

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SWN.3
Historic Name:	Barney House
Common Name:	
Address:	166 Old Providence Rd
City/Town:	Swansea
Village/Neighborhood:	North Swansea;
Local No:	71;
Year Constructed:	C 1750
Architectural Style(s):	Georgian;
Use(s):	Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House;
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture;
Area(s):	SWN.A
Designation(s):	Nat'l Register District (02/16/1990); Nat'l Register MRA (02/16/1990);
Building Materials:	Roof: Asphalt Shingle; Wall: Brick; Wood Clapboard; Foundation: Stone, Uncut;
Demolished	No



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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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FORM B - BUILDING

NRMRA
NRDIS → 2/16/90

NIR

USGS - E. PROV.
PL-N. SWIM

AREA A FORM NO. 3

IC
INC



SWANSEA - BARNEYVILLE

Address 166 Old Providence Road

Historic Name Barney House

Present Residence

Original Residence

DESCRIPTION
c. 1750

Source Registry of Deeds, research

Style Georgian /Adamesque features
added later

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard with
brick ell

Outbuildings Modern garage

Major Alterations (with dates) _____
Probably dates unknown

Condition _____

Moved No Date _____

Acreage Less than one acre

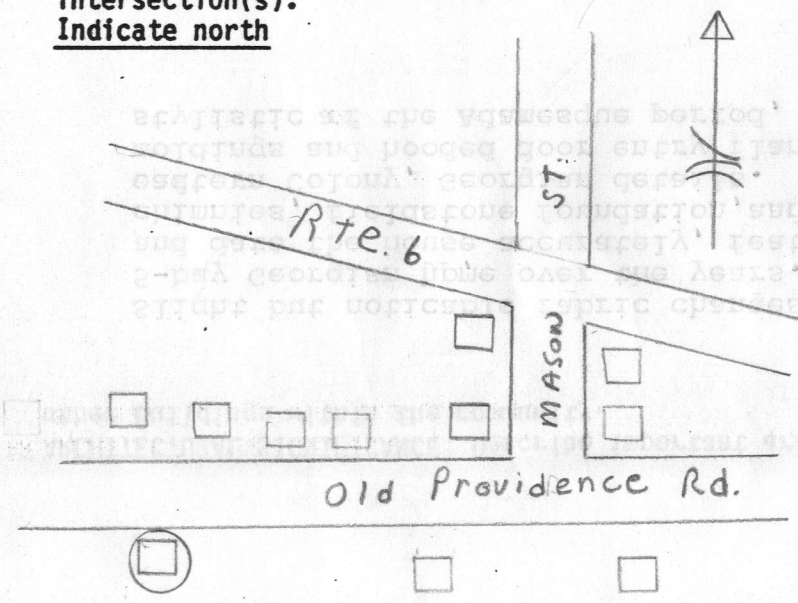
Setting Once a large farmstead, this
house now sits on property adjacent
to the country club.

Recorded by Kim Valente/H. Pierce, V. Frost

Organization Swansea Historical
Commission

Date March, 1986

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s). Indicate north



UTM REFERENCE _____

USGS QUADRANGLE East Providence, R.I. - MA, 1971-79

SCALE _____

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

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

Slight but noticable fabric changes have minipulated this 2-story, 5-bay Georgian home over the years. While its hard to pinpoint, and date the house accurately, features such as the double interior chimnies, fieldstone foundation, and open side gable are common North-eastern Colony, Georgian details. The 9 over o windows, decorative eave moldings and hooded door entry flanked with engaged columns are all stylistic af the Adamesque period, a little later than the aforementioned.

