

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SMV.129
Historic Name:	Bacon, Clifton House
Common Name:	
Address:	27 Chester St
City/Town:	Somerville
Village/Neighborhood:	Davis Square
Local No:	124; 1037
Year Constructed:	C 1885
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Queen Anne
Use(s):	Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Architecture
Area(s):	SMV.AV: Chester Street Historic District SMV.AY: Somerville Multiple Resource Area
Designation(s):	Local Historic District (10/31/1989); Nat'l Register Individual Property (9/18/1989); Nat'l Register MRA (9/18/1989)



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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NRMRA/IND

9/18/89

1C, 1NC

MHC#
1037LHD-10/31/89
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DO NOT REMOVE (2C)

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
10 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON

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See Attached Assessor's Map

AREA

FORM NO.

AY, AV

Davis
Square

124 129

PI-DAVIS SQ
USGS-BOSTON
SECT ATown Somerville MRAAddress 27 Chester StreetHistoric Name Clifton Bacon HouseUse: Present residenceOriginal residence

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1885Source map researchStyle Queen Anne/Shingle StyleArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric clapboard and shingleOutbuildings garageMajor Alterations (with dates) noneCondition excellentMoved no Date n/aAcreage less than one acreSetting The Bacon House occupies a prominent corner lot in the Chester Kingsley Chester Street subdivision (platted 1855)

UTM REFERENCE

19 - 325/170 - 4695/550

USGS QUADRANGLE

Boston North

SCALE

1:25,000

Recorded by Betsy Friedberg, Preservation PlannerOrganization Mass. Historical CommissionDate June 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Clifton Bacon House is an elaborately detailed interpretation of the Queen Anne style and is one of the few intact high-style examples of the style in Somerville. The building retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, and association and fulfills Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

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

This is among the most high-styled houses of the Davis Square area in eastern Somerville and one of the last nineteenth century additions to the area. A flanked conical turret with finial and elaborately patterned slate shingles caps a corner polygonal bay. The front porch is composed of an enclosed pediment with scrolled plaque supported by bulbous posts and oversized brackets. Directly above is a gracefully curved bay, while the attic window is set beneath a wavy patterned gable. A variety of carved and shingled treatments enlivens the gable end. An ornamental brickwork chimney is located on the side facade.

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

Chester Kingsley, Cambridge Water Commissioner, laid out a subdivision of large lots intended for high quality homes in 1855. Deed restrictions included requirements and prohibition against "offensive" trades. This key corner lot, at the corner of Chester and Orchard Street (the latter platted in 1845), held by the Kingsley Estate, remained unbuilt until the 1890s.

This residence was owned by members of the Clinton M. Bacon family in the late 1880s and 1890s. Bacon was a Boston coal dealer.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Bromley, G. W. Atlas of the City of Somerville, 1895
1887 Somerville Directory

