

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
63/72

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1017

Massachusetts Historical Commission



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 1 Adams Street

Historic Name Albert & Mary Tenney House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1910

Source Lexington Valuation Lists

Style/Form Dutch Colonial Revival w/Craftsman

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation rubble

Wall/Trim aluminum siding, wood

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

garage

Major Alterations (with dates) c.1960 - aluminum siding installed (over novelty siding?)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 29,810 SF

Setting large early 20th century residences set back from heavily traveled road

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) June 2000

BUILDING FORM (1 Adams Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

Set on a low hill above the street, 1 Adams Street is a 2 1/2-story, Dutch Colonial-style building oriented with its gambrel end (north elevation) to the street. Set above the stone foundation, the house is presently sheathed in aluminum siding, which was apparently installed over a novelty siding. Centered on the east facade, the main entrance is fronted by a brick stoop and contains a six-panel door flanked by leaded glass sidelights. A partially enclosed vestibule with multi-light side panels fronts the porch. The distinctive entrance porch consists of large columns supporting an overhanging front pediment with a curved underside. Large foliate brackets support the overhang. On one side of the entrance, towards the street, there is a large picture window with transom; on the other side is an arched 6/6 window. The second story of the facade is lit by a casement window flanked by 6/6 sash with a long shed dormer spanning the front roof slope.

Facing the street, the gambrel end is fronted by a single-story, three-bay porch supported by Roman Doric columns with corresponding pilasters set against the wall. The porch frieze is decorated by dentils. Multilight French doors punctuate the first floor with 6/6 sash upstairs. Projecting from the west side are a single-story, three-sided bay window with dentil molding and a two-story, five-sided flat roof addition. Three individual shed dormers are located on the west slope of the gambrel roof.

A paved driveway, lined by rhododendrons extends along the east side of the house. Decorative brickwork has been preserved in the driveway in front of the entrance and a built-in concrete bench is located on the wall opposite the entrance porch. Brick posts topped by concrete balls mark the rear garage yard. Projecting from the rear of the east elevation of the house is a gambrel-roofed projection. The rear garage is also capped by a gambrel roof.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe 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.

(see 8 Adams St, MHC #697)

The house at 1 Adams Street was built in 1910 for Albert Tenney. Tenney was assessed in 1910 for just the lot and the valuation list bears the description "(Whiting)," an apparent reference to the seller. In 1911 Tenney was assessed for a house valued at \$9000. Directories indicate that Tenney worked as a vice president (for an unknown organization) in Boston. Albert's widow, Mary C. Tenney continued to live in the house as late as 1960, along with a maid and chauffeur. Soon thereafter the house was sold to John and Jeanne Boeing who sold it to Roger and Barbaranne Shepard in 1966. Later owners included John and Mary Sandbo (1968-1972) and Bruce and Gracia Dayton (1972-1989). The present owners purchased the property in 1989.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Lexington Assessors Records.
- Lexington Directories, various dates.
- Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attached a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*