

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
M	469

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



n Lexington

ress 11 Winthrop Road

toric Name Frank D. Brown/Henry S.

per House Henry S. Piper House

: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION:

e between 1902 and 1906 1905

ource map research, family history
MM, 8/26/1905

Style Colonial Revival / Craftsman

Architect attributed to Willard Brown

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings _____

Major alterations (with dates) _____

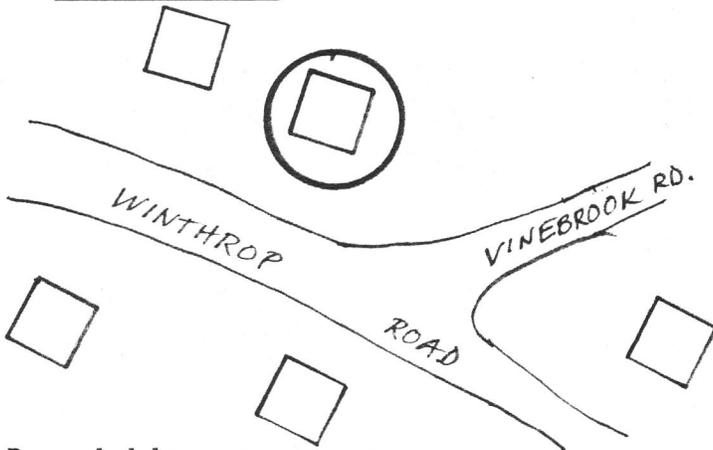
Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 21205 ft.²

Setting Residential street of substantial houses built at the turn of the twentieth century.

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 Anne Grady

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date April, 1984

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

This is an early house by Lexington's most original early twentieth century architect, Willard Brown (he designed Cary Memorial Library, for example). The house shares characteristics with other Brown houses of the pre-World War I period: broad eaves, exposed rafters, emphasis on horizontality through various devices (in this case flared, broad eaves and string course between floors), and porch with characteristic configurations of pediment at the entry and square posts with simple shaped brackets (c.f. 19 Oakland Street). Fifteen and 20 Winthrop Road are also by Brown.

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

Frank D. Brown, an insurance agent, was Willard Brown's oldest brother. Willard Brown began practise in 1902. In the next four years he designed houses in Lexington for himself and two of his brothers (20 and 28 Meriam Street are the others). The information that this house was built by F.D. Brown comes from reminiscences by Willard Brown's daughter. It may well be that Frank Brown gave his brother the commission, but did not live there immediately, for Henry S. Piper, a traveling salesman, is listed as the occupant in 1906.

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

Hudson, Charles. History of the Town of Lexington, revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society, Volume II, p. 70. Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1913.

Shoenhut, Sarah Emily Brown. "List of Houses in Lexington Designed by Willard Brown." Lexington Historical Commission files.

1906 atlas

1906 Directory

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Town
LEXINGTON

Property Address
11 WINTHROP RD.

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

Area(s) Form No.

M	469
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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

Archival research suggests that this house was constructed for Henry D. Piper, not Frank D. Brown, as was suggested in the 1984 survey form. (There is no evidence that Frank Brown ever lived here. He did live at 15 Winthrop for several years around 1915.)

On April 8, 1905 the *Lexington Minute-man* reported that

Mr. Henry D. Piper of Arlington, has purchased a lot of land on Winthrop road adjoining the Walter J. Luke place [*see 9 Winthrop Road*] of Mrs. M.E. Downer of Lexington, and proposes erecting a residence for the occupancy of his family.

A few months later, the house was nearing completion, as reported in the August 26, 1905 paper:

Mr. Henry Piper, recently of Arlington, now of Lexington, is superintending a house for the occupancy of his family, that is in the process of construction on Winthrop road. The house is in the hands of the plasterers. The exterior shows a pleasing façade broken by gables and dormer windows with a broad piazza on the front. A good sized hall opens on the left into a large living room and an imposing open fire place well placed. To the right is the dining room with a recessed alcove for the buffet. The domestic department contains the usual model modern equipment in conjunction with the butler's and kitchen pantries. A dormer window on the stair landing adds to the picturesque effect of the hall, while four good sized chambers, toilette room, bath, and closets all help to make it a house replete in all respects. Mr. Piper has built and occupied two houses in the Jason street district, Arlington, which he has disposed of at advantageous sales, but he thinks this, his latest venture, is more nearly as his home should be.

Henry Piper occupied the house until about 1913. By 1915 Harold and Dorothy Hall were living here; he worked in Boston. Mrs. Hall was still living here in 1928. In 1932 the occupant was Enos Harrington.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Lexington Directories, various dates.
Lexington Minute-Man, April 8, 1905; August 26, 1905.

Supplement prepared by:
Lisa Mausolf
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