

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

4/14B	Boston North		
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Town: Lexington

Place: (*neighborhood or village*)
East Lexington

Address: 25 Walnut Street

Historic Name: William G. Potter House

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: 1915

Source: visual inspection, deeds

Style/Form: Bungalow

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: rubble

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Date? – siding, rear addition

Condition: fair (due to siding)

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

Acreage: 1.59 acres

Setting: on large lot, setback from well traveled road

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

25 WALNUT 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.

The house at 25 Walnut Street is a 1 ½-story side-gabled bungalow set on a rubble foundation with a rubble base supporting the front porch which is tucked under an extension of the front roof slope. A large gable dormer rises from the front roof slope and there is a three-sided bay window on the south gable end, adjacent to the exterior brick chimney. A large addition with deck extends behind the original house.

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.

Along with the nearby house at 19 Walnut Street, this house was constructed for the Potter family. It appears that this house was constructed first – for William G. Potter, a farmer, and his wife Eva in 1915. The land, which belonged to Charlotte Kimball in 1910 was sold by Thomas Ray to William Potter in April 1915 (Book 3961, Page 227).

In 1920 William and Eva were living here with their two young sons and a boarder. (The house at 19 Walnut was constructed in the 1930s for son, Murray and his wife, Doris). In the 1942 directory William Potter's occupation is listed as "livestock" while Murray is described as a hog dealer. In 1960 there were 2,000 pigs at Potter's Piggery.

The property at 25 Walnut Street was sold by Murray and Gail Potter to James Reilly in 1972. Reilly continued to own it until 1993 when it was sold to Ernest Seasholes, the present owner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Hinkle, Alice and Andrea Cleghorn. *Life in Lexington, 1946-1995*.

Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass. (Plan Book 189, Plan 46; Book 3961, Page 227).

Town Directories

U.S. Census, various years.