

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
A	9



Lexington

Address 1628 - 32 Mass. Avenue

Lewis Hunt Double House

Present use Business

Business shops - The Toad Stool'

Present owner

Description:

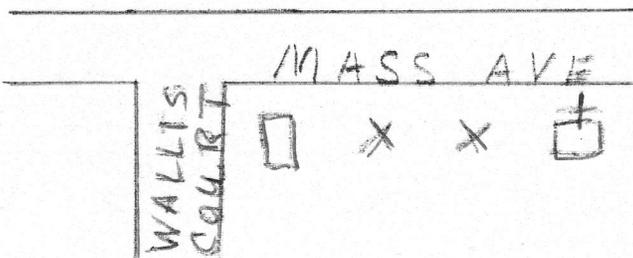
c 1880 1887

Source Minute-man, April 1, 1887

Queen Anne

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

↑ N



Architect

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard -shingle

Outbuildings (describe)

Other features Two entrances, 1 facing

driveway between 1620 & 1632, one facing

Wallis Court. Fieldstone foundation; (over)

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less x Over one acre

Approximate frontage 75'

Approximate distance of building from street

15'

6. Recorded by E. W. Reinhardt

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date 10/14/75

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; symmetrical double house; each entrance has porch with turned posts, balusters between posts, dentil course at cornice; 2 two story bay windows face street, clapboard at first floor level , cornice at each bay with dentil course, band of cut shingles (7 courses) separated second from first floor. Dentil course at roof eave line, roof projects. Center dormer in high hip roof faces street. Next to entrance on each side, projecting two story rectangular bay with cross gabled roof pediment, shingle at peak of gable, dentil course around eave line under projecting roof.

→ See 29 Cottage (#361)
31-33 Cottage (#363)

The house formerly on this site has been moved to Cottage Street and made into two houses -- both face the railroad tracks. In 1853 this Cottage Street house was owned by William Stevens, a Boston merchant (1853 map). Stevens had several daughters, one of whom, Hannah, married George D. Robinson. Robinson was born and reared in Lexington and was elected Governor of the Commonwealth in 1883.

Like the building at 1644 Massachusetts Avenue, the present structure was a two-family house for many years until the area was zoned for business.

In the part now occupied by the "Toad Stool" shop, Dr. Harold Crumb had his office during the 1940s and 1950s, before moving to Muzzey Street.

S. Lawrence Whipple, 1984

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

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
1628-32 MASS. AVE.

Area(s) Form No.

A	9
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The *Lexington Minute-man* of April 1, 1887 includes an apparent mention to the construction of this double house as well as that at 1644 Mass. Ave. (see #14):

We understand Mr. Lewis Hunt is intending to erect two double houses this spring to occupy sites on the Stevens estate on Main street, recently purchased by him.

Lewis Hunt (1843-1893) was a prosperous local hardware merchant who became a resident of Lexington in 1884. He owned considerable real estate in town and built the Hunt's Block at 1777-1793 Mass. Ave. in 1892 (razed in 1966).

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Vol. 2, p. 316. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.
Lexington Minute-Man, April 1, 1887.

Supplement prepared by:
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March 2009