

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

42/213 [] [] [] 2261

Town/City: Lexington

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Photograph



Left side and front (façade) elevations

Address: 5 Rolling Lane

Historic Name:

Uses: Present: residential

Original: residential

Date of Construction: ca. 1880-1910

Source: style, owner

Style/Form: Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder:

Exterior Material:

Foundation: fieldstone

Wall/Trim: wood shingles and trim

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

Façade fenestration, door surround, rear additions (E – L 20th c)

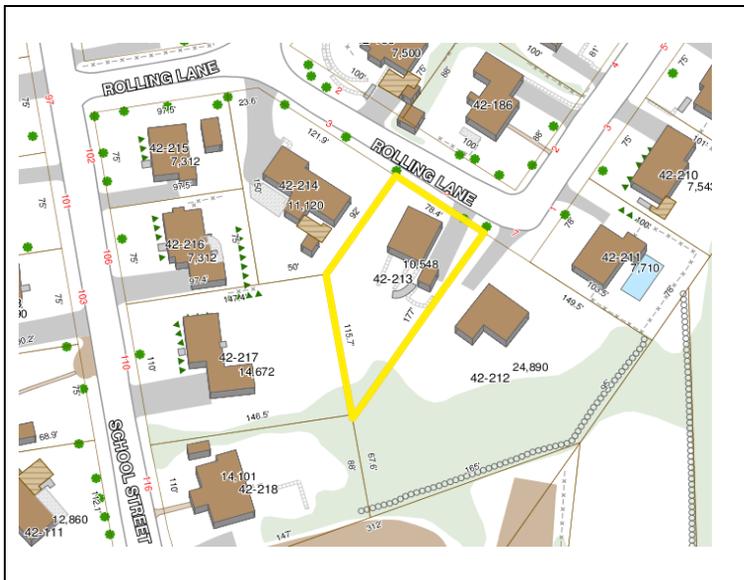
Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 0.24

Setting: Short residential side street off busy connector road of School Street, near intersection of main thoroughfares of Marrett Road and Lincoln Street (Five Corners). At base of homogeneous hillside subdivision constructed in 1950s.

Locus Map



Recorded by: Wendy Frontiero

Organization: Lexington Historical Commission

Date (*month / year*): September 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

LEXINGTON

5 ROLLING LANE

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	2261
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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

5 Rolling Lane occupies a small trapezoidal lot that slopes down gently behind the flat front yard of the house. The house is set close to the street with modest side setbacks. The yard is maintained mostly in lawn, with a paved driveway on the left side of the house and a straight concrete walk from the street to the front door. The building consists of a 2 ½ story main block with a two-story cross-gabled addition across the rear and a one-story, shed-roofed extension behind that.

The rectangular main block rises from a fieldstone foundation to a steeply pitched, side gable roof with slender gable returns. The rear additions rise from poured concrete foundations. There are two exterior chimneys: one centered on the right side elevation of the main block and one offset on the left side elevation of the rearmost addition. Walls are clad with wood shingles and trimmed with a simple bed molding at the eaves. Fenestration is varied, with diverse patterns of double-hung sash and picture windows. The front façade is three bays wide, with an ornamental doorway centered between large, multi-pane picture windows combined with a 4/4 light side sash. The entrance has flat pilasters, no frieze board, and a well-detailed cornice molding. The second floor contains large paired windows in each of the outer bays.

The left side (driveway) elevation contains one window centered on each floor of the main block, one smaller window on each floor of the two-story addition (which projects slightly beyond the main block), and a single-leaf door on the one-story addition. The right side elevation has a small 8-light casement window on each side of the chimney at the second floor. The two-story addition has one 1/1 window on each floor of this elevation, and the one-story extension has paired casement windows at the first floor.

The rear elevation reveals the two-story addition with a broad cross-gable roof spanning the entire width of the main block; it has three regularly spaced windows across the second floor and a smaller window centered in the half story. The one-story, shed-roofed extension spans the entire first floor of the two-story addition, with a bank of seven large, fixed-glass windows across the rear façade. The partially exposed basement at the rear elevation has a center door flanked by a pair of small casement windows on each side.

Well maintained, 5 Rolling Lane is an idiosyncratic, relatively early house in a neighborhood that was mostly developed much later. The house is notable for its vertical proportions, steep roof shape, varied and unusual fenestration, Classically-inspired but truncated front door enframingent, and architectural evolution over many decades, which has left a steady record of significant yet compatible change.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

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.

