

FORM B - BUILDING

|      |          |
|------|----------|
| AREA | FORM NO. |
|      | 574      |

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



OWN Lexington

Address 945 Waltham Street

Historic Name Ebenezer R. Smith House

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

Date 1829

Source Proceedings of the Lexington Historical Society II(1900):108

Style Federal

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric wood shingle

Outbuildings garage; tool shed

Major alterations (with dates) two-story rear ell

front porch

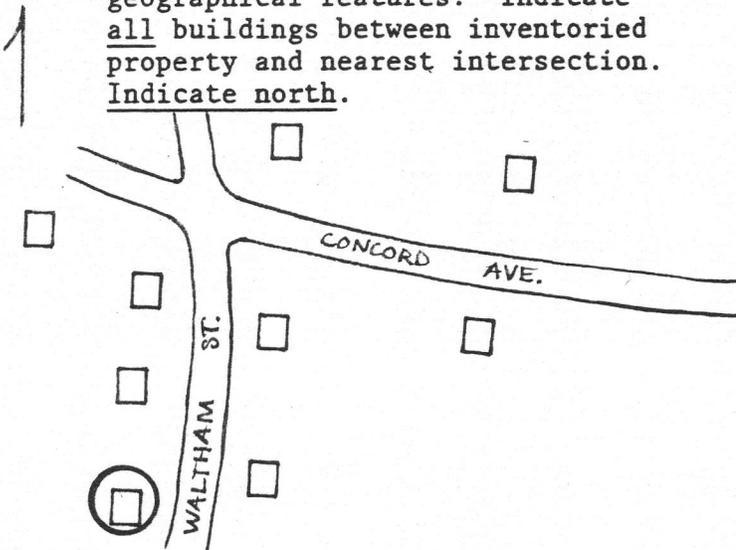
Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 42800 ft.<sup>2</sup>

Setting On a slight rise above a very busy street; abuts a commercial nursery to the north and an Elks Lodge to the south.

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 Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date February, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This house is one of the surviving Federal farmhouses in the vicinity of Concord Avenue and is very similar in profile to those at 389 and 353 Concord Avenue. Like them it has a five-bay facade and two rear chimneys (the one on the north side has been shortened) but, perhaps because it is in only fair condition, preserves more of its exterior finishes: the three original windows on the north end of the second floor and the cornice molding on the gable ends. The north side of the house has one window on each story while the south side

(see Continuation Sheet)

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

Unlike the other Federal farmhouses in the Concord Avenue area, this one was built on the site of a house that pre-dated the Cambridge-Concord Turnpike. The original house was reportedly an integral lean-to that faced due south. It was owned by ~~Edmund Munroe~~ <sup>a Carpenter and</sup> occupied by Stephen Locke and, in 1828, sold to Ebenezer R. Smith, a distant cousin of the Ebenezer Smith who owned the house at 389 Concord Avenue. In 1829, Ebenezer R. Smith tore down the old house and built this one. He still owned the house in 1852 but by 1876, the year he died, it was owned by Stephen L. Wright, a farmer, and the latter was still the owner in 1906.

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

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, Volume II, p. 641. Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913.

Lexington Historical Society, Burr Church Collection.

Smith, A. Bradford. "Kite End"(1891). Proceedings of the Lexington Historical Society II(1900):108.

1830 map

1852 map

1876 map

1906 map

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

|                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|
| Community:<br>Lexington           | Form No:<br>574 |
| Property Name: 945 Waltham Street |                 |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE

has two. The entryway, porch and rear ell are obviously later additions; a 1923 photograph indicates that the ell, which has a fieldstone foundation in contrast to the granite of the original house, has had many modifications since that time.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom