

FORM B - BUILDING

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| AREA X2 | FORM NO. 55-1 |
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



Belmont
127 Somerset Street
 Historic Name _____

Present Private residence
 Original Private residence

DESCRIPTION:
1939

Source Building Department Records

Style English Cottage

Architect Nelson Chase

Exterior wall fabric Stucco and wood

Outbuildings _____

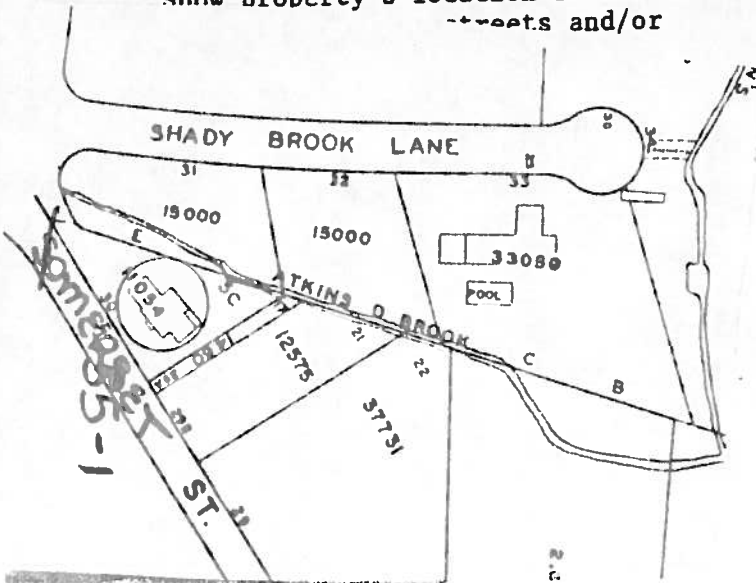
Major alterations (with dates) _____

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 1/2 acre

Setting rustic, natural setting

Sketch map
 Show property's location in relation
 to streets and/or



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.)

This 1½-story, 1939 Revival of the English Cottage is a personalized example of the continuation of the "Romantic Movement" which developed on Belmont Hill in the late 19th century.

It is a true reflection of its prototype of the all-masonry rural farm houses of England with romantic associations of rustic simplicity exhibited by its picturesque composition and setting - asymmetrical massing, low chimney and a single gable hugging the ground with natural landscaping tying the cottage closely to the land. (Continued)

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

(See Holiday Farm Area Form Inventory # X²)

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

Merrill, Ginette do B., "Redtop and the Belmont Years of William Dean Howells and His Family", Harvard Library Bulletin, Vol. XXVIII, #1, January, 1980.

BELMONT

FORM NO:

55-1

Property Name: 127 Somerset Street

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

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (Continued):

The central focus is the gable with its ribbon-like grouping of four standard windows on the first floor, a French door and wooden-balustraded balcony on the second floor. A simple hand-carved wood lintel over the front door is attributed to Nelson Chase, a prominent local artist and designer of the house.

The collaboration of Walter Piston - composer - and Kathryn Nason - artist - with Nelson Chase in designing this house make it a significant personal vision of the Revival of the English Cottage.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom