

**FORM B – BUILDING**

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

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

006400142A Boston N. 760, 761

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 23 Revere St.

Historic Name Benjamin F. Gleason House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1851

Source Tuttle list

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder David A. Tuttle

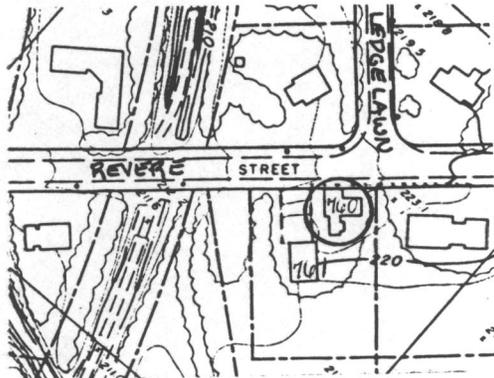
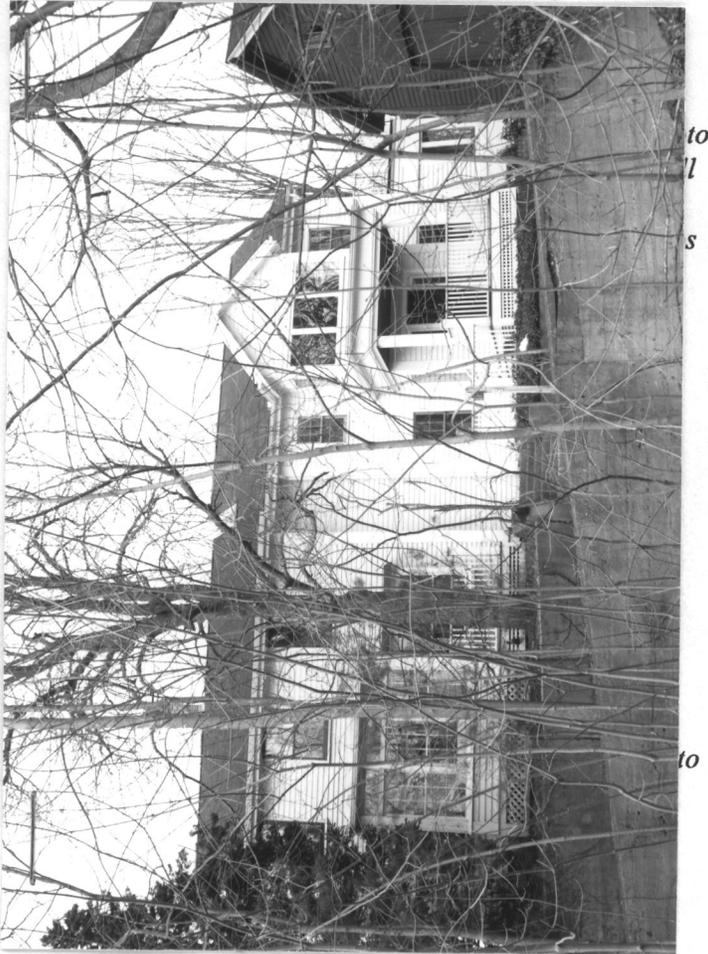
Exterior Material:

Foundation Granite

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn



Major Alterations (with dates)

Side addition (date unknown)

Condition Good

Moved  no  yes Date

Acreage 0.5 A.

Setting Very close to a fairly busy street and near the bikepath (formerly the railroad tracks)

Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) April 1998

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

23 Revere St. (MHC #760) was built by one of Lexington's most prominent 19th-century builders, who usually erected high-style houses; this house, however, either never had or has lost any high-style finishes. The original house, set with its northwest gable end toward Revere St., is rectangular with a rear ell, two stories, three-by-one bays, and side-gabled with a ridge chimney. The rear ell is two stories, two-by-one bays, and front-gabled with a chimney on the southeast slope of the roof. The house is set on a granite foundation, clad with wood clapboards, and roofed with asphalt shingles. At the southeast end of the main block is a large three-by-one bay, two-story, side-gabled addition with a projecting center gable and a porch underneath; at its southeast end is a one-story enclosed sunporch with a railing on the roof. There is a overhanging second-story addition in the reentrant angle between the main block and ell. The center entrance on the facade of the main block is now enclosed; there is a secondary entry on the facade of the side addition; and windows are 6/6 double hung sash. Exposed rafter ends extend around the entire house. The front-gabled 1½-story one-by-two bay barn (MHC #761) has its original hay and barn doors.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was built in 1851 by David A. Tuttle, one of Lexington's most prominent 19th-century builders, for Benjamin F. Gleason. Although Tuttle usually built high-style houses, he also built some vernacular ones such as those at 21 Larchmont Ln. (MHC #764) and 410 Marrett Rd. (MHC #642). In 1875 this house was being rented by A. M. Tucker, a dry goods merchant from Charlestown who used it as a weekend hunting lodge and would soon build his own house on Massachusetts Ave. at what is now the corner of Forest St. Tucker was apparently in residence on April 19, 1875, for he later told of feeding hungry tourists who had come to Lexington to celebrate the centennial of the beginning of the Revolution and were wandering around looking for food, the town having long since run out of provisions.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913. 2: 707.

Tuttle, David Ainsworth. List of buildings erected in Lexington. Presented to the Lexington Historical Society, April 4, 1904. On file at Lexington Historical Society, Lexington, MA.

S. Lawrence Whipple, personal communication 1998.

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

**INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET**

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BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town  
Lexington

Property Address  
23 Revere St.  
Area(s) Form No.

	760, 761
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Roll #5, Negative #24



Roll #17, Negative #21