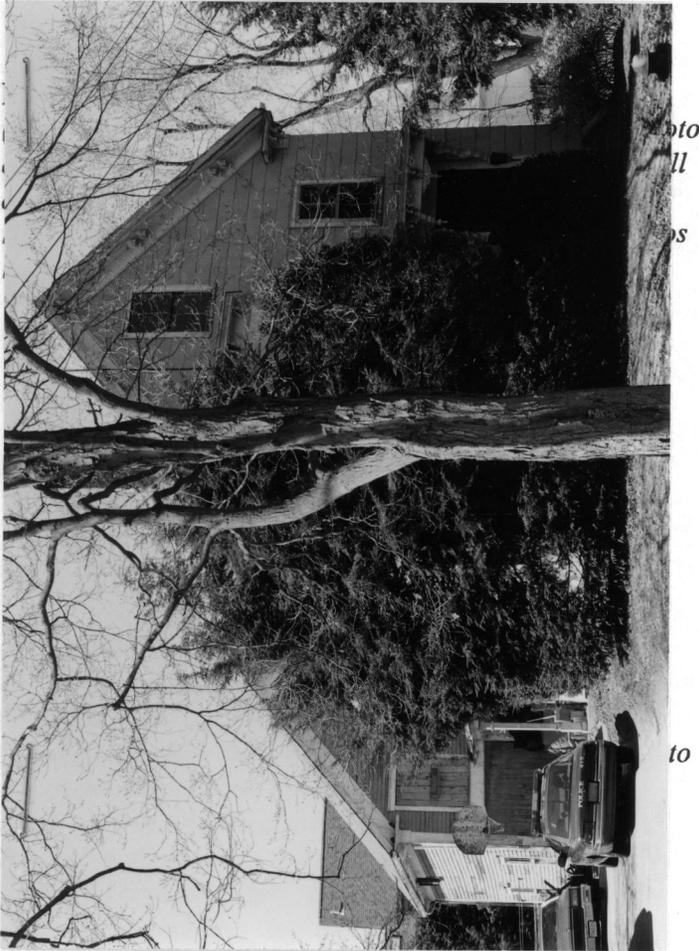


FORM B – BUILDING

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



Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

0048000174

Boston N.

671, 672

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 8 Fletcher Ave.

Historic Name Franklin A. Fletcher/Albert A. Sherman House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1875

Source Deeds, Lexington Valuation lists

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Asbestos Shingle

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Attached barn



Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition Fair/Deteriorated

Moved no yes Date

Acreage 0.3 A.

Setting On a side street in a neighborhood of modest 19th-century houses with some 20th-century infill

Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) March 1998

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

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

8 Fletcher Ave. is one of the few front-gabled Italianate farmhouse in Lexington with an attached barn; another example is at 20 Maple St. (MHC #649). This house (MHC #671) is rectangular with a rear ell, 2½ stories, two-by-three bays, and front gabled with a side chimney. The rear ell is also front-gabled, three bays long, and has a ridge chimney. The house is set on a granite foundation, clad with asbestos shingles, and roofed with asphalt shingles. The ell has a porch with square pilastered posts on the south elevation and a one-story flat-roofed addition on a granite foundation on the north. Italianate finishes on the main block include paired brackets at the cornices, a two-story three-sided bay on the facade and a one-story bay on the south elevation, elaborate milled brackets and a drop with a cut-out bracket under the entry hood, and a double front door with roundhead lights. The attached 2½-story barn (MHC #672) is clad with wood clapboards; it has original barn and hay doors on the south elevation and a garage door and windows with molded surrounds on the north.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

Discuss 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 was built in 1875 by Franklin A. Fletcher, apparently no relation to Charles G. Fletcher, who had a large house on Massachusetts Ave. on the other side of the railroad tracks (now the bikepath) and would develop the Fletcher St. area in the 1880s and 90s (see Area form G). Charles G. sold Franklin A. the lot on which house is located in 1875 and that same year Franklin A. was assessed for a house on it, so perhaps this house was already under construction when he acquired the land. (The house is also shown on the 1875 map of Lexington Center.) In 1883 the house was acquired by Albert A. Sherman, who worked in Boston at the Custom House.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Beers, F. W. *County Atlas of Middlesex Massachusetts*. New York: J.B. Beers & Co., 1875.

Lexington Valuation lists. 1874–1876.

Middlesex Registry of Deeds. Deeds. Cambridge, MA. 1358: 591.

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Town
Lexington

Property Address
8 Fletcher Ave.

Area(s) Form No.

	671, 672
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Roll #17, Negative #23



Roll #7, Negative #3