

# FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

58-11-A	Boston North		BLM. 806
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**Town/City:** Belmont

**Place:** (*neighborhood or village*):  
Snake Hill

**Address:** 737 Pleasant Street

**Historic Name:** Antonio Mastrobuono House

**Uses:** Present: single family dwelling

Original: single family dwelling

**Date of Construction:** 1973

**Source:** building permit

**Style/Form:** Contemporary pre-fab

**Architect/Builder:** Techbuilt design;  
George Weymouth, builder

**Exterior Material:**

Foundation: concrete

Wall/Trim: vertical boards

Roof: asphalt shingle

**Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:**  
none

**Major Alterations** (*with dates*):

**Condition:** good

**Moved:** no  yes  **Date:**

**Acreage:** 23,621 SF

**Setting:** wooded setting, base of Snake Hill Road

## Photograph



## Locus Map (north at top)



**Recorded by:** Lisa Mausolf

**Organization:** Belmont Historic District Commission

**Date** (*month / year*): May 2016

# INVENTORY FORM B CONTINUATION SHEET

BELMONT

737 PLEASANT STREET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

AU

BLM.806

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.*

Located at the base of Snake Hill Road, 737 Pleasant Street is an example of a prefabricated Contemporary house manufactured by the Techbuilt Homes of North Dartmouth, Massachusetts. Although constructed in 1973 it continues the basic principles of the designs developed by company founder Carl Koch in the 1950s. Capped by a low pitch gable roof with widely overhanging eaves the two-story house is of post-and-beam construction with modular walls sheathed in cedar vertical boards. The predominant window is a casement unit with larger expanses of glass found on the wide gabled ends. The lack of ornamental detail is characteristic of the Techbuilt form. A deck fronts the long east elevation. In keeping with the Techbuilt philosophy the house is set into a natural and wooded landscape. The house at 737 Pleasant Street is also located down the hill from Carl Koch's significant Snake Hill development of contemporary houses including his own home at 77 Snake Hill Road (BLM.458).

First introduced in 1953 the Techbuilt house was a low cost, semi-factory-built modern style house which utilized modular construction. Examples of houses constructed utilizing modular house plans and/or building systems by Techbuilt, Deck House and other companies are located throughout town and found popularity during the 1960s and 1970s. Other similar houses included the Urner House at 533 Pleasant Street which is a Deck House with Deck House garage (1963) and the Hazen House 36 Dunbarton Road (1973).

## 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.*

Town building permit records indicate that in June 1973 Antonio Mastrobuono of 25 Woodland Road was given a building permit to erect a Techbuilt house. The builder was George Weymouth of Woburn and the estimated cost of the house was \$35,000. Antonio and Diana Mastrobuono had purchased the lot of land from Reuben and Helen Brower in 1973 (Book 12437, Page 327). The Mastrobuonos sold the house in 1976. It was owned briefly by Alfred Ford and by David and Deborah Bourbeau from 1977 to 1984. Arthur Wolfson purchased the property in 1984 and still owns it today (Book 15436, Page 506).

## BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Ancestry.com

*Belmont, Massachusetts: The Architecture and Development of The Town of Homes.* Belmont Historic District Commission, 1984.

Belmont Directories, various years.

Betts, Richard B. *The Streets of Belmont and How they Were Named* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Belmont: Belmont Historical Society, 2012.

Koch, Carl. *At Home with Tomorrow.* New York: Rinehart & Co., Inc., 1958.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. MACRIS database.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, MA

Town of Belmont, Building Department files.