

FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
20/155

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1044

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building



Town Lexington
Place (neighborhood or village) East Lexington

Address 42 Cliffe Street
Historic Name Philipas Apostolopoulos House

Uses: Present Residential
Original Residential
Date of Construction 1917

Source Assessors Records
Style/Form Craftsman
Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone
Wall/Trim stucco, wood
Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
garage

Major Alterations (with dates) by 1950 - second story
facade additon?; c.1990 - new windows

Condition good
Moved no yes Date

Acreage 6,655 SF

Setting mixed 20th century residential neighborhood



Recorded by Lisa Mausolf
Organization Lexington Historical Commission
Date (month/year) June 2000

BUILDING FORM (42 Cliffe Street)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

An unusual early 20th century dwelling, the house at 42 Cliffe Street appears to be a personal interpretation of the Four Square style displaying elements of the Craftsman style as well as Mediterranean influences. The two-story, hip-roofed building is set above a mortared stone foundation and is fronted by a stone stoop with a built-in balustrade panel. The walls of the building are stuccoed and the overhanging eaves display exposed rafters, indicative of a Craftsman-style influence. The facade is fronted by a single-story porch with arched openings and resting on round concrete corner columns with a stuccoed lower level with glass block windows. Sheltered by the porch is an offcenter entrance contains a modern replacement door with an oval window. On one side of the entrance there is an elevated stairhall window filled with leaded glass; a three-sided bay window is located on the other side of the entrance. The second floor of the facade appears to be a later addition but based on long-time neighbors, if it was not original it was added over forty years ago. The upper level is lit by recently installed casement windows. Other windows include 1/1 modern replacements. Shingled hip dormers are centered on the roof slopes. A projecting rectangular bay window is located at the rear of the south elevation. A shed-roofed side porch projects from the north elevation. A stuccoed staircase leads to the side porch and deck.

The house is located opposite Drew Avenue. There is a stone wall along the street. To the north is a wood-shingled, hip-roofed garage.

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 comprises lots 169-171 of the Mass. Avenue Terrace subdivision which was laid out on land owned by J.W. Wilbur in 1909 (County Plan Book 182, Plan 8.) Cliffe Street was not known as such until about 1920. The house was constructed by Philipas Apostolopoulos. The Town Valuation List for 1917 indicates that the house was then unfinished and valued at \$2000. The valuation the next year was \$3500 suggesting the completion of the house although Apostolopoulos continued to reside in Boston. By 1925 Apostolopoulos was assessed for a house valued at \$5500, a garage at \$200 and a henhouse at \$50. He apparently sold the property prior to 1929.

The house was owned and occupied by William and Margaret Bartels in the late 1920s. The house appears to have been vacant for a number of years in the 1940s. Changing occupants suggest that the house may have served as a rental property. Cecil and Frances MacDonald owned the house in the late 1950s and sold it to James and Janet Inglis in 1959. It was owned by members of the Inglis family until 1979. The present owners purchased the house in 1986.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lexington Assessors Records.
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.
Sanborn Maps of Lexington, 1927, 1935.

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