

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

NR District 1976

In Area no. D, AD	Form no. 128
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Location Lexington, Mass.

Address 1332 Mass. Avenue

Munroe Tavern

Present use House Museum

Present owner Lex. Historical Society

Description:

1695

Source Plaque on house

Georgian - 1st Period?
Vernacular form - 5 bay wide

Architect Old pictures show only 3 windows
porch 2nd story - 5

Exterior wall fabric clapboard (red) garage-
greenhouse

Outbuildings (describe) one story extension (rear)

Other features Central chimney drip moulding

lower windows pediment & light over door

Altered yes Date c 1926

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

Less than one acre _____ Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 325'

Approximate distance of building from street

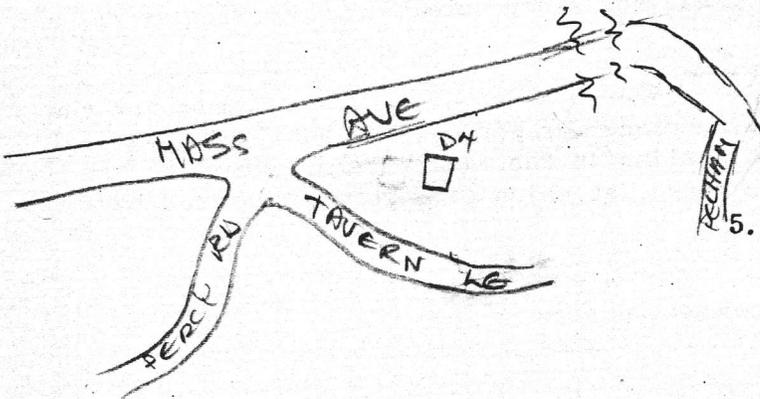
50'

6. Recorded by Ruth Beebe

Organization Lex. Hist. Soc.

Date July 1975

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
USGS Quadrant _____
MHC Photo no. _____

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____
 Original use _____
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	_____	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ Humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical Significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

MUNROE TAVERN

1332 Massachusetts Avenue, Lexington

Owned by the Lexington Historical Society

Open to the public, April to October

Built by William Munroe and operated as a public house from 1696 to 1858 by Munroes, their in-laws the Comeys and an occasional Buckman. In April, 1775 it was used by the British relief force commanded by Earl Percy as a field hospital and headquarters while Mrs. Munroe and the children cowered in the woods and Colonel William Munroe marched with Captain Parker. In 1789 George Washington ate, but did not sleep here.

In the early nineteenth century it served as a drovers' tavern famous for the quality of its flip and as a meeting place for Hiram Lodge until the national outbreak of virulent anti-Masonic feeling in the later 1820s. From 1858 to 1911 it was occupied as a private house, at which time it was acquired by the Lexington Historical Society.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)