

FORM E - BUILDING

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

In Area no. <u>D, N</u>	Form no. <u>140</u>
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City Lexington

Address 1430 Mass. Ave.

Name John L. Norris House (Norris-Mason House)

Present use Residence

Present owner Hawley Rising

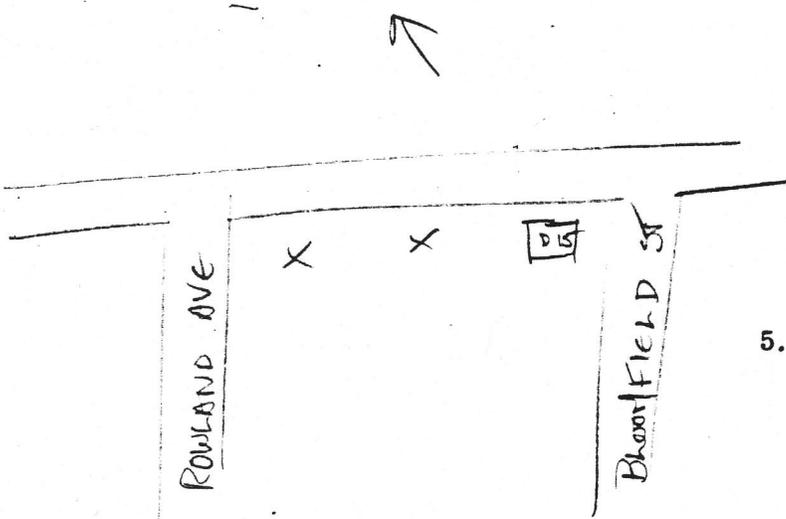
Description:

Year C.1875, altered C. 1900

Source _____

Style Italianate

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



Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) (attached garage)

Other features 2 story flush board bay on left side, brick foundation, 3 story gable pediment front central element, first floor entrance porch with turned balusters. (over)

Altered Colonia Revivalized Date C.1900

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 200'

Approximate distance of building from street

75'

6. Recorded by E. W. Reinhardt

Organization Lex. Hist. Com.

Date 7/30/75

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)

Descrip. Cont: Slate roof, heavy overhang, double bracketed; wide cornice board.

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

Lexington Minute-Man, Dec. 25, 1885

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
1430 MASS. AVE.

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

Area(s) Form No.

D, N	140
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

This house was constructed c.1875 for John L. Norris, who developed much of the Bloomfield Street area (Area N). Norris became a resident of Lexington in March 1872. He was a contractor and builder and a trustee of the Lexington Savings Bank.

Norris sold the house to William H. Mason of Boston in December 1885 with Mason to take possession in April 1886. The newspaper reports that immediately after the sale Norris was to begin building a new house on land in the vicinity of Bloomfield Street (*Lexington Minute-Man*, December 25, 1885). Norris' "new" house is the Queen Anne structure at 1404 Mass. Ave. (LEX.135).

William Mason died before 1894 although his widow, Mary J. Mason continued to live here until about 1913 as well as members of the Wooster family. Charles Gaffney, a salesman, was living here as early as 1918 and until about 1932. From 1932 until 1958 Dr. Ralph Wells lived here with his family and saw patients in part of the house. Hawley Rising owned the property from 1958 until 1993 when it was sold to the present owners, Christine and James Connor. The Connors made minor alterations to the house c.2002 including a kitchen addition. According to Mrs. Connor, the house next door was built on the foundation of the carriage house formerly associated with 1430 Massachusetts Avenue.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Connor, Christine (present owner). Information on history of house, 2007.
Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Cambridge: The Riverside Press Co., 1913, vol. 2, p. 496.
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, December 25, 1885.
Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.
1898 Atlas.

Supplement prepared by:
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