

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA

FORM NO.

A³-c

56-1



Belmont

Address 10 Juniper Road

Historic Name Ruth Hornblower Atkins

Greenough Churchill House

Present Habitat Institute for the Environment

Original Private residence

DESCRIPTION:

1913

Source Building Department Records

Style Colonial Revival

Architect Chapman and Frazer

Exterior wall fabric Brick

Outbuildings Attached library, 1-story wood with Adamesque Ionic-columned-curved bay with 5 full-length windows and separate four-car garage.

Major alterations (with dates) _____

Rear dormers probably added

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 27 acres

Setting 27 acres of wooded farmland

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.

see attached

Recorded by Kay Flynn

Organization Boston University

Date October, 1982

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The 2½ story 5-bay facade house was built in 1913. There are 3 dormers on the front facade, which is all original - expansive in scale with blocky massing. The slate roof projects slightly with subtle eave brackets. A brick string-course and widely-spaced and shuttered fenestrations emphasize the horizontality. The modest Palladian portico with Ionic columns is the pronounced academic motif borrowed to insure the stated classical influence found in Colonial Revival homes of the 2nd phase. This Classical motif is echoed in the library that was added.

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

This house is unique in Belmont in that it has an equally important 26-acre preserve of natural and landscaped "habitat" open space surrounding it. The property joins that of the Mass. Audubon Society's Highland Farm Sanctuary, making an expanse of over 70 acres of protected land.

The house was built in 1913 as a wedding present for Ruth Hornblower when she married into Belmont's Atkins family. The Henry Hornblowers were an Arlington family and part of the Hornblower/Weeks firm in Boston. At that time, Henry Hornblower owned all the property between Somerset and Fletcher. This 26-acre estate was part of the land. Ruth Hornblower Atkins remarried in the 1920's, Chester Noyes Greenough, Dean at Harvard College, who died in the 30's. It was then called "The Cedars". In 1947, Ruth married Lawrence Churchill but was widowed once more. She was always involved in guidance of young people and nature, and in 1951, published Guidance of American Youth (Harvard University Press). Her estate was a private home until 1970, and Ruth Churchill (an ardent birder) designed and planted diverse "habitat" areas such as the pond, meadow and pine woods to attract wildlife. A variety of native and exotic trees and shrubs are along the trails. "Habitat" is a non-profit organization which manages the 26-acre preserve and operates environmental education programs which utilize the land as a teaching resource.

(Continued)

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

Bert A. Roens, Executive Director, "Habitat", Interview August 2, 1982.
"Habitat Institute for the Environment" Course Brochure.

Community: Belmont	Form No: 56-1
Property Name: 10 Juniper Road	

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

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):

This house and setting possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association that are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad pattern of our history by contributing to the environmental issues through educational facilities and preserved natural resources. Ten Juniper Road, therefore meets Criteria A of the National Register of Historic Places.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

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PT B

3.187

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POOL

2.75A

TYLER RD.

RD.

FLETCHER RD.

WINN'S BROOK

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