

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

15-170	Boston North	AF	BLM.70
--------	-----------------	----	--------

Town/City: Belmont

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Waverley

Address: 190 Lexington Street

Historic Name: Nathaniel T. Bartlett House

Uses: Present: multiple family dwelling

Original: single family dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1870

Source: deeds, Betts: 97

Style/Form: Transitional Greek Revival-Italianate

Architect/Builder: Nathaniel T. Bartlett (likely)

Exterior Material:

Foundation: concrete-faced

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

1926? – new front porch

1991 – addition to south, vinyl siding, new windows

date? – enclosure of porch on north side of ell

Condition: fair (due to siding)

Moved: no yes **Date:**

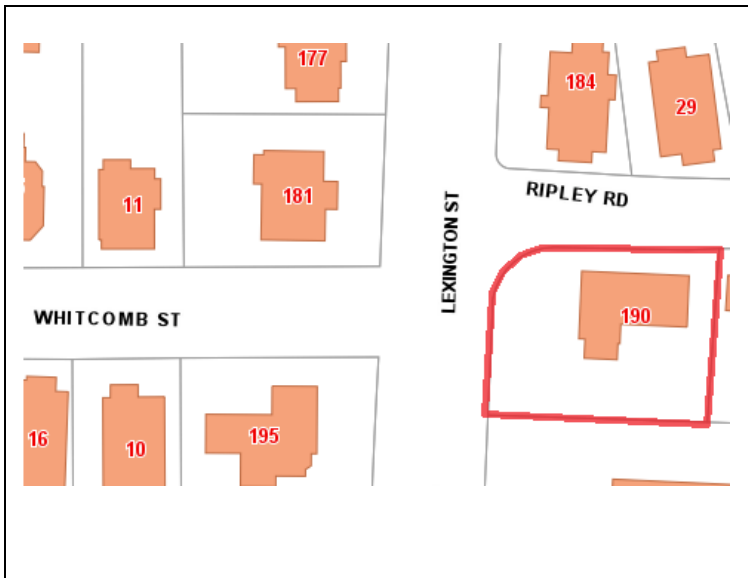
Acreage: 8,939 SF

Setting: corner lot with hedge along street

Photograph



Locus Map (north at top)



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Belmont Historic District Commission

Date (*month / year*): July 2014

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

BELMONT

190 LEXINGTON STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

AF

BLM.70

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

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

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

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

Located at the southeast corner of Lexington Street and Ripley Road, 190 Lexington Street is a two-story, 3 x 1-bay, side-gabled dwelling constructed ca. 1870 which displays some elements of the Greek Revival and Italianate styles. The house is capped by a gable roof with overhanging eaves that are without returns and two interior brick chimneys rise from the ridge. Any cornerboards which once existed have been lost due to the application of vinyl siding and any brackets have been removed. The entrance displays a late Greek Revival influence; it is flanked by full sidelights and capped by a transom with pilasters on either side of the door. Maps indicate that originally the entire façade was fronted by a single-story porch. Building Department records indicate that in 1926 the "old veranda" was repaired and made smaller. The present single-bay porch with plain posts would seem to correspond to that alteration. The windows now contain vinyl 1/1 sash replacing what were formerly 2/2 sash with raised lintels that have been removed. Also in 1991 a single-story addition was constructed on the south end of the house. The rear ell appears to be original to the house although it has been altered over the years by the enclosure of what was originally an open porch on the north side.

The level corner lot is framed by a hedge along both street frontages with other large bushes and plantings as well.

The house at 190 Lexington Street was originally one of a pair of similar dwellings. The other (adjacent) house at 198 Lexington Street was demolished about 1995 to make way for a new church.

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.

As stated in the previous (1982) inventory form, this house was one of a group of homes built at this end of Lexington Street and represents one of the first successful sales of land by the Waverley Land Company, a real estate development firm which purchased 300 acres in 1851 and subdivided it, attempting to market Waverley as a residential suburb. Lexington Street was an early Waverley thoroughfare which connected the railroad depot at Waverley Square to Watertown. This land remained part of Watertown until 1859.

The house appears to have been constructed ca. 1870. In 1867, N.T. Bartlett purchased two of the 100' x 200' lots on Lexington Street from the Waverley Land Company. In 1874 tax records list Nathaniel T. Bartlett as the owner of 42,223 SF along with the house at 190 Lexington Street. The property shows in his name until 1894 (Betts: 97). The house was one of a pair of similar houses (the other house formerly stood at 198 Lexington but was demolished about 1995). Nathaniel T. Bartlett (1827-1900) was born in Plymouth and was employed as an architect/civil engineer. The 1880 and 1883 Boston Directories indicate that he had an architectural office at 28 School Street in the city and lived in Waverley. It seems likely that he designed the house.

In 1894 Everett C. Benton who lived at 207 White Street purchased the former Bartlett property from its new owner, R.H. Gove. In 1906 Benton combined his land on White Street with the Bartlett lots and laid out a new street through the center of the property from White Street to Lexington Street. Initially the street was called Bartlett Street; in the 1920s it was renamed Ripley Road.

Warren Tucker, a stock broker, was renting the house at 190 Lexington Road around 1910. Thomas and Elizabeth Wilson were the owner occupants from about 1926 into the 1950s. He was an accountant. Percy and Margaret Kipp purchased the house in the 1950s and the family still owns it today.

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

BELMONT

190 LEXINGTON STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

AF	BLM.70
----	--------

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Ancestry.com.

Beers, F.W. and Co. *County Atlas of Middlesex, Massachusetts*. New York: Beers, Ellis, and Soule, 1875.

Belmont Directories, various dates.

Belmont: The Architecture and Development of the Town of Homes. Prepared for the Belmont Historic District Commission, 1984.

Betts, Richard B. *The Streets of Belmont and How they Were Named (2nd edition)*. Belmont: Belmont Historical Society, 2012.

Frost, C.J. *Map of the Proposed Town of Belmont*, 1853.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. MACRIS database.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, MA

Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1915, 1922, 1931, 1949.

Stadley, George W. *Atlas of the Towns of Watertown, Belmont, Arlington, and Lexington*. 1898.

Town of Belmont, Building Department files.

U.S. Census, various dates.

Walker, G.H. *Atlas of Middlesex County, Massachusetts*. Boston: G.H. Walker, 1889.

Williams, Judy. Inventory forms for 190 & 198 Lexington Street, 1982.