

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
58/253

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1043

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 136 Cedar Street (betw. Dever & Hamblen)

Historic Name

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction c.1930

Source Assessors Records, Directories

Style/Form Bungalow

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim wood shingle

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

garage

Major Alterations (with dates) 1979 - extended dormer

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 26,490 SF

Setting mixed 20th century residential area

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) April 2000

BUILDING FORM (136 Cedar Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

A relatively unchanged but simple example of a Bungalow, 136 Cedar Street is a 1 1/2-story, side-gabled dwelling which is sheathed in wood shingles above a stone foundation. The roof is sheathed in asphalt shingles and displays overhanging eaves with exposed rafters on the front, lateral eaves. The recessed integral porch displays fluted posts with capitals resting on a shingled wall. The center entrance contains a glass window with three molded panels below. On one side of the entrance there is a tripartite window consisting of a central 6/1 flanked by 4/1 windows. On the other side of the doorway there is a paired 6/1 window. Rising from the center of the front roof slope is a low gable dormer containing two 6/1 windows. Like the main roof, the lateral eaves display exposed rafters.

An exterior brick chimney rises from the south gable end which displays an asymmetrical profile owing to an abutting rear shed with exposed rafters. The predominant window on the house is a 6/1 sash with a molded surround and appears in pairs and individually. Projecting from the south wall is a shed-roofed bay window resting on a stone foundation and punctuated by three 6/1 windows. A shed dormer spans the rear roof slope.

A paved driveway extends to the north of the house, terminating at a side-gabled, wood-shingled garage resting on a concrete foundation and capped by an asphalt-shingled roof. There are two sets of hinged double doors on the broad facade and 6/6 windows on the remaining elevations. The house is set on a 26,490 square foot lot and is set close to the road. The front yard is shaded by large pine trees with rhododendrons plantings fronting the porch.

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 occupies lots 38, 39, 40, 41, 43, 44, 45 and 81 of the Lexington Farms subdivision which was laid out in March 1912 (Book 202, Plan 11). Local assessors records indicate that the house was constructed in 1930. Valuation Records indicate that lots 38-42 were owned by Rebecca Davison of Needham from 1915 until about 1926. The house at 136 Cedar Street was apparently built shortly after 1926 by the new owner. The earliest known resident of the house was Arthur Edwards, an undertaker, who is listed in the directory as living here from about 1932 to 1934. Edwards is not listed in the Lexington Valuation records, suggesting he was renting the house from an unknown owner.

The property was sold by Doris Landers to John and Genevieve Nelson in 1949 although directories indicate that Mrs. John Nelson was living in the house as early as 1942. John and Concorda Nelson occupied the property until 1977. The present owners purchased the property in 1984.

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.*