

FORM B - BUILDING

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| AREA | FORM NO. |
| 0 | 506 |

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



City Lexington

Address 10 Eliot Road

Historic Name C.W. Kettell House

Present Use residential

Original Use residential

DESCRIPTION:

Year 1901 *1902*

Source owner *Minute Man Feb 1, 1902*

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Lois Lilly Howe

Exterior wall fabric shingles

Outbuildings carriage house

Major alterations (with dates) _____

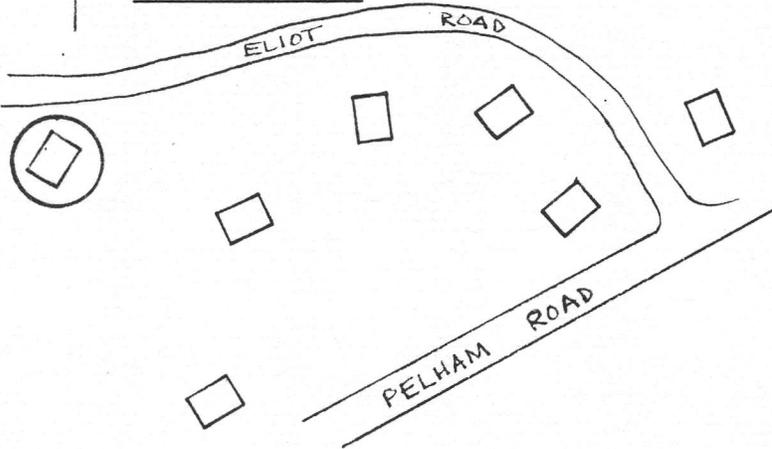
Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 26468 ft.²

Setting On a rise above the street, with retaining wall along the frontage; in neighborhood which is a mixture of houses of similar size and date and mid-twentieth century infill.

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 Anne Grady

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.)

This house combines features which derive from the Georgian and Federal periods, but does not forego the shingled finish and bay windows of late nineteenth century architecture. There is an entrance portico with elliptically-arched opening below an open pediment with denticular cornice and paired slim supporting columns. There are leaded glass side- and fanlights at the doorway.

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

The house was built by Charles Willard Kettell , a mechanical engineer.

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

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 340. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Lois Lilly Howe papers, MIT archives.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
10 ELIOT ROAD
Area(s) Form No.

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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Additional information found in the *Lexington Minute-Man* confirms that this house was constructed in 1902. A brief mention notes that Mr. Kettell had just purchased land on Eliot Road from James S. Munroe and was to build a house. The report states that Kettell was already living in the Mt. Vernon district. In August 1902 the paper reported that:

The frame is completed and the rooms ready for the plasterers at Mr. Chas. W. Kettell's new residence on Warren street, on Munroe Hill. The house is to be a large one, containing some fifteen rooms, and commands a beautiful outlook on all sides (*Minute-man*, August 16, 1902).

By 1928 Charles was apparently deceased and Mrs. Kettell (Fanny) was living here with her daughter Margaret. Directories list the Kettell's son, Russell, as the occupant in 1932 and 1942.

Lois Lilley Howe (1864-1964) was born in Cambridge and studied at the Museum of Fine Arts School in Boston before receiving a degree in architecture from M.I.T. in 1890. She received her first commission to build a house in 1894, and worked alone and with various partners until 1900. She established her own firm in 1901 at 101 Tremont Street, Boston. She was the second woman elected to the American Institute of Architects (A.I.A.), the first woman Fellow of the A.I.A. and the first woman elected to the Boston Society of Architects. Howe concentrated on domestic architecture. She was noted for pioneering the use of stucco and also had a keen interest in the issues of public housing. Howe retired from active practice in 1937.

The MACRIS data base has eight listings for residences in Brookline, Cambridge, and Lexington that were designed or remodeled by architect Lois Lilley Howe in the early 20th century. Her other commission in Lexington is the home for Francis J. Garrison at 13 Pelham Road (1900).

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Cambridge Women's Heritage Project Database http://www.cambridgema.gov/cwhp/bios_h.html#HoweLL
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, Feb. 1, 1902; Aug. 16, 1902.
Massachusetts Historical Commission, MACRIS database.
Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
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