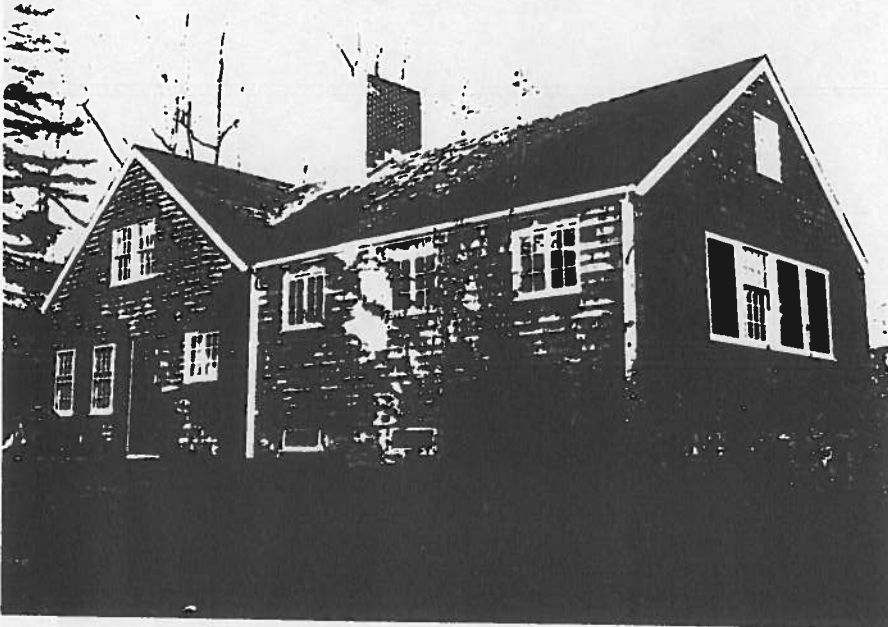


FORM B - BUILDING

AREA <i>NONE</i>	FORM NO. <i>52-6</i>
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



Belmont

Address 257 Prospect Street

Historic Name _____

Original Use Antique-Marsh Cider Mill

Present Use Private residence

Original Use Cider Mill

DESCRIPTION:

1929

Source 1875 Beers County Atlas of Middlesex, MA.

Style Reconstructed Cider Mill to residence.

Architect Elizabeth Cope Aub

Exterior wall fabric Natural shingle

Outbuildings Larger house was built later on property.

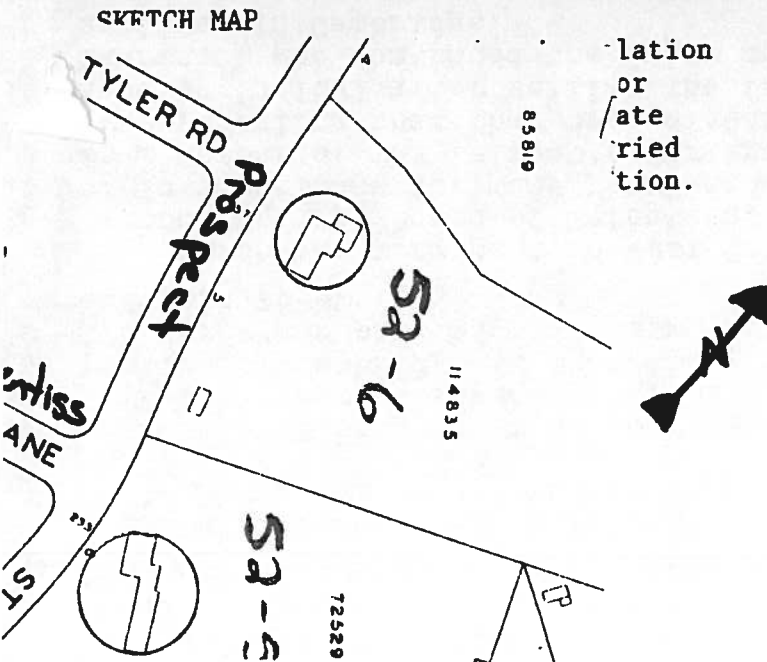
Major alterations (with dates) 1928 -

Reconstruction with old materials on original Cider Mill foundation.

Moved _____ Date _____

Approx. acreage 5 acres

Settings situated in original proximity to the street on a natural landscaped lot.



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.)

Dr. and Mrs. Edward D. Churchill purchased the Prentice homestead property in 1928. They found that many of the old timbers had rotted. The house and outer buildings were torn down and a new home was constructed out of the paneling, wide pine boarding, gunstock posts, bricks and usable beams and doors on the foundation of the Cider Mill. The "Aub Fireplace" is the focal point of a large square living room. The ceiling, floor and gunstock posts are from the original house. Newl posts from the old stairway were incorporated into the stair leading

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

In 1770, the first of four generations named George Prentice established his homestead and Cider Mill on "Cambridge Rocks", the northwest portion of Cambridge at that time. Upon his death, he left an estate of 176 acres and part of this farm was sold to the Honorable Mansur Warren Marsh in 1834.

Marsh was prominent in West Cambridge and was later Chairman of Belmont's first Board of Selectmen. He remained Chairman and Moderator of Town Meetings for many years and was influential in Belmont's history. As a member of the Belmont's Farmers' Club, he did not approve of shade trees, feeling that they bred disease by keeping sunlight from the house. He died in 1891 after selling the farm to his son-in-law, George H. Lawrence, who continued the dairy and market-garden business, although he lived in Cambridge.

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

- "The Prentice-Marsh Cider Mill", Belmont Citizen, July 25, 1974.
- Frank E. French Research Files of Belmont Historical Society.
- 1875 Beers County Atlas of Middlesex, MA.
- 1853 Map of Belmont.