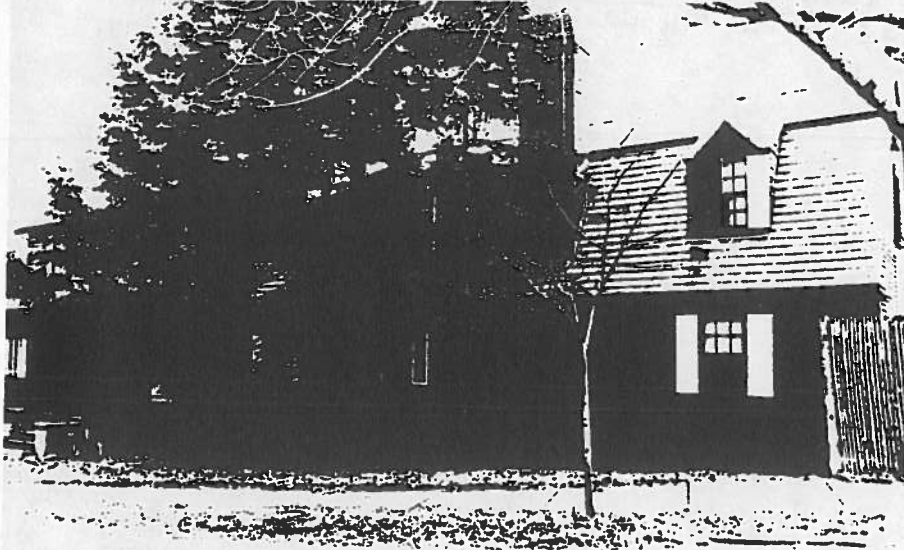


MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108



Belmont
3 Pequossette Road
 ic Name Middlesex House
 riginal Single family dwelling
 resent Same
 hip: Private individual
 Private organization
 Public
 riginal owner Jay Rogers Benton

PTION:

cross streets and other buildings
or geographical features.
Indicate north.

date 1914

Source Kahane (See bibliography)

Style Bungalow type/ Shingle

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Wood shingle

Outbuildings _____

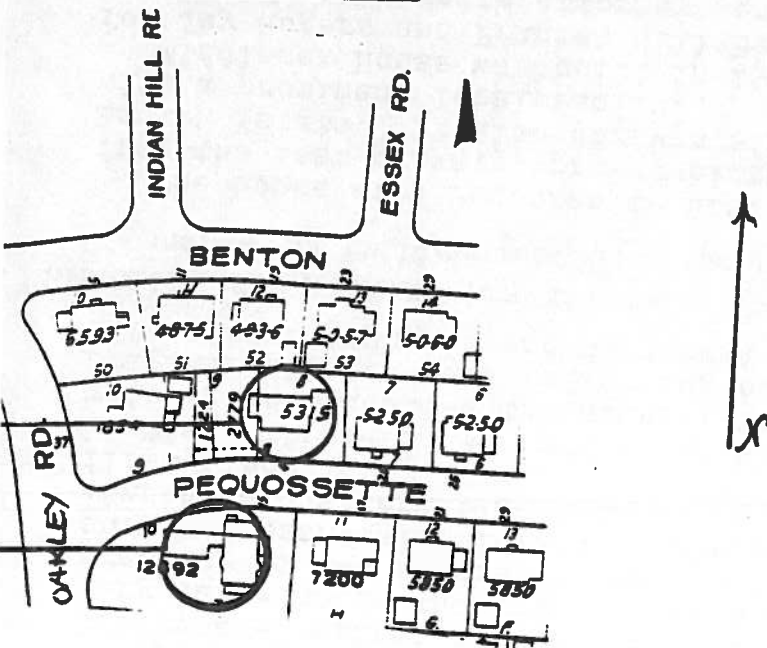
Major alterations (with dates) 1926

large westerly addition

Moved No Date _____

Approx. acreage 12,692 sq. ft.

Setting Heavily obscured by large
plantings on a long, shallow lot at
the corner of Oakley Road and Pequossette
Road (which postdates its construction



Recorded by Marcia M. Cini

Organization Boston University

Date September 1982

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (describe important architectural features and

evaluate in terms of other buildings within community)

The original house at 3 Pequossette Road, a transitional Shingle Style/Craftsman-inspired design, is an extreme and unusual example of a very large house incorporated within the bungalow form. (Note the presence of two floors behind the long sloping roofline.) It appears to survive essentially intact. Enhancing details include several custom windows and alternating wide and narrow shingle row placement on the first floor.

The gambrel-roofed 1926 Colonial Revival addition to the west façade, which almost doubles the size of the house to 14 rooms, dilutes the original design while reflecting current taste. (Note change in directional emphasis and different dormer and roof treatment.)

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

The house at 3 Pequossette Road represents an important survival from the last private, pre-development stage of the Cushing-Payson-Benton Estate. It also derives significance from its association with a prominent local family.

Middlesex House was built in 1916 at the edge of the Benton Estate for Jay Rogers and Frances Hill Benton upon the occasion of their marriage. Benton, Massachusetts Attorney General during the administration of Governor Channing Cox, was the son of Colonel and Mrs. Everett C. Benton of the nearby Cushing mansion itself. The growth of the Jay Benton family to seven members was the impetus for the addition of a new living room wing to Middlesex House in 1926. By that time, surrounding land had been sold off by Col. Benton and rapidly filled with the smaller Colonial Revival and Craftsman-inspired houses on Benton and Pequossette Roads.

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