

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA T	FORM NO. 556
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Barn = 612

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



wn Lexington

dress 272 Concord Avenue

storic Name Wellington-Smith-Packard

use \_\_\_\_\_

e: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

ite 1808

Source Proceedings of the Lexington Historical Society II:110

Style Federal

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric aluminum siding

Outbuildings large Federal barn with additions

Major alterations (with dates) two-story rear addition with one-story ell connecting original Federal barn to house; fire c. 1970

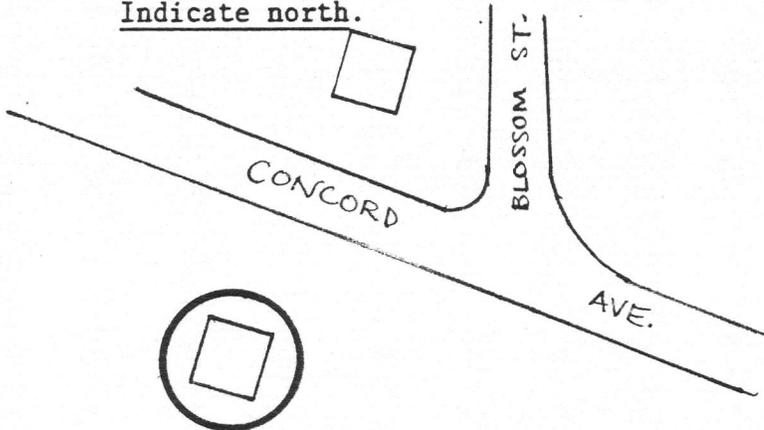
Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 55200 ft.<sup>2</sup>

Setting On hill overlooking Concord Avenue; facing late 1970s street and houses.

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

One of the three remaining brick-ended Federal farmhouses along what was originally the Cambridge-Concord Turnpike (see 177 Concord Avenue and 503 Concord Avenue forms), this is the only one with a brick end still visible. (The north brick end has been covered by clapboards since before 1923.) Like two more brick-ended Federal houses in South Lexington -- those at 56 Allen Street and 130 Pleasant Street (see relevant forms) -- this house has a low hip roof and end chimneys, although in this case the chimneys have obviously been rebuilt. This

(see Continuation Sheet)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

According to an antiquarian account, this house was built in 1808 by Nehemiah Wellington, a carpenter and a first cousin of the Benjamin O. and Peter Wellington who lived in the house a short distance east on the Cambridge-Concord Turnpike (see 177 Concord Avenue form). In 1817 Nehemiah sold the house to Josiah Smith (1789-1875), a son of the Josiah Smith in the house at 26 Blossom Street and a brother of the Ebenezer Smith in the house at 389 Concord Avenue (see relevant forms). Like his father and brother, Josiah Smith was a shoemaker and most of his customers were in Boston though he employed five or six workers in Lexington. Josiah Smith served as an assessor from 1825 to 1827 but was most noted as a fifer. He was known as "Fifer Si" and played for the Ancient and Honorable Artillery for 60 years; he also played in other military bands, traveled to many states to play, served in the War of 1812, and played for soldiers in the Civil War. After Smith's death in 1875, the farm was owned by Henry Jewett and then, in 1889, by his son Arthur H. Jewett, a farmer. The 1906 map shows the house and barn but does not name an owner. Later in the twentieth century it was owned by Henry C. Packard and is often known as the "Packard place."

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington II, pp. 324, 638, 643-644.  
Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913.

Lexington Historical Society Archives, Burr Church collection

Smith, A. Bradford. "Kite End." Proceedings of the Lexington Historical Society  
II (1900):110-112.

1876 map

1889 map

1906 map

1894 Directory

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Lexington	Form No: 556
Property Name: 272 Concord Avenue	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

house has an unusual doorway which is not shown in a 1923 photograph and thus is apparently a relatively modern addition as a result of which all vestiges of the original Federal doorway, including the pilasters visible in the 1923 photo, have been removed. This house is distinguished by the existence of what is apparently the original barn at the south end. The barn, which is now attached to the house by various additions, has been converted to a study or family room and all the framing, including the rafters bridled jointed at ridge pole, is clearly visible. Another much larger barn, also with bridled-pointed rafters, is also still standing. It is three bays wide and three deep and has a one-story shed along the north side and a two-story addition at the northwest corner.



Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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Staple to Inventory form at bottom