

FORM B – BUILDING

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

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

5-82	Boston North	B	BLM.14
------	--------------	---	--------

Town/City: Belmont

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):
Payson Park

Address: 60 Oak Avenue

Historic Name: Dohs-Lane House

Uses: Present: single family dwelling

Original: single family dwelling

Date of Construction: 1900

Source: deeds, *Cambridge Chronicle*, July 14, 1900

Style/Form: English Revival

Architect/Builder: unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: not visible

Wall/Trim: wood shingles (vinyl?)

Roof: asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures:
shed (2004)

Major Alterations (*with dates*):

1997 – rear addition

2004 – small entryway add. side rear

Condition: good

Moved: no yes **Date:**

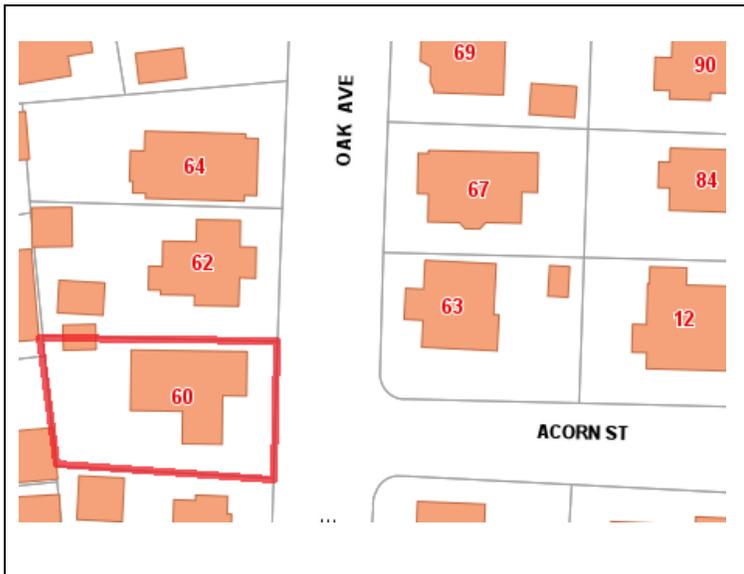
Acreage: 7,457 SF

Setting: densely populated residential neighborhood dating to late 19th and early 20th c.

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

60 OAK AVENUE

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Area(s) Form No.

B	BLM.14
---	--------

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 60 Oak Avenue is an early English Revival dwelling constructed in 1900 which also displays elements of the concurrent Craftsman style as well. The 2 ½-story, cross-gable dwelling is sheathed in (artificial?) wood shingles and is capped by a gable roof with decorative rake boards, projecting eaves and exposed rafters on the lateral eaves. The main front gable has more ornate half timbering combining vertical and curved stickwork and a bottom dentil-like molding. The second story also overhangs the first and is supported by large brackets. The single-story front porch which is south of this gable has tapered wooden posts resting on a shingled wall and a smaller gable with vertical half timbering, a decorative pendant and incised ornament. Most of the windows consist of 6/1 (replacement) sash including individual, paired and sets of three; a diamond-paned window is located in the front gable. Underneath the porch, the wooden front door is flanked by wide sidelights. On the south gable end, the upper story also overhangs but the gable is simpler and lacks half timbering.

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 house is located within the Payson Park subdivision which occupies land that was originally part of J.P. Cushing's estate, "Bellmont". After Cushing's death in 1862, the estate was purchased by Samuel Payson who sold the property to the Payson Park Land Company in 1886. The former estate was developed in three stages between 1886 and 1920 by the trustees.

This property (Lot 199) was sold by the Trustees of Payson Park to Francis Dohs of Cambridge in 1900 (Book 2834, Page 254). On July 14, 1900 the *Cambridge Chronicle* reported that Mr. Francis Dohs, instructor in the Hemenway gymnasium at Harvard University had purchased a lot on Oak Avenue and would proceed at once to build a residence for his own occupancy. Dohs was one of a number of Cambridge residents who bought lots at Payson Park at the time.

Dohs only lived here a few years. In 1905 he sold the property to Josiah Lane, bookkeeper of the Cambridgeport Savings Bank. According to another brief notice in the Cambridge paper, Lane was to occupy the house about June 1 (*Chronicle*, April 29, 1905). In 1920 Lane, then 64, was living here with his 40-year old wife Elizabeth. The couple was still living here in 1930. After Josiah's death, Elizabeth Z.H. Lane continued to own the house. In 1949 she sold the house to James and Dorothy Kennedy (Book 7508, Page 148). In 1996 Dorothy Kennedy sold the house to Michael and Paulette McDonough (Book 26554, Page 48). It was purchased by Jeanne and Joel Mooney in 1999 (Book 30407, Page 614).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Ancestry.com.

Belmont Directories, various dates.

Belmont: The Architecture and Development of the Town of Homes. Prepared for the Belmont Historic District Commission, 1984.

Betts, Richard B. *The Streets of Belmont and How they Were Named (2nd edition).* Belmont: Belmont Historical Society, 2012.
Cambridge Chronicle, July 14, 1900; April 29, 1905.

Cini, Marcia M. Area form for Payson Park (BLM.B), 1982.

Middlesex County Registry of Deeds, Cambridge, MA

Payson Park Land Company Brochures, 1898, 1909.

Sanborn Insurance Maps, 1915, 1922, 1931, 1949.

Stadley, George W. *Atlas of the Towns of Watertown, Belmont, Arlington, and Lexington.* 1898.

U.S. Census, various dates.