Located near the Five Corners area of south Lexington, where Marrett Road, Lincoln Street, and School Street intersect, 5 Rolling Lane represents Lexington's evolution from an agricultural community to a residential suburb. South Lexington was primarily an agricultural area until the mid 20th century, well connected to Lexington Center and nearby towns. Lincoln Street was established as a secondary radial highway from the center of Lexington by the early 18th century. School Street was laid out and had its eponymous school by 1830. This portion of Marrett Road (between Spring Street and Massachusetts Avenue) appeared between 1853 and 1875, giving rise to the present Five Corners configuration.

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New transportation systems established in the early 20th century opened up large areas of rural land in Lexington for residential and commercial development. Street railway service began in Lexington in 1900, replaced by bus lines in 1924). Two state roadways were designated in the town, including Marrett and Middle streets as the Route 2A bypass in the 1920s, and parts of Mass. Ave., Woburn Street, and Waltham Street as components of an early Route 128 in the 1920s and 30s. By 1921, 35 new residential subdivisions were being developed in Lexington. Small commercial centers were established to service the expanding population at various cross roads, including Five Corners.

Suburban development was later abetted by the construction of the circumferential Route 128 superhighway in 1950. The small subdivision immediately north of Rolling Lane was developed with modest Colonial Revival houses in the 1950s.

Rolling Lane, known as Robbins Avenue until 1965, does not appear on the historic maps through 1906, nor does a building appear in the vicinity of today's #5 through that time period. The nearest property owners identified on the 1906 map were both located on the east side of School Street: T. F. Scannell near the corner of Lincoln Street, and A. H. Locke close to Massachusetts Avenue. No information is presently known about either of these individuals. The present owner reported tracing the property back to the 1890s, when it was part of a farm that included an apple orchard.

Changing street address systems make it difficult to track residents at 5 Rolling Lane. It appears to be the only house on the street through at least 1955. The earliest known residents are Frank E. and Marie (Mary) Bougie (both French Canadian by birth), who moved here between 1907 and 1910 with their young daughter. Frank initially worked as a carriage builder and painter. He expanded into automobile painting by 1913; by 1926, he was working only with automobiles. A business advertisement in 1913 included "Dealer in Poultry and Eggs" as an aside to Bougie's business interests; a 1915 advertisement (see attached) added furniture repair to his repertoire.

Marie Bougie died between 1935 and 1940; Frank remained in the house through at least 1945. In 1955, it was occupied by John H. Lambert, a painter, his wife Rose D., and Marie Mason (perhaps Rose's mother). Robbins Avenue became Rolling Lane in 1965, when the property was occupied by Sarah R. Coldmeyer, Elizabeth A. Watson, and Lewis H. Watson, Jr., an engineer.

Further research is recommended to document the building's early owners and appearance, and possible agricultural associations of the property.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- Ancestry.com. Massachusetts, Birth Records, 1840-1915 [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2013. Original data: Massachusetts Vital Records, 1840-1911. New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts. Massachusetts Vital Records, 1911-1915. New England Historic Genealogical Society, Boston, Massachusetts.
- Historic maps and atlases: Walling 1853; Beers 1875; Walker 1889; Stadly 1898; Walker 1906; Sanborn 1908, 1918, 1927, 1935, 1935/1950.
- Lexington Comprehensive Cultural Resources Survey, Period and Area Summaries.
<http://historicsurvey.lexingtonma.gov/index.htm> Accessed Jul 23, 2015.
- Lexington Directories: 1899, 1906, 1908-09, 1913, 1915, 1918, 1922, 1926, 1934, 1936.
- Lexington *List of Persons*: 1935, 1945, 1955, 1965.
- Massachusetts Historical Commission. "MHC Reconnaissance Survey Town Report: Lexington." 1980.
- Personal conversation with owner, Aug 19, 2015.
- U.S. Census: 1910, 1940.

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SUPPLEMENTARY IMAGES



Front (façade) and right side elevations



Right side and rear elevations



F. E. BOUGIE
Carriage Builder and
Auto Painter

Carriage and Auto Trimming



House Furniture Repaired, Painted, Varnished
WORK CALLED FOR AND RETURNED

Of SCHOOL ST., Robbins Ave., LEXINGTON, MASS.
FIVE FORKS
Telephone Connection

Advertisement in 1915 Lexington directory