

FORM B – BUILDING

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

8/20	Boston North		
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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: 87 Pleasant Street

Historic Name: Albert & Miriam Goldman House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1952

Source: Harvard University archives

Style/Form: Contemporary

Architect/Builder: Hugh Stubbins, Jr.

Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete block

Wall/Trim: vertical boards

Roof: tar and gravel

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

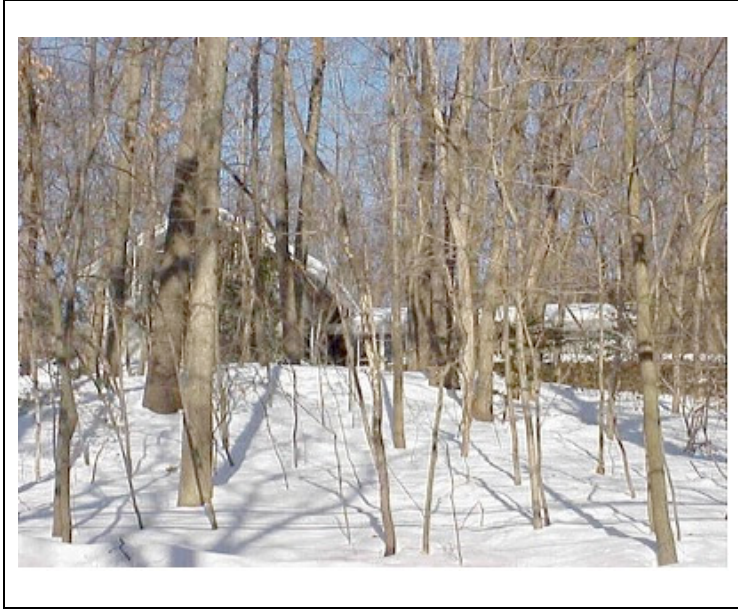
Condition: good

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

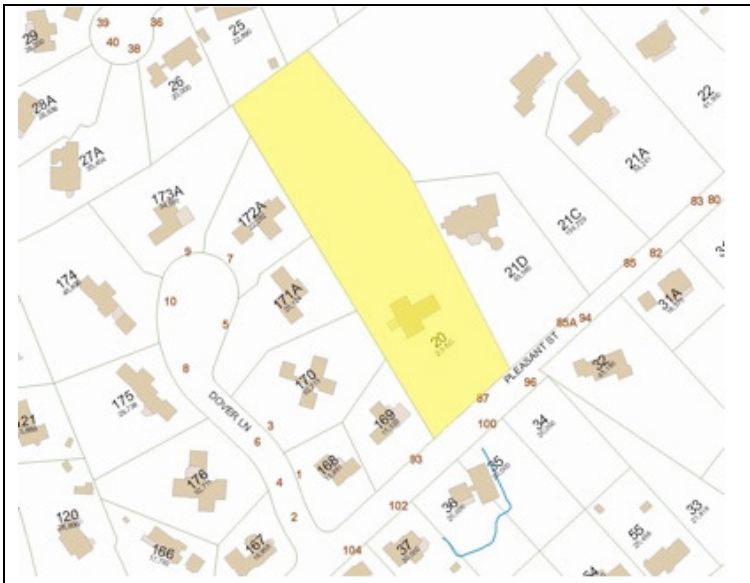
Acreage: 2.30 acres

Setting: mixed 20th century neighborhood

Photograph



Topographic or Assessor's Map



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Lexington Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): January 2010

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

LEXINGTON

87 Pleasant Street

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.

This house was constructed in 1952 by architect Hugh Stubbins, Jr. for Albert & Miriam Goldman, just a short distance from two other Stubbins' designs at 3 & 6 Dover Lane and the Moon Hill development which was created by The Architects Collaborative (TAC). Like the other contemporary houses, the Stubbins House exhibits the influence of the International Style and was sited to blend in with the rural character of the property. The house is capped by a gable roof displaying a considerable overhang. The structure rests on a cinder block foundation. Exterior walls are constructed of two by four studs and four by four posts which are sheathed with vertical tongue and groove boarding. Windows include casements and large fixed glass windows which are without trim.

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 designed by architect Hugh Stubbins, Jr. (1912-2006) in 1952-3 for Albert & Miriam Goldman. Stubbins lived nearby at 6 Dover Lane and also designed the house at 3 Dover Lane. Inside, the house at 87 Pleasant Street originally contained the work of Japanese-American furniture maker George Nakashima. The house remained in the Goldman family until 2006 when it was sold to Isaac Silvera.

Hugh Stubbins graduated from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1931 and was awarded the MArch by the Harvard Graduate School of Design in 1935. In the late 1930s he worked briefly with Royal Barry Wills. At the invitation of Walter Gropius, Stubbins taught for more than a decade during the 1940's and 1950's at the GSD; in 1954 he left teaching to devote himself to his architectural firm, which was to become a highly successful international practice. Stubbins is perhaps best-known as the architect of large-scale structures which have become recognizable landmarks in urban skylines: the Berlin Kongresshalle, Manhattan's Citicorp Building and Boston's Federal Reserve Bank. Stubbins is also widely recognized for his education-related designs, which range from a number of suburban schools to Harvard's Countway Library, Pusey Library and Loeb Drama Center (Harvard University, Stubbins Collection).

The original owner, Albert L. Goldman (d. 2004), graduated from Harvard Law School in 1946. During his 56-year legal career, he was an advocate for the labor movement and an authority on advising all phases of a union's activities. He joined the law firm now known as Angoff, Goldman, Manning, Pyle, Wanger & Hiatt in Boston in 1948 and went on to become its president. He advocated for the teachers' union during the Boston school busing controversy in the 1970s and pioneered the establishment of employee health and welfare benefit funds in Massachusetts. He served in the Naval Aviation Service, where he flew on dirigibles and worked as a cryptographer (*Harvard Law Bulletin*, Summer 2005).

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BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Brown, Neil Porter. "Living with Modern Furniture", *Harvard Magazine*, March-April 2006.

Harvard Law Bulletin. http://www.law.harvard.edu/news/bulletin/2005/summer/memorial_main.php

Hugh Stubbins Archive: The Early Years Collection, Special Collections Department, Frances Loeb Library, Harvard Design School, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass. has the following drawings for the house:

Roll: A148 Project and Construction Drawings : Goldman House / Date(s): 1952-1953 / Quantity: 9 items in set + (5 items) / Dimensions: aprox. 25" x 37" / Medium: pencil / Support: trace

Note: Job #201 and #5201. Original Tube #05.0 and #71.0.

Content: Architectural drawings: 1. First and Second Floor Plans; 2. Basement Plan and Sections; 3. Elevations; 4. Elevations; 5. Framing Plans and Structural Details; 6. Roof Framing and Structural Details; 7. Window and Door Details; S1-S2. Specifications.

Scale: 1/4"=1'-0"; 3"=1'-0".

Lexington Assessors Records.

Ludman, Dianne M., *Hugh Stubbins and his Associates: The First Fifty Years*, 1986.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds.