

FORM B – BUILDING

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

28-79	Boston North	AJ	BLM.735
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
 MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
 220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
 BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Town/City: Belmont

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Waverley

Photograph



Address: 15 Chandler Street

Historic Name: William Murray House

Uses: Present: single family dwelling

Original: single family dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1900

Source: maps

Style/Form: Colonial Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: fieldstone

Wall/Trim: wood shingles, clapboards

Roof: asphalt shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:

none

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

2009 – new windows

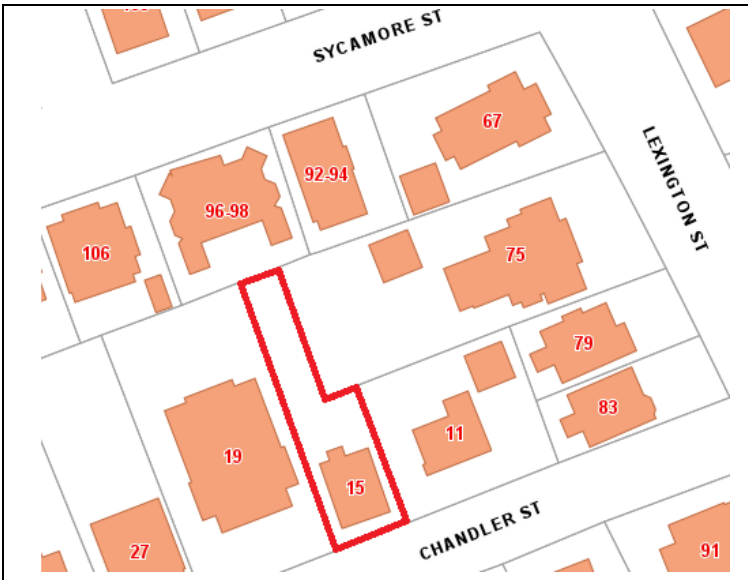
Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: 4,500 SF

Setting: mixed residential neighborhood

Locus Map (north at top)



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Belmont Historic District Commission

Date (*month / year*): November 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

BELMONT

15 CHANDLER STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The 1 ½-story house at 15 Chandler Street is a modest and well-preserved early 20th century structure displaying elements of the Colonial Revival style. The mix of building materials and textures includes a fieldstone foundation, a first floor sheathed in wood clapboards and a wood-shingled gambrel facing the street. Underneath the gambrel the two-bay recessed porch displays tapered porch posts and a stick balustrade. The sidehall entrance retains an original wooden door with upper glass. A three-sided bay window is located adjacent to the front entry with another on the east wall. Windows were originally double-hung 2/1; a number were replaced in 2009. Shed dormers punctuate the side of the asphalt-shingled roof.

The 4,500 square foot lot has narrow frontage to the street and includes a small front yard with a large oak tree.

The house is a good example of a modest Colonial Revival dwelling found in early 20th century subdivisions throughout town. The house across the street at 20 Chandler Street was built according to the same plan but has been sided.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This is part of a large parcel of land on the west side of Lexington Street that was laid out into lots by Otis E. Hunt and Edmund C. Cutter in 1872 (Middlesex County Registry of Deeds Plan Book 20A, Page 6). Chandler and Burnham Streets are shown on the 1875 map but no houses had yet been built. In 1888 Jacob Wilbur, a land developer, bought the lots on the north side of Chandler Street.

There is no house on this site by the time of the 1898 map. By the time of the 1905 Sanborn map, the house had been constructed as had its twin across the street at 20 Chandler Street. The house at 15 Chandler Street was apparently built as a rental property. In 1907 Adelaide Smart, widow of Ephraim was living here. Walter Whitehill, the manager of a laundry, was the tenant in 1910.

By 1918 the house was owned and occupied by William H. Murray and his wife Mary. He worked as a letter carrier and they raised five children here. William Murray was still living here in 1944. Soon thereafter the house was acquired by Henry and Mary Mulloy who sold it in 1950 to Katherine Hosie (Book 7548, Page 185). Her husband James was an insurance agent. The property was sold by the James Hosie estate in 2009 (Book 53480, Page 449).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

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Stadley, George W. *Atlas of the Towns of Watertown, Belmont, Arlington, and Lexington*. 1898.
Town of Belmont, Building Department records.
U.S. Census, various dates.
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