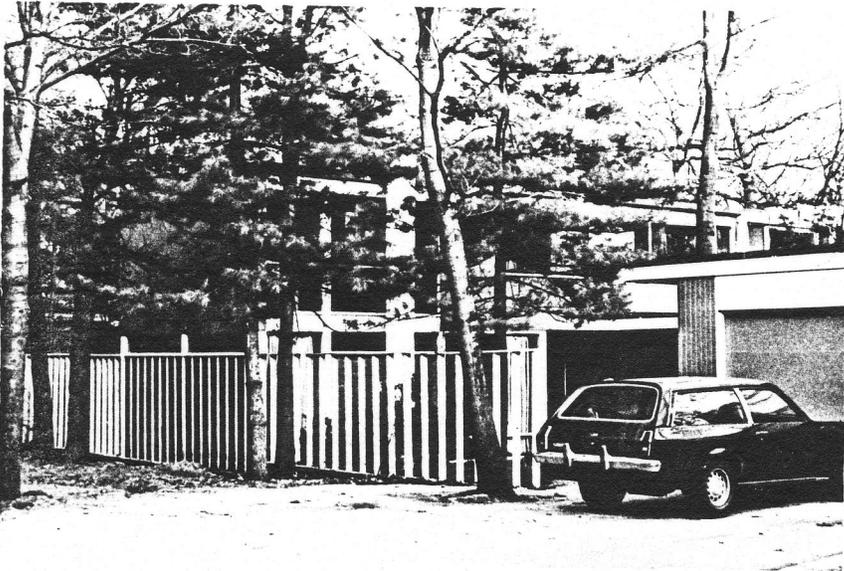


FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
R	536

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



City Lexington

Address 34 Moon Hill Road

Historic Name Sarah and John Harkness  
House

Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Year 1948

Source R.S. Morehouse

Style International Style

Architect Sarah and John Harkness  
(The Architects Collaborative)

Exterior wall fabric redwood

Outbuildings 10-foot by 14-foot stable;  
24-foot by 24-foot garage

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

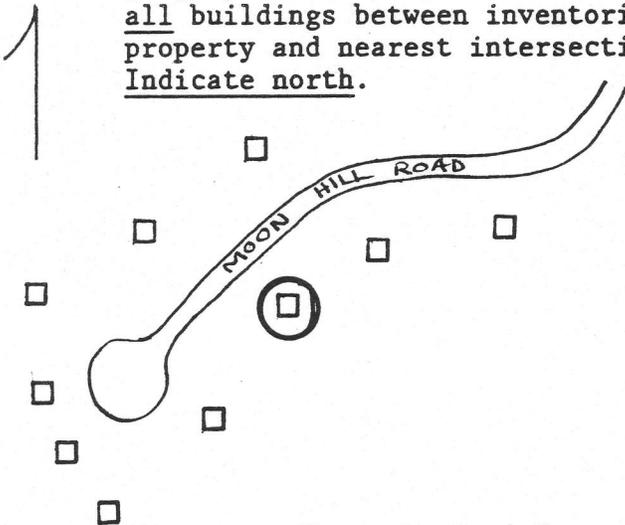
Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 22890 ft.<sup>2</sup>

Setting In community of architect-  
designed contemporary houses; on quiet  
street serving only this neighborhood.

SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes and  
R.S. Morehouse

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date February, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Describe important architectural features and evaluate in terms of other buildings within the community.)

Like other houses in Moon Hill, the Harkness house is an example of the International Style, as indicated by its horizontal massing and use of natural materials (see Moon Hill area form). The original house was designed to facilitate child care in a servantless family. Thus, the central area was a large kitchen/dining/play space. In addition, the house was designed to adapt to the extremes of the New England climate. The north wall of the play area was formed by two overhead glass doors, cross-braced with steel tie rods, and

(see Continuation Sheet)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Explain the role owners played in local or state history and how the building relates to the development of the community.)

Built in 1948 and one of the first houses erected in Moon Hill, this house was designed as their own residence by John C. and Sarah P. Harkness, two of the original members of The Architects Collaborative (TAC) (see Moon Hill area form). The Harknesses still occupy the house.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (name of publication, author, date and publisher)

Architectural Forum, June 1950, pp. 122-123.

L'architecture d'aujourd'hui 28, February 1950, pp. 35, 110.

Gropius, Walter et al., editors. 1966. The Architects Collaborative: 1945-1965, pp. 41, 46-47. Switzerland: Arthur Niggli Ltd.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: Lexington	Form No: 536
Property Name: 34 Moon Hill Road	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

hung on garage door hardware. In the summer they could be opened to form a breezeway; in the winter they were covered with wood slat shades and the area was lighted by plexiglass skylights. Other features of the original house included a children's washbasin in a dressing alcove that could later be converted to a bathroom and children's bedrooms divided by a sliding partition that could be opened to form a larger play area.



Staple to Inventory form at bottom