

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA 0	FORM NO. 514
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



Lexington

Address 13 Pelham Road

Historic Name Francis Jackson Garrison House

Present convent

Original residence

DESCRIPTION:

Year 1900

Source MIT archives, Howe papers

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Lois Lilley Howe

Exterior wall fabric brick

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) original wooden exterior finish covered with brick (date unknown)

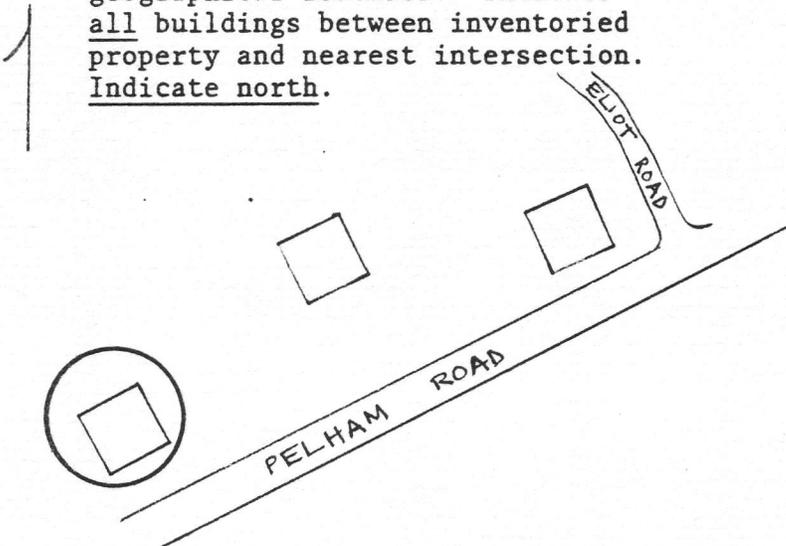
Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 50923 ft.²

Setting On the southern slope of Munroe Hill; across from the former Tower estate, now a private school.

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 Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date March, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house was built as a shingled, wood-framed structure in 1900. Sometime after 1918, the house was given a brick veneer, but otherwise was not changed from its original design. A noteworthy feature of the design is the frontispiece, a close copy of the second-story central window of Robert Adam's Royal Society of Arts building in London.

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

The house was built by Francis J. Garrison, a publisher and one of three sons of William Lloyd Garrison who settled on Munroe Hill c. 1900. The house was re-done in brick sometime after 1918 for Doris Engstrom Bond, daughter of Richard Engstrom, the successful patent medicine manufacturer who built the mansion next door.

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

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 237. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Personal communication from S. Lawrence Whipple.

Personal communication from Anne Blackwell.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
13 PELHAM ROAD

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

Area(s) Form No.

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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

A brief article appearing in the *Lexington Minute-Man* on September 21, 1900 confirms the construction of the house in that year:

A large gambrel roofed house after the style of building in revolutionary days, is nearing completion for the ownership and occupancy of Mr. Francis Garrison, who is living in the cottage on Mr. James S. Munroe's place on Mass. avenue. The new house is located on the summit of Mt. Vernon and commands a fine view of the surrounding country. It is a fit companion for the other commodious and attractive homes built in this slightly section of the town, which has added to its list of assessed real estate four new houses since last spring, costing in the neighborhood of six to twelve thousand dollars each. The other houses alluded to are the Sias, Chas. Garrison and Dr. Briggs estates, all located within a stone's throw of each other.

(Note: The third Garrison brother, William Lloyd Garrison, lived in a house on Percy Road.)

The house at 13 Pelham Road was owned and occupied by Francis Garrison until about 1910. By 1913 it was owned and occupied by William Burgess, a banker, and his wife, Ethel. They remained here until about 1926. Carl and Virginia Wheeler owned the property from about 1928 into the 1930s. By 1942 Raymond and Doris (Engstrom) Bond were living here. The house was conveyed by Doris Bond to the Grey Nuns Charities in 1953.

The architect of this house, Lois Lilley Howe (1864-1964), was born in Cambridge and studied at the Museum of Fine Arts School in Boston before receiving a degree in architecture from M.I.T. in 1890. She received her first commission to build a house in 1894, and worked alone and with various partners until 1900. She established her own firm in 1901 at 101 Tremont Street, Boston. She was the second woman elected to the American Institute of Architects (A.I.A.), the first woman Fellow of the A.I.A. and the first woman elected to the Boston Society of Architects. Howe concentrated on domestic architecture. She was noted for pioneering the use of stucco and also had a keen interest in the issues of public housing. Howe retired from active practice in 1937.

The MACRIS data base has eight listings for residences in Brookline, Cambridge, and Lexington that were designed or remodeled by architect Lois Lilley Howe in the early 20th century. Her other commission in Lexington is the home for Charles Kettell at 10 Eliot Road (#506), designed in 1902.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Cambridge Women's Heritage Project Database http://www.cambridgema.gov/cwhp/bios_h.html#HoweLL
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, Sept. 21, 1900; Feb. 1, 1902.
Massachusetts Historical Commission, MACRIS database.
Middlesex County Register of Deeds, Cambridge, Mass.

Supplement prepared by:
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