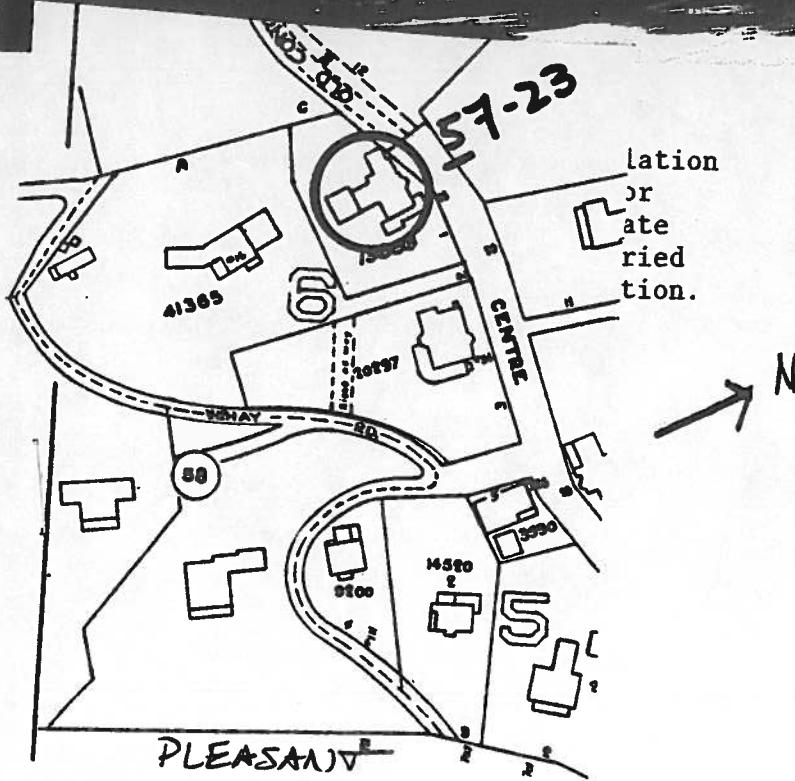
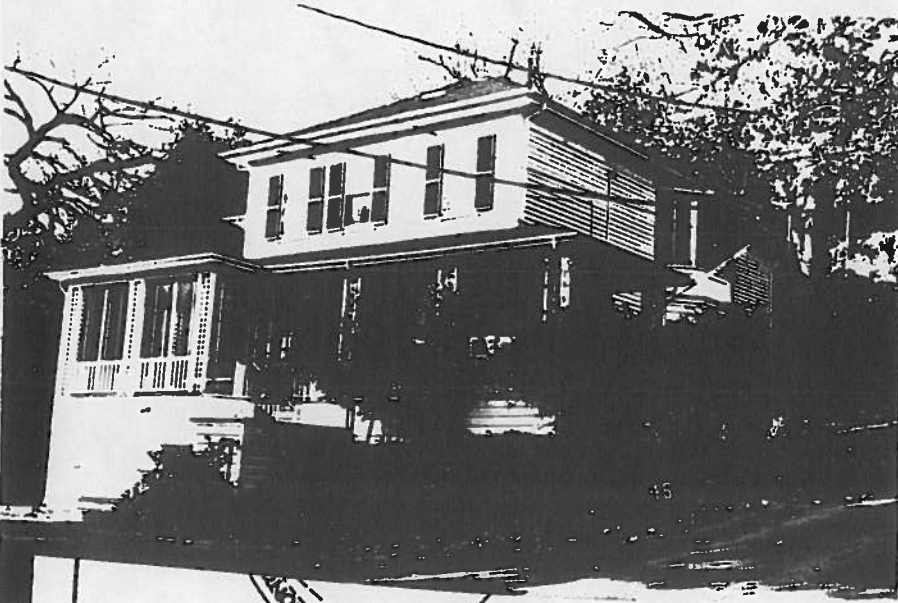


FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

AREA W ²	FORM NO. 57-23
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Recorded by Judy Williams
 Organization Boston University
 Date November, 1982

Belmont
Address 46 Centre Avenue
Historic Name Robbins House

Present residence
Original residence

DESCRIPTION:
c.1876-1884

Source Atlas and Historical Soc. Records

Style Italianate

Architect

Exterior wall fabric clapboards

Outbuildings -

Major alterations (with dates) -

Moved - Date -

Approx. acreage less than 1 acre

Setting Historic Centre Avenue area with
 homes dating from 1823-1900. Steep
 hillside location.

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

No. 46 Centre Avenue is a vernacular Italianate house which appears to have received some early 20th century alterations but which remains in good condition. A clapboarded, hipped roof structure, the house has wide eaves over a boxed cornice and a three bay, sidehall entry facade. A two-tiered window bay appears on the east facade. Decorative features are spare but include consoles under the window sills and pilasters and sidelights that enframe the entry. A veranda porch appears to be a later addition.

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 is part of the late 19th century residential development along the old Concord Turnpike route of Centre Avenue. (See Area Form #W² for a complete description of the development of this area.) It was probably built between 1875 and 1884, the latter year being the date of property acquisition by Chandler Robbins. Robbins had purchased the Orchard Hill Boarding School property, which has closed its doors in 1878. After his marriage in 1883, he exchanged the Orchard Hill Dormitory for his brother-in-law Charles Hunt's land on Centre Avenue, including the lot for his house. No. 46 may have been built by Chandler Robbins at this time although he was also in the process of remodeling the Orchard Hill Schoolhouse for his own use. The house is shown as the property of Mrs. C. B. Robbins in 1898, so we may assume that Robbins either acquired it from Hunt in 1884 or built it himself shortly after.

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

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

Beers Map of Belmont, 1875.

Belmont Town Atlas, 1898.