

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	BLM.192
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Widow Perry Cottage
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	7 Alexander Ave
<b>City/Town:</b>	Belmont
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	
<b>Local No:</b>	34-15
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	1830
<b>Architect(s):</b>	
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Federal
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture
<b>Area(s):</b>	BLM.CG: Pleasant Street Historic District BLM.CY: Pleasant Street Historic District
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Nat'l Register District (06/12/1979); Local Historic District (09/10/1996)
<b>Building Materials(s):</b>	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Wood; Wood Clapboard



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site ([www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125  
[www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc)

This file was accessed on: Friday, February 17, 2017 at 5:44: PM

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
294 WASHINGTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02108

#192 BLM.192

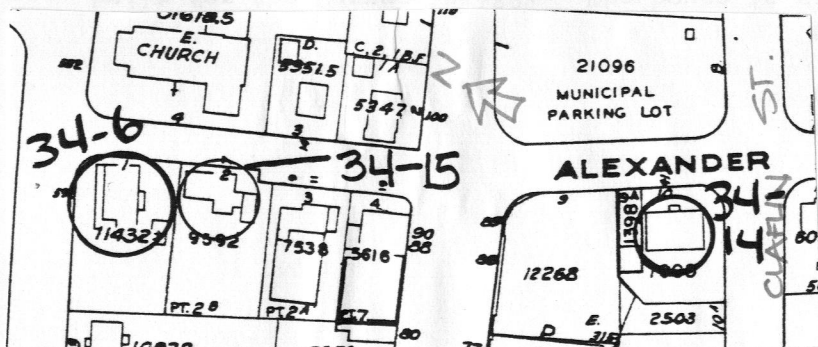
AREA <u>F4</u>	FORM NO. <u>34-15</u>
-------------------	--------------------------

CG NRDS 6/12/79  
CY LHD-5/1/75  
9/10/96



SKETCH MAP

Show property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection. Indicate north.



Recorded by Christopher Forbes Nash

Organization Boston University

Date November 1982

Belmont

Address 7 Alexander Ave.

Historic Name Widow Perry Cottage

Present Residence

Original same

DESCRIPTION:

1830

Source Middlesex Co. Registry of Deeds

Style Federal

Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric Clapboards

Outbuildings \_\_\_\_\_

Major alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Approx. acreage 9,592 sq. ft.

Setting Single-family houses

(Staple additional sheets here)

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

The Widow Perry Cottage is unique to the district, serving as the only example of a Federal period Cape type house. The 5-bay, double-chimneyed 1 1/2-story house has a centrally-placed entry with sidelights and fanlight, shielded by a small latticed entry porch. The simple gable roof has two pedimented dormers and an ell on the southern elevation. Quoins complement the original clapboard siding. A small shed is located at the rear of the compact lot.

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

Important as a smaller version of another Pleasant Street house built by the Belmont family, the Perrys. The Widow Perry Cottage was built in 1830 for Rebecca Perry, who had it designed as a home for herself and her young daughter, after her husband's death in 1828. The first floor plans for this building are a duplicate those made for the larger house at 568 Pleasant Street ( Inv. #                      ), built for the Perrys in 1828. The house is situated in an area in which residences of other Perry Family members were concentrated. Perry family descendants owned the house until 1918.

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

Middlesex Co. Registry of Deeds

Belmont Historic District Commission Files.



FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

NR BLM.192

In Area no. X	Form no. 162
------------------	-----------------



1. Town Belmont, Mass. 02178

Address 7 Alexander Avenue

Name Widow Perry Cottage

Present use Residence

Present owner Misses Ruth S., Sybil A. and Anne F. Stone

3. Description:

Date 1830

Source Middlesex Reg. of Deeds

Style Cape Cod

Designed by Rebecca Perry  
Architect (first owner and occupant)

Exterior wall fabric wood clapboard

Outbuildings (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Other features \_\_\_\_\_

Altered \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size:

One acre or less XX Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

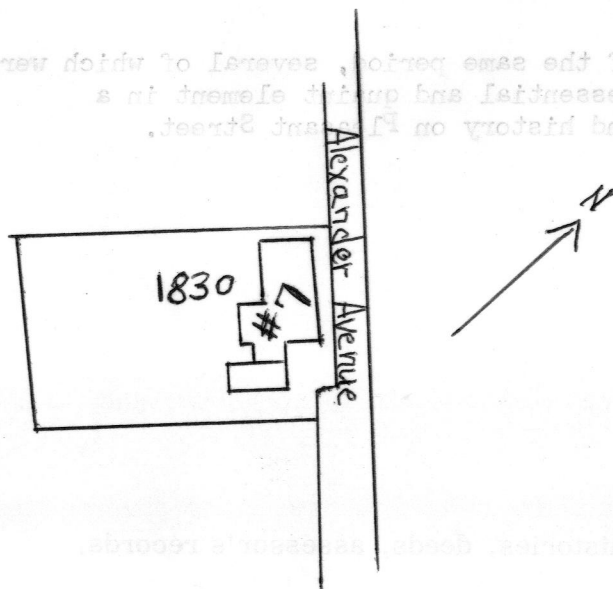
Approximate frontage \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate distance of building from street \_\_\_\_\_

6. Recorded by F.M. Hundley  
Belmont Historic District  
Organization Commission

Date 10/2/74

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE  
USGS Quadrant \_\_\_\_\_

MHC Photo no. \_\_\_\_\_

(over)

OCT 18 1974

MASS. HIST. COMM.

7. Original owner (if known) Rebecca Perry

Original use Residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates \_\_\_\_\_

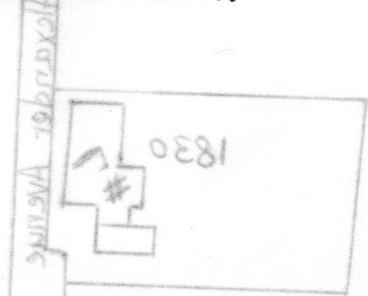
8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	_____	Conservation	_____	Recreation	_____
Agricultural	_____	Education	_____	Religion	_____
Architectural	<u>XX</u>	Exploration/ settlement	_____	Science/ invention	_____
The Arts	_____	Industry	_____	Social/ humanitarian	_____
Commerce	_____	Military	_____	Transportation	_____
Communication	_____	Political	_____		
Community development	_____				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

This home was built in 1830 for Rebecca Perry, who designed it as a home for her and her young daughter after her husband's death in 1828. The first floor plans for this house are a duplicate of the plans for the larger house at 568 Pleasant St., built for the Perrys in 1828. The house is situated in an area in which homes of other family members were located. Perry family descendants owned the house until 1918. This small but distinctive dwelling is graced with a front entrance with three pane windows and elliptical fan light above. From the entrance hall, an enclosed stairway leads to a second floor with two chambers, each with a fireplace and dormer. On the first floor, the hall opens into a living room and dining room, each with a fireplace with a simple wooden mantle.

This home, in proximity to other homes of the same period, several of which were built by members of the same family, is an essential and quaint element in a collection of structures related by style and history on Pleasant Street.



10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Locke File, Belmont Historical Society  
Probate Court - Land Court Book 71, Page 241