

FORM B – BUILDING

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

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

27-46	Boston North	AG	BLM.269
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Town/City: Belmont

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Waverley Square

Photograph



Address: 29 Hawthorne Street

Historic Name: Doyle House

Uses: Present: multi family dwelling (condos)

Original: single family dwelling

Date of Construction: ca. 1890

Source: maps

Style/Form: Queen Anne

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: stone

Wall/Trim: vinyl siding

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
garage (1994)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

1967-demolish barn/garage

1977- installation of vinyl siding

1990-converted to two family dwelling

Condition: fair (due to siding)

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Acreage: less than one acre

Setting: Tree-lined older residential street in Waverley Square

Locus Map (north at top)



Recorded by: Lisa Mausolf

Organization: Belmont Historic District Commission

Date (*month / year*): July 2015

INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

BELMONT

29 HAWTHORNE 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 house at 29 Hawthorne Street is a modest example of the Queen Anne style which has lost some detail and integrity due to the installation of vinyl siding. The basic 2 ½-story gablefront is given an asymmetrical massing by the placement of a three-sided bay window topped by pediment on the front of the west half of the façade. An additional 2 ½-story cross gable with clipped corners on the first floor projects from the west elevation. A single-story porch fronts the façade and wraps around part of the west wall with a pediment rising from the roof at the northwest corner. There are several turned posts which appear to be original but the decking and balustrade are modern replacements. The predominant window is a 6/1 replacement sash with modern sliding units on the east elevation. An original diamond-shaped window with Queen Anne-style colored glass survives in the front gable. Due to the building's conversion to two-family use, the original sidehall entrance has seen the addition of a second front door and a circular metal staircase has been added toward the rear of the west elevation. Among the details which no longer survive but are mentioned in the previous (1978) inventory form are a bracketed cornice, a sunburst in the porch pediment and an oval stained glass window to the left of the original front door.

The house is set on a low knoll with railroad ties acting as a retaining wall along the sidewalk. A paved driveway extends to the west of the house terminating at a side-gabled, three-car garage constructed in 1994. The property's original barn/garage was demolished in 1967.

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 lot was part of a larger parcel of land sold by the Waverley Land Company to D. Gilbert Dexter in 1873. Gilbert lived in Cambridge, was active in real estate and was the founder/editor of the *Cambridge Tribune* newspaper. What is now 29 Hawthorne Street was lot 51 of Dexter's subdivision (Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 23, Plan 4). Hawthorne Street was petitioned for, laid out, and accepted in 1876. There is no house on this location at the time of the 1889 Walker map but had been built by the time of the 1898 map and is labeled "Doyle". The 1896-7 town directory indicates that Andrew and Frank Doyle were living here as early as that year.

The 1900 U.S. Census for Belmont indicates that Andrew Doyle, age 68, was a day laborer born in New Brunswick, Canada who immigrated to the U.S. in 1862. In 1900 he was living with his wife, J. Hannah, and children Andrew, Frank, Hannah and Alice. Both sons worked as machinists. The 1907 town directory indicates that Miss Hannah Doyle was then living here along with Mr. and Mrs. Henry Magoon. In 1918 Edmund Doyle, a plumber, was living at 29 Hawthorne with his sisters Alice and Hannah. In 1943 the property was sold by the estate of Alice Doyle to Vincent Lynds of Arlington (Book 6694, Page 571). Soon thereafter ownership was transferred to Alexander Lynds. Alexander ("Sandy") Lynds was a contractor and lived here with his wife Jane. The house was sold by Alexander's estate in 1963 to Leslie and Joanne Miller (Book 10410, Page 359). The property was owned by John and Ruth McCarthy from 1966 to 1994 and later by James McCarthy until 2002. It was converted to condos in 2004.

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