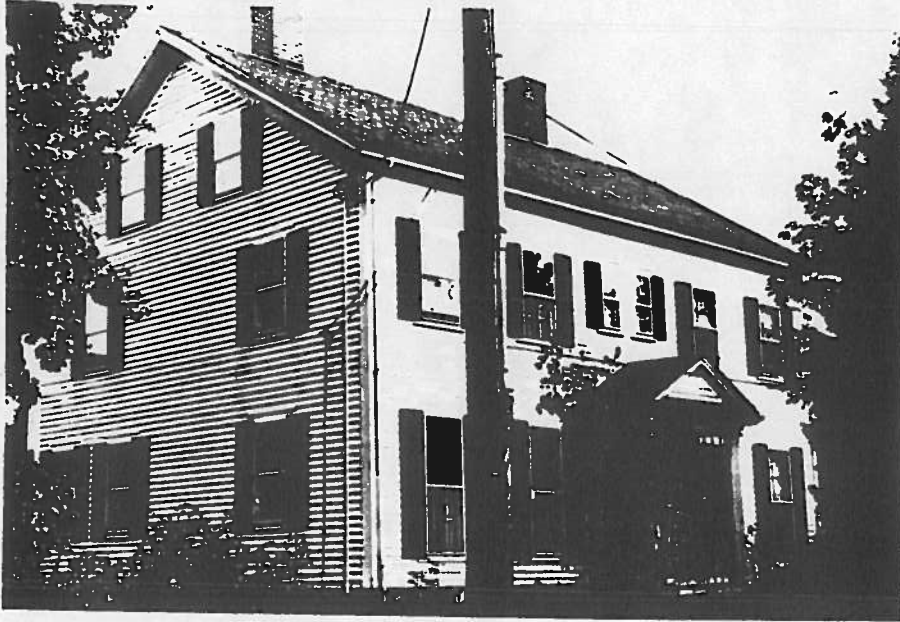


FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA <u>5</u>	FORM NO. <u>7-1</u>
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City Belmont

Address 163 Oakley Road

Historic Name Old Chenery House

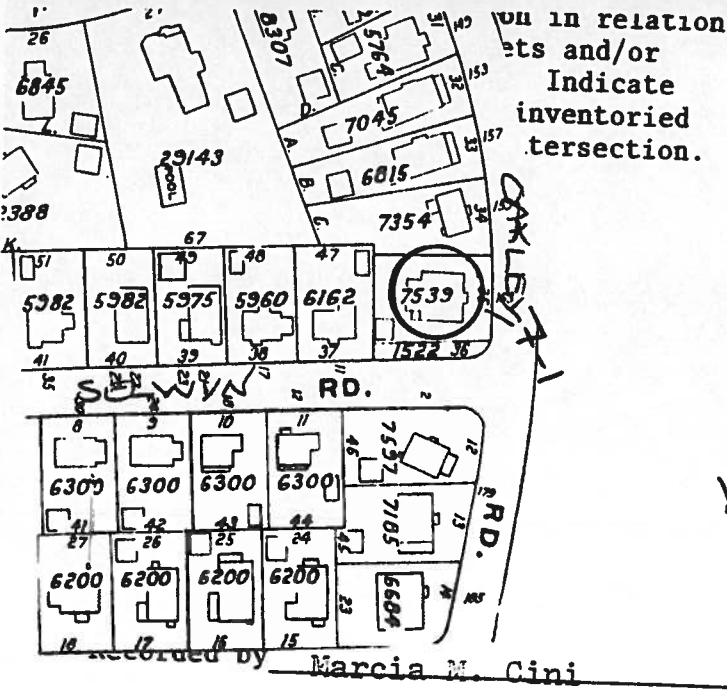
Present Single family dwelling

Original Same

DESCRIPTION:

pre-1853

Source Appears on 1853 town map



Style Greek Revival

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric clapboard

Outbuildings garage

Major alterations (with dates) _____

Large rear ell (date unknown)

Moved Yes Date c. 1923

Approx. acreage 7539 sq. ft.

Setting Regularly set back behind a hedge on a lightly planted corner lot at the western edge of the Jackson Estate subdivision

Organization Boston University

Date September 1982

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The architectural significance of the Old Chenery House derives from its relatively early date for Belmont. Its main facade, judging from its 5 bay center entry symmetry, elongated first floor windows, twin inset chimnies and lightness of scale, suggests an early Greek Revival period date (1830s?). Additions to the rear (the house has on occasion housed two families) and garage have somewhat compromised the visual integrity of the property.

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 derives its historical significance from its association with the early years of a prominent and prosperous Belmont farming family. Built in a popular style for its period, it originally stood facing Washington Street on the site of the Winthrop L. Chenery Middle School. Its move, which was occasioned by the construction of the school in 1923-24, was typical of the fate of most nearby pre-1900 houses. Thus its current location, which was chosen by the Town Clerk who subsequently made his home in the Old Chenery House for many years, is a reflection of an early 20th century land use pattern.

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

Betts, Richard. The Streets of Belmont and How They Were Named.
Chenery Family File. The Belmont Room, Belmont Public Library.
Marshall, Mrs. John. Interview, September, 1982.