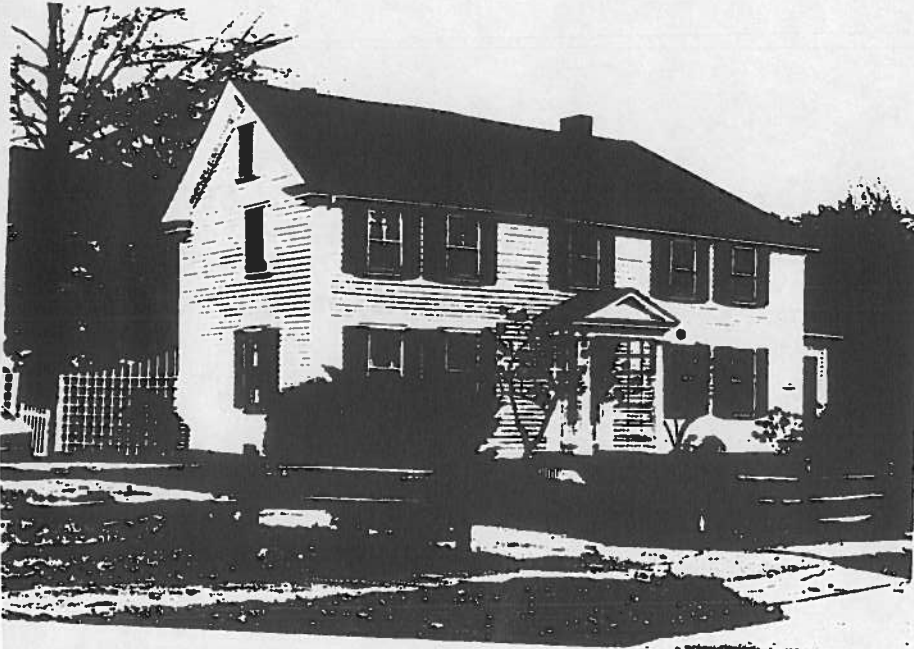


FORM B - BUILDING

AREA	FORM NO.
D	6-2

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108



Belmont
51 Washington Street
The Barron Homestead

Present Single family dwelling
Original Same

DESCRIPTION:
Unclear (see Architectural Significance)
Source Observation suggests early
Early Georgian

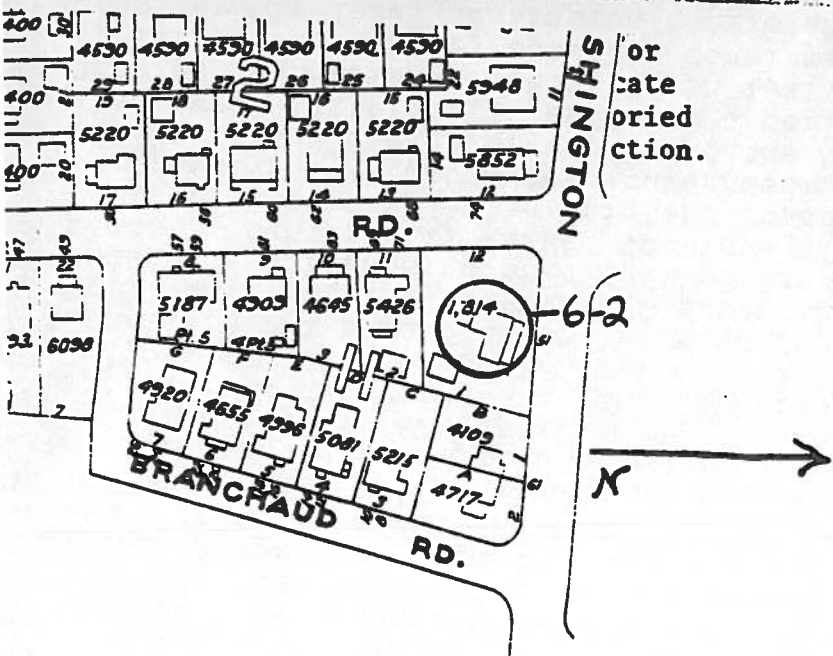
Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric Clapboard
 Outbuildings Garage

Major alterations (with dates) Major
interpretive restoration c. 1941,
sunporch, entry, kitchen added

Moved Yes Date c.1906

Approx. acreage 11, 814 sq. ft.

Setting Behind a white picket fence
and vigorous perennial border garden
on a generous corner lot between the
Poole and Branchaud Road subdivisions



Recorded by Marcia M. Cin.
 Organization Boston University
 Date September 1982

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The architectural significance of the Barron Homestead lies in its very early date for Belmont and the excellent condition in which it is currently being maintained. Its pleasant garden setting makes a considerable contribution to its current successful appearance.

The date 1668 is attributed to the house. In that year Ellis Barron, Watertown selectman, constable and builder, owned a house on this house's original Common Street site. He deeded it to his son Timothy in 1706. Visual inspection suggests that the oldest portion of the house now visible dates from the early years of Timothy Barron's ownership. Its regular

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

The historical significance of the Barron Homestead lies in its association over almost three centuries with a number of Watertown's and Belmont's most prominent families. The Barron family of housewrights (see Architectural Significance) were succeeded as owners in 1717 by wealthy Col. Jonas Bond, a Watertown representative to the General Court whose extensive holdings covered most of Payson Park. In the Bond family for almost a century, it passed to that of Daniel Tainter Sr. and Jr. in the early 19th century. The Tainters conducted a market garden business and were active in Belmont town government (after incorporation in 1859). The Harts and Chenerys, who moved the house from Common Street c. 1906, also owned it before it suffered a period of severe neglect from which Charles MacFarland rescued it in 1941. The house, which now sits surrounded by early 20th century suburban development, has since been the object of considerable local admiration consistent with a renewed interest in history and older homes.

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

"The Barron Homestead". The Belmont Citizen, June 14, 1973.
Betts, Richard. The Streets of Belmont and How They Were Named.
Marshall, Mrs. John. Interview, September, 1973.

The Barron Homestead--Architectural Significance

five bay facade, high second story and relatively small windows, and steep roof pitch support this view. Interior framing features (absence of lamb's tongues, beams tenoned into gunstock corner posts at different levels, etc.) tend to corroborate it as well.

The Barron House, after a move followed by a period of serious neglect, underwent an extensive interpretive restoration by Charles J. MacFarland in the 1940s. In order to recapture the spirit of the house's earlier days, Mr. MacFarland moved original materials around within the house (dining room panelling) and introduced old elements from other locations (sills).

The house is currently well cared for by Mrs. John Marshall, owner for 30 years. Notable features include five fireplaces (one in the study has an early 19th-century cast iron insert), wideboard floors, raised field panelling, gunstock corner posts and unboxed beams (except in the later kitchen to the rear).