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6-4

Belmont

s 368/370 Common Street

ic Name The Poole House

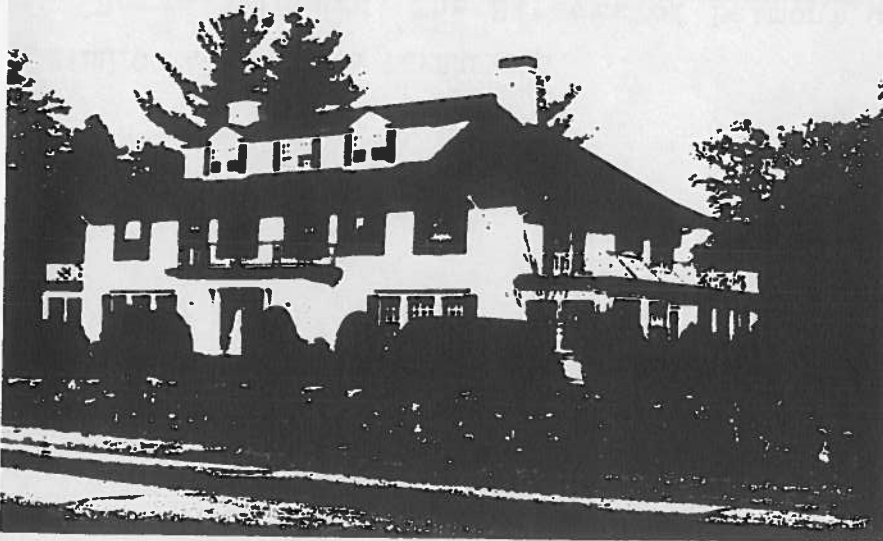
iginal Two family dwelling

resent Same

hip: Private individual^S
 Private organization

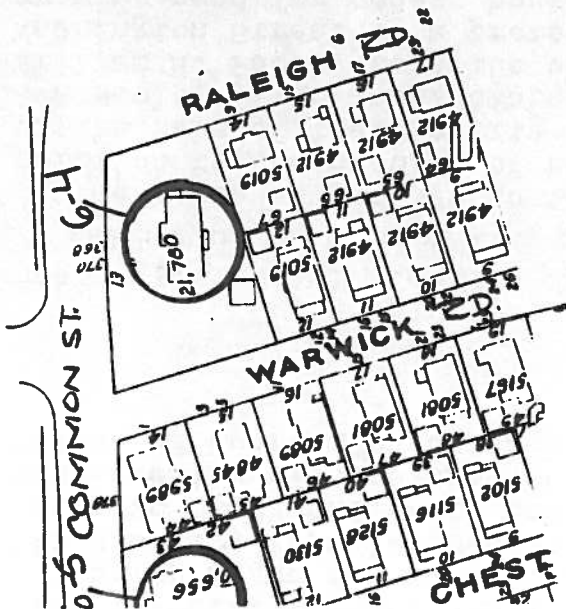
Public

original owner Fanny Poole



SKETCH MAP

Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings or geographical features. Indicate north.



DESCRIPTION:

Date 1917

Source Building permit

Style Craftsman-inspired

Architect J.W. Beale

Exterior wall fabric Stucco

Outbuildings Garage

Major alterations (with dates)

Moved No Date

Approx. acreage 21,780 sq. ft.

Setting Accented by formal foundation plantings and deeply set back behind stone retaining wall and lawn on a very generous Common Street lot

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)

This elegant double house is unique in Belmont. Its generous, pleasing proportions, ample and well maintained lot, and continuing integrity argue for its recognition. Its dignity is enhanced by its symmetry (smaller second floor window is probably an alteration), dramatic black and white color scheme, broad roofline, and recessed double entry with columns in antis. Details such as inset chimney tiles and sunroom balustrades add refinement.

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 368/370 Common Street represents one man's unusual solution to the problem of housing his own family on the occasion of the sale of their estate to a real estate developer. In 1916, Ava Poole, piano manufacturer and son of former State Representative William H. Poole, sold the orchard acreage between Payson Park and Washington Street to a promoter interested in satisfying Belmont's growing need for modest housing. He did, however, reserve the entire block between Warwick and Raleigh Roads on Common Street upon which he built this double house to share with his mother.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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