash, without trim. The front façade elevation, oriented towards the garage, contains an off-center entrance on the lower level with a single-leaf flush panel door. Centered above is a very narrow band of five glazed openings, which may be fixed or awning sash.

On the long right side elevation, the upper story is cantilevered over the raised basement under the left shed roof. On the other end of this elevation is a tall, screened porch with widely overhanging eaves. The only feature visible on the left side elevation is a deep overhanging roof towards the front. The back elevation is not visible from the street.

Built into the hillside, the detached garage has a shallow shed roof that slopes up to the front, supported by poured concrete side walls. Its two vehicle bays have flush panel wood doors.

Well preserved and well maintained, 58 Hill Street is a refined example of mid-century modern housing in Lexington. It is notable for its secluded siting, carefully integrated with the topography; long, butterfly shed roofs; reserved façade composition; banded horizontal fenestration; vertical board siding; and original/early garage.

## 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.*

Established by the early 18<sup>th</sup> century, Hill Street is a country road that provided an important connection between the radial highway of Bedford Street and western Lexington; it also formed a section of an old route between Concord and Salem. Sparsely developed through the 19<sup>th</sup> century, Hill Street contained no more than three houses by 1906. The arrival of street railway service along Bedford Street in the first decade of the 20<sup>th</sup> century may have been the inspiration for limited new development over the next few decades. Most of the present buildings are mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Catering to wealthy (summer) residents, the Lexington Golf Club was established in 1895 and began operating at the Vaille Farm on Hill Street in 1899. (The 1906 map identifies the "Del Corde House" at the center of that large undeveloped tract of land.)

The house at 58 Hill Street was built between 1955 and 1960. The first known occupants were Leo Dunn, a lawyer, and his wife Helen W., who resided here in 1960 and 1965.

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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Historic maps and atlases: Walling 1853; Beers 1875; Walker 1889; Stadly 1898; Walker 1906; Sanborn 1908, 1918, 1927, 1935, 1935/1950.

Lexington Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey, Period and Area Summaries.

<http://historicsurvey.lexingtonma.gov/index.htm> Accessed Jul 23, 2015.

Lexington *List of Persons*: 1955, 1960, 1965.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. "MHC Reconnaissance Survey Town Report: Lexington." 1980.

**SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES**



Front facades of garage and house



Assessors' photograph:  
Front (façade) and right side elevation of house



Right side elevation



Garage: Left side and front (façade) elevations