

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA	FORM NO.
R2	25-8



Belmont

Address 323 Waverley Street

Historic Name William H. Goodridge House

Present Single-family residence

Original Single-family residence

DESCRIPTION:

Construction c.1876

Source Belmont Historical Society Records

Style French Second Empire

Architect -

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings -

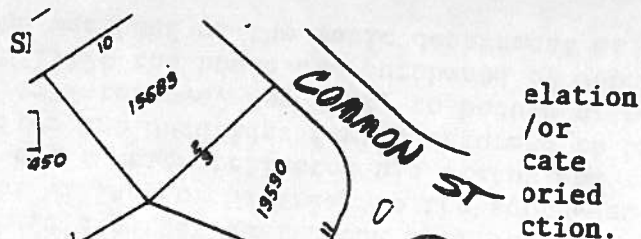
Major alterations (with dates) -

Moved - Date -

Approx. acreage less than 1 acre

Setting Curving section of Waverley

Street near Common amidst other historic houses



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Recorded by Judy Williams

Organization Boston University

Date November, 1982

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

No. 323 Waverley is an excellent example of the French Second Empire style of the 1870s; it is a quaint house in a picturesque setting. One and a half stories and three bays, the house is compact but well detailed and embellished with ornament. The central entrance is accented by a bracketed portico which extends into a gabled dormer above. Decorative treatment of this gable includes a pair of arched windows which recall the Italianate style. Roofline variation includes two small dormers which flank the central gable, side bay window dormers, a pair of matching chimneys, and a cupola in the center of the roof. Details are drawn from different stylistic motifs, including the

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

The site for this house was originally part of the Thomas Clark estate, sold to developer George H. Smith in 1871. Smith sold this lot to William H. Goodridge of Cambridge who built a house here in 1876. Goodridge was among a group of well-to-do Boston suburbanites who came to Belmont in the 1870s because it provided an attractive rural setting within an easy commute to Boston by train. This house was among the first to be built in the area. Advantages of the location were its convenience to the train depot at Wellington Hill and the recent (1873) completion of Waverley Street to the Village of Waverley to the southwest. Goodridge built the house at 323 Waverley in a style which reflected his status and rural ideals. One of the house's later tenants, after the Goodridge family returned to Cambridge, was John R. Olin who came to Belmont from Watertown, New York, to become principal of Belmont High School in 1899. Later, in 1912, the house was purchased by John Adams Loud, an organist, pianist and composer who was head of the music department at Milton Academy.

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

"The William H. Goodridge House", The Belmont Citizen, 1974.

Beers' Map of Belmont, 1875.

Betts, Richard B. The Streets of Belmont and How They Were Named. 1974.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: <i>Belmont</i>	Form No: <i>25-8</i>
Property Name: <i>Goodridge House</i>	

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

Architectural Significance:

paired brackets under the eaves, the jagged edging along the cornice of the roof bays, and the stick style decorative treatment of the central gable. Although Mansard in style, the house is somewhat eclectic in design and is similar in this way to No. 331 Waverley. It is well-preserved, with original narrow clapboards and slate roof. An outstanding Belmont building.

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