

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

59/203 2227

Town/City: Lexington

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



South and east (facade) elevations

Address: 6 Hayes Lane

Historic Name:

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1915-26

Source: assessors' records, town directories

Style/Form: Dutch Colonial

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: fieldstone

Wall/Trim: wood clapboards, shingles, and trim

Roof: wood and asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

None

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Rear addition (L 20th c)

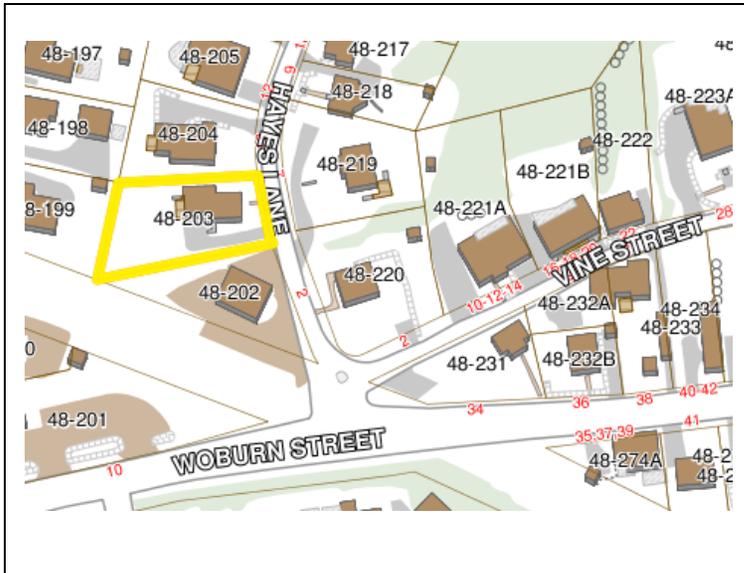
Condition: fair to good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.27

Setting: Located on a narrow and winding residential street, close to Massachusetts Avenue. Surrounding development includes a modest wood frame VFW hall next door and small-scale residential buildings of varied ages and styles.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Wendy Frontiero

Organization: Lexington Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): September 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

LEXINGTON

6 HAYES LANE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

6 Hayes Lane occupies a small, narrow lot near the intersection of Hayes Lane and Massachusetts Avenue. The building has a small front setback that is relatively flat; the land slopes down steeply through the length of the building and ends in a flat back yard. The lot is maintained chiefly in lawn, with an evergreen hedge along the street edge, a paved walkway between the street and the front entrance, a straight paved driveway along the left side of the house, and stone paving blocks leading from the driveway to the side of the front porch. The building consists of a 1 ½ story main block and two-story rear addition with a garage in the basement.

The two by two bay main block rises from a fieldstone foundation with deeply recessed mortar joints to a front gambrel roof without returns; this roof is clad with wood shingles. There is no chimney, but a metal stove pipe rises above the left slope of the roof near the center. Walls are clad with wood clapboards on the first floor and wood shingles on the second floor of the main block, trimmed with narrow corner boards and a plain fascia with a narrow bed molding. Windows have 2/1 double hung, wood sash with plain flat casings. Windows occur singly on the façade and are paired on the side elevations of the main block.

The façade consists of a full-width entrance porch with a hip roof, square posts, no railing, modern granite block steps at the left side, and an offset, single-leaf doorway. The left side elevation has two shed-roofed dormers whose paired windows align with those on the first floor. A small porch at the back corner of this elevation has a flat roof supported on a square corner post, wood railings with square balusters, and wood steps. The right side elevation has a six-light horizontal window near the front and paired windows towards the back on the first floor, and paired windows on the shed roofed dormer near the back of this elevation.

The perpendicular back addition rises two stories above a fully exposed basement to a gable roof with end walls facing the sides of the lot. It is sheathed with clapboards and trimmed with narrow corner boards. On its visible gable end facing the left side of the lot, it contains paired windows on the first floor, two single windows above, and a garage door at the exposed basement level. The right side of the addition has irregular, single and paired windows.

6 Hayes Lane is a typical example of modest, early 20th century housing in Lexington. Well-preserved, it is notable for its uncommon Dutch Colonial style, the rustic stonework of its foundation, wood shingled roof, surviving front and back porches, original fenestration, and period sash.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

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.

Formally established as an open way in 1822, Hayes Lane is thought to have served since the early 18th century as a passageway for transporting hay and cattle. The road appears on the 1853 Walling map, where it winds its way up past Turner's Hill and continues in some form up to Granny's Hill. (The section north of Vine Brook is part of today's Grant Street.) In 1898 and 1906, the street was labeled a private way. Hayes Lane was sparsely developed through the mid 20th century.

Lucy Turner, the widow of Captain Larking Turner, owned a significant amount of meadowland near the vicinity of Massachusetts Avenue, Vine Brook, and Woburn Street in the mid 19th century. Thirty acres of her property at the present Hayes Lane and Fletcher Avenue, adjacent to Massachusetts Avenue, were bought in 1868 by Charles G. Fletcher, a Groton horse trader. The land stood undeveloped for many years. House lots were subdivided on the west side of Hayes Lane by

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1927, but the residence at number 6 was the only building standing there in that year. Residential development was likely deterred by the existence of the large manufacturing plant of the Jefferson Union Co., which produced unions and flanges, near the intersection of Hayes Lane and Fletcher Avenue. The factory was built as the Grant Gear Works in 1888, was purchased by Jefferson Union Co. in 1905, and appears on the historic maps from 1927 through 1950.

Assessors' records for this house show a construction date of 1915, but this early date has not yet been corroborated by historical records. The house at 6 Hayes Lane was first found depicted on the 1927 map. The first known residents were members of the Lichtenberg family, who resided here from at least 1926 through 1965. By 1930, Vandel Lichtenberg, a machinist, occupied the house with his wife Mary. Both born in Hungary, the couple had a daughter and three sons. In 1930, the older two children worked as a stenographer in a clothing store and as a bell boy in a hotel. Vandel Lichtenberg remained in the house until at least 1965. In 1945, he is identified as working at the nearby Jefferson Union Co.; by 1955 he was working at Adams Press. Vandel's wife Mary lived here until at least 1955. Their daughter was here until at least 1945, when she was working as a stenographer. Their youngest son was here at least until 1965 (he was in the Army in 1945 and later worked as a cabinet maker and in maintenance).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Historic maps and atlases: Walling 1853; Beers 1875; Walker 1889; Stadly 1898; Walker 1906; Sanborn 1908, 1918, 1927, 1935, 1935/1950.

Lexington Directories: 1899, 1908-09, 1915, 1922, 1926, 1934, 1936.

Lexington *List of Persons*: 1935, 1945, 1955, 1960, 1965.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. "MHC Reconnaissance Survey Town Report: Lexington." 1980.

U.S. Census: 1920, 1930, 1940.

Worthen, Edwin B. *Tracing the Past in Lexington, Massachusetts*. New York: Vantage Press, 1998.

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SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES
