

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

47/91 [] [] 2281

Town/City: Lexington

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Left side and front (facade) elevations

Address: 20 Webb Street

Historic Name:

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1918-20

Source: historic maps, town directories

Style/Form: Tudor Revival

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: fieldstone, concrete block

Wall/Trim: stucco, brick veneer, wood clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Brick veneer?, porch posts and railing, brick steps, fenestration, additions (L 20th c)

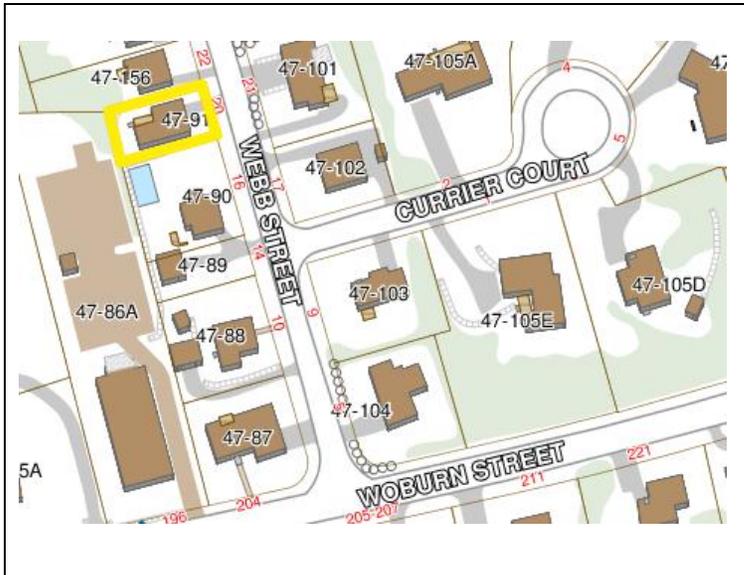
Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.11

Setting: Residential side street off Woburn Street, with Colonial capes transitioning to homogeneous mid to L 20th century garrison colonials. Houses set close together with consistent setbacks from street. Mature street trees.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Wendy Frontiero

Organization: Lexington Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): September 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

LEXINGTON

20 WEBB STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Area(s) Form No.

	2281
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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.

20 Webb Street is located on a small flat lot on the west side of Webb Street, near its intersection with Woburn Street. The building has a moderate setback from the street, and the lot is occupied mainly by lawn, with a two-car wide paved parking area at the northeast corner. Trees are scattered through the back of the property.

The 1½ story, rectangular main block has a 1½ story addition along its north (right side) elevation, a 1 story rear wing to the west, and a small wood deck in the northwest corner between the side addition and rear wing. The front gabled main block is clad with stucco and brick veneer on its façade (east) elevation and clapboard on its south (side) elevation. The side and rear additions are sheathed with wood clapboards. Plain narrow corner boards frame the walls, and flat fascia boards trim the roof edges. A brick chimney rises along the exterior of the south side wall, and a concrete block chimney rises from the exterior of the back wall of the rear wing. Fenestration is heterogeneous in size, type, and trim and irregular in arrangement.

The façade of the main block is faced with clinker-type brick on the first floor and half-timbered stucco on the half story. A narrow one-story porch with a hip roof wraps around the façade and part of the south side, projecting in a cross-gable at the offset entry vestibule. The porch includes turned posts, square vertical balusters, and brick steps with bluestone treads. The cross gable at the entry contains half-timbering; a single-leaf door in a modern Victorian revival style is offset in the vestibule. Flanking the vestibule is a modern angled bay window; a modern, shallow rectangular bay window is centered in the half story.

The left side elevation appears blank; it contains a small shed-roofed projection that terminates the wrap-around porch. The right side addition has a side gable with a saltbox form. Centered on its street (front) façade is a large tri-partite window unit with a high semi-circular fanlight and radiating clapboards from the fanlight to the eave. Its asymmetrical right side elevation contains a triplet of casement windows on the first floor and a small pair of casements in the half story towards the back. The one-story gabled rear wing is barely visible from the street. Observable were a low-pitched gable roof, irregular fenestration, and a wood deck at the corner with the front addition.

20 Webb Street is distinctive as an example of the locally distinctive Tudor Revival style, employed on a modest cottage. Although considerably altered by additions, modern cladding materials, and new windows, it is notable for its surviving half-timbering and front porch and for its early 20th century origins on a street now characterized by repetitive mid-20th century housing.

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.

Woburn Street was an early thoroughfare, established in the 17th century as one of the radial roads from Lexington's town center. Large farms were established along nearby Vine Brook by the mid 17th century, and commercial dairy and produce farms arose along early highways throughout outlying areas of town in the 19th century. Webb Street appears to have been laid out between 1918 and 1927. In the latter year, it is depicted as extending approximately its current length, providing access to Young Street and its inchoate grid of cross streets, likely intended for new suburban development. L. M. Webb was one of the farmers identified as owning property in this general area in 1906.

The first known residents at this address are thought to be Charles E. Moloy, who worked as a farm laborer, teamster, and later a janitor, and his wife Ellen M. in 1920. Remaining in this house through at least 1955, the family consisted of Charles, Ellen,

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and four children, one of whom was still living here in 1945 (Charles E. Jr., a store clerk). Subsequent residents include J. Joseph Harrington, a programmer, and his wife Annette R. in 1965.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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

Lexington Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey, Period Summaries. <http://historicsurvey.lexingtonma.gov/index.htm>
Accessed Jul 23, 2015.

Lexington Directories: 1899, 1906, 1908-09, 1922, 1934, 1936.

Lexington Historical Society. Webb Street folder in Whipple Collection.

Lexington *List of Persons*: 1935, 1945, 1955, 1965.

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

U. S. Census: 1920, 1930.

SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES



Front (facade) and right side elevations



Assessors' photograph: Front facade