

FORM B - BUILDING

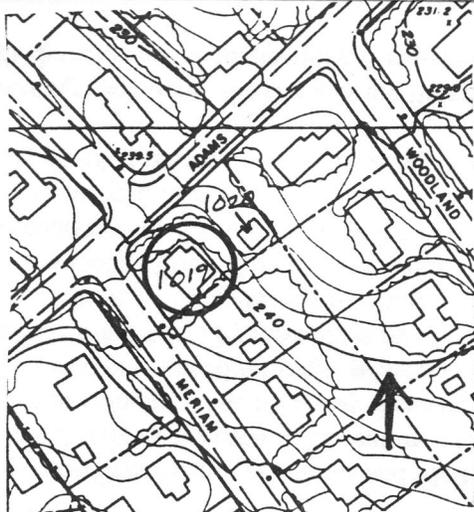
Assessor's number
63/32

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1019, 1020

Massachusetts Historical Commission



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 25 Adams Street

Historic Name George & Anna Russell House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1905

Source Lexington Valuation Lists

Style/Form Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation fieldstone

Wall/Trim wood shingles

Roof asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

c. 1920 jerkinhead-roofed garage (MHC #1020)

Major Alterations (with dates) date? - glazed vestibule
at front door

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 13,290 SF

Setting corner lot, mixed 20th century residential
neighborhood

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) June 2000

BUILDING FORM (25 Adams Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

Located at the northeast corner of Adams and Meriam Streets, 25 Adams Street (MHC #1019) is a good example of the Colonial Revival style of the early 20th century. The two-story, hip-roofed dwelling is set above a rubble foundation and sheathed in wood shingles. The three-bay facade is spanned by a single-story porch supported by clusters of three Roman Doric columns that are echoed by single pilasters mounted on the facade. The columns are spanned by a turned balustrade. A center pediment decorated by modillions marks the entrance. Both the pediment and adjacent porch display a plain frieze. The entrance is sheltered by a glazed projecting vestibule and is flanked by large 2/2 windows with blinds. Above the entrance, on the second floor of the facade, a three-sided bay window rests on the porch roof and is lit by 2/1 windows with the adjacent windows identical to those on the first floor. A bold modilion cornice wraps around the building and a pair of hip-roofed dormers rise from the front and rear roof slopes. The asphalt-shingled hip roof is crowned by a balustrade of simple square posts arranged in an intersecting, star-like pattern.

On the remaining elevations, the shingles are flared between the first and second stories. There is an exterior brick chimney on the north elevation and a single-story, three-sided bay window.

The yard is enclosed by a simple wooden picket fence and there is a mature maple tree adjacent to the concrete front walk with large pine trees near Meriam Street. A stone wall marks the northern property line. To the north of the house is a side-gabled, wood-shingled garage (MHC #1020) which is capped by a jerkinhead roof. There are two sets of double doors on the broad facade. Each leaf displays 4 x 2 lights over four vertical panels. Other fenestration on the garage includes a 6/1 window and a vertical board door in the attic.

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.

This house is located on Lot 49 of the Oakmount Park subdivision. The earliest valuation record found for the property indicates that in 1906 Anna Russell was assessed for a house on the 13,290 square foot lot. Directories indicate that her husband was employed as a bookkeeper at 141 Milk Street in Boston. The Russells continued to live here into the late 1910s.

By 1920 the house was occupied by Nathan and Mary Bidwell. He was a lawyer. The house was known as 13 Adams Street until about 1927, and as 15 Adams Street until the mid 1930s. In addition to this property, the Bidwells also owned two other houses on Adams Street, which were identified as 10 and 12 Adams Street in 1920. The Bidwells continued to own 25 Adams Street until the 1940s. Donald and Allegra Fifield owned and occupied the house from the late 1940s until 1990.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- 1) Lexington Assessors Records.
- 2) Lexington Directories, various dates.
- 3) 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.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
Lexington

Property Address
25 Adams Street
Area(s) Form No.

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

	1019, 1020
--	------------

