

FORM B - BUILDING

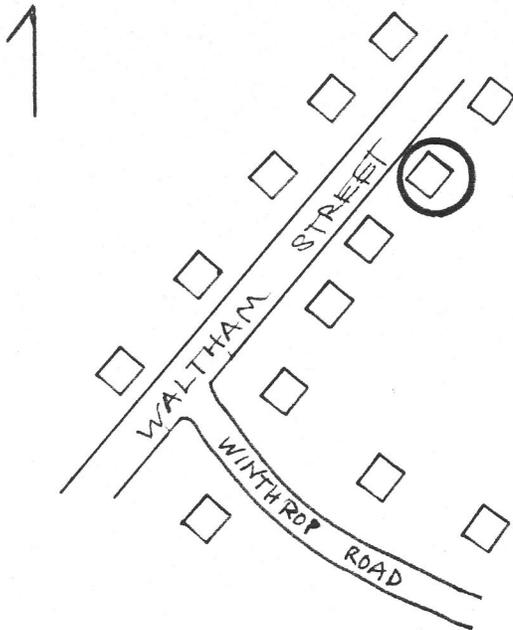
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
	458



City Lexington
 Address 194 Waltham Street
 Name Charles H. Wiswell House
 Present use Private House
 Present owner Frank J. Opie
 Description:
 Date 1895
 Source
 Style Queen Anne Shingle Style / Colonial Revival

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE
 USGS Quadrant _____
 MHC Photo no. _____

Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric Shingle -brown
 Outbuildings (describe) _____
 Other features See back

Altered _____ Date _____
 Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size:
 One acre or less 10930 ft.² Over one acre _____
 Approximate frontage 50'
 Approximate distance of building from street 30'

6. Recorded by Grady, Schwemmer; Anne Grady
 Organization Lexington Historical Commission
 Date April 14, 1976; April, 1984

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____

Original use _____

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u> x </u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Stone foundation

2 curved bays to front, with adamesque garland detail above 2nd floor 2 dentils-
original windows 1/1 curved glass.

4 heavy brackets support wide roof over hang

Gable end delineated by 2 strong cornice or overhan elements

Front porch w clustered columns & railing

Decorative course on chimney

Side 2 storey bay window

Rt. side entrance w porch diamond like side lights (also on door)

curved pediment w dentils windows over door

2 chimneys

This house and the two to the east on Waltham Street were built between 1895 and 1898 on part of the Holmes estate opened up for building by Francis H. Holmes, a real estate dealer. By 1899, Charles Henry Wiswell owned the house. Wiswell, a teacher, served on the school board from 1898 to 1903.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

This is one of /^{the} late nineteenth century houses in Lexington with Adamesque exterior ornament. Decorative swags trim the frieze on the second level of the two gently-bowed bay windows on the facade. Whether these are made from wood or composition has not been ascertained.

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 776. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Lexington Minute Man, August 9, 1895.

1889 atlas

1898 atlas

1906 atlas

1894 Directory

1899 Directory

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
194 WALTHAM ST.

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

Area(s) Form No.

	458
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

It appears that the original owner of this house (formerly known as 54 Waltham St.) was Charles H. Wiswell (b. 1852), a teacher, who became a Lexington resident in 1890 and served on the school board from 1898 to 1903. In May 1897 the *Lexington Minute-man* reported that Chas. H. Wiswell had bought on Waltham Street. Charles H. Wiswell was still living here in 1928 and his daughter Katherine Wiswell was living here in 1932.

In 1942 George Kalinas, an auto mechanic, was living here.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, May 14, 1897.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
April 2009