

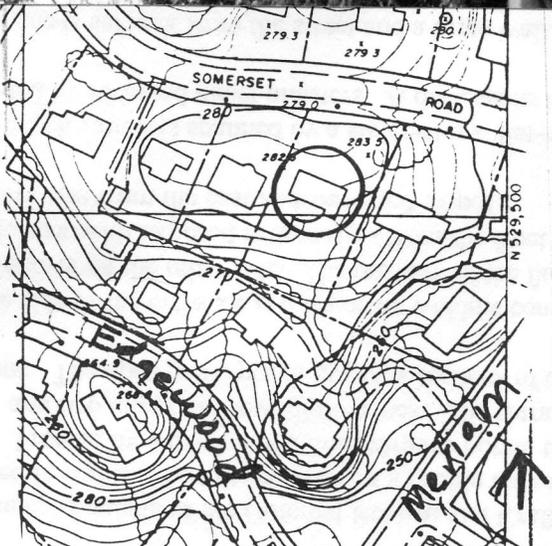
FORM B - BUILDING

Assessor's number
56/97

USGS Quad
Boston N.

Area(s)

Form Number
1131



Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village) Upper Meriam Hill

Address 43 Somerset Road

Historic Name Clarence and Edith Shannon House
(Shannon-Marek House)

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1913

Source Lexington Valuation Lists

Style/Form Craftsman/Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation stone

Wall/Trim stucco/wood

Roof asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

none

Major Alterations (with dates)

Condition good

Moved no yes Date

Acreeage 19,977 SF

Setting early 20th century residential neighborhood

Recorded by Lisa Mausolf

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month/year) May 2000

BUILDING FORM (43 Somerset Road)

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION

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

Combining elements of the Colonial Revival and Craftsman styles, 43 Somerset Road is a two-story, 3 x 2 bay dwelling sheathed in stucco. The house rests on a rubble foundation and is capped by an asphalt-shingled, hip roof with overhanging eaves. Fronted by a brick stoop and entrance porch, the center entrance contains a varnished wooden door with two vertical panels and two upper bullseye glass panes. The entrance is flanked by full sidelights and capped by a semi-elliptical fan with keystone. The open gable porch displays sections of entablature, supported by Roman Doric columns, echoed by pilasters.

On one side of the entrance is a tripartite window consisting of a central 6/1 window flanked by two 4/1 sash with a pair of 6/1 windows on the other side. The upstairs of the facade is punctuated by three individual 6/1 windows. A wood-shingled shed dormer with exposed rafters rises from the front roof slope and contains four 2 x 3-light casement panels. Two stucco chimneys rise from the east and west roof slopes.

The west elevation is spanned by a single-story, flat-roofed sunporch. The single-pane windows rest on a stucco base and are separated by recessed panel pilasters. A deck spans the rear elevation.

The house is setback from the street and a brick walk leads to the front door. A large maple tree shades the front yard.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Describe 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.

See 60 Meriam St.,
MHC # 388

This land was originally part of the 400-acre Francis B. Hayes estate which extended from Adams and Hancock Streets to Woburn Street (the house known as Oakmount or The Castle was built in 1884 and demolished in 1941). This portion of the Hayes estate was laid out in houselots in 1912.

This house was constructed in 1913 for Dr. Clarence Shannon, a dentist, and his wife Edith. The 1913 Valuation list indicates that Clarence Shannon of 454 Mass. Ave. paid taxes on just the lot but the following year was assessed for a house valued at \$8,000. The Shannons remained in the house until about 1925. The house was acquired by Leroy and Mildred Marek about 1930 and they continued to own the property until 1984. The present owners purchased the property in 1993.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Lexington Assessors Records.
Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Valuation Lists, various dates.

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