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

The suddessful operation of a shipyard by Mason Barney, whose son lived' in this house, resulted in a tight knit self sufficient community of shop keepers, artisans and farmers. The industries began to wane in mid-nineteenth century but continued into the twentieth. Algernon H. Barney, who as a young man sold hay, produce and horses to the City of Providence, had a unique and lucrative use for the ancestral farm. He obtained the garbage contract for the City of Providence, R.I. and later Pawtucket, Newport, Fall River and New Bedford, Massachusetts. This provided the food for thousands of hogs raised on the fields for many years.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

- History of Swansea, O.O.Wright, 1917.
- 1850 Map of Swansea
- 1871 Atlas of Bristol County, F.W. Beers.
- 1895 Atlas - Surveys of Bristol County, Everts and Richard
- Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Fall River
 - Book 7, p.565, Book 11, p.505 Book 15, p.403 Book 29, p.314
 - Book 49, p.185

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
	X 3



1. Town Swansea (Barneyville)
Address 166 Old Providence Road
Name Barney House
Present use residence

Present owner Robert & Nancy Zexter

3. Description:

Date 1749 ?
Source Registry of Deeds, research

Style Many periods

Architect unknown

Exterior wall fabric Clapboard with brick all
Outbuildings (describe) modern garage

Other features quoins on corners of main house, ornate front door with glass sidelights

Altered probably Date ?

Moved no Date _____

5. Lot size:

One acre or less Over one acre _____

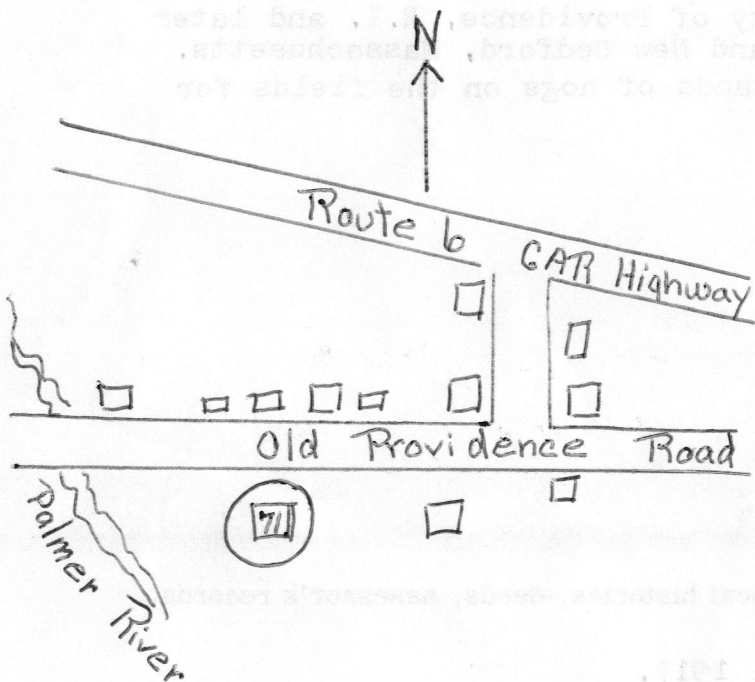
Approximate frontage 200 feet

Approximate distance of building from street
100 feet

6. Recorded by Helen Pierce & Virginia Frost
Organization Swansea Historical Soc.

Date 15 November 1982

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



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) possibly Daniel Davis

Original use farmhouse

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates same

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

The successful operation of a shipyard by Mason Barney, whose son lived in this house, resulted in a tight knit self-sufficient community of shop keepers, artisans and farmers. The industries began to wane in mid-nineteenth century but continued into the twentieth. Algernon H. Barney, who as a young man sold hay, produce and horses to the City of Providence, had a unique and lucrative use for the ancestral farm. He obtained the garbage contract for the City of Providence, R.I. and later Pawtucket, Newport, Fall River and New Bedford, Massachusetts. This provided the food for thousands of hogs on the fields for many years.

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

- History of Swansea, O.O. Wright, 1917.
- 1850 Map of Swansea.
- 1871 Atlas of Bristol County, F.W. Beers.
- 1895 Atlas - Surveys of Bristol County, Everts and Richard.
- Bristol County Registry of Deeds, Fall River
 - Book 7, p. 565
 - Book 11, p. 505
 - Book 15, p. 403
 - Book 29, p.314
 - Book 49, p.185



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