

# Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

## Scanned Record Cover Page

<b>Inventory No:</b>	SWN.169
<b>Historic Name:</b>	Norton - Barney House
<b>Common Name:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	227 Old Providence Rd
<b>City/Town:</b>	Swansea
<b>Village/Neighborhood:</b>	North Swansea;
<b>Local No:</b>	162;
<b>Year Constructed:</b>	C 1840
<b>Architectural Style(s):</b>	Greek Revival;
<b>Use(s):</b>	Single Family Dwelling House;
<b>Significance:</b>	Architecture;
<b>Area(s):</b>	SWN.A
<b>Designation(s):</b>	Nat'l Register District (02/16/1990); Nat'l Register MRA (02/16/1990);
<b>Building Materials:</b>	Wall: Wood Clapboard;
<b>Demolished</b>	No



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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)

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FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

NRDIS  
NRMA > 2/16/90  
AL-N. SWAN  
USGS - E. Prov

AREA	FORM NO.
A SE	162

169



SWANSEA

Address 227 Old Providence Road

Historic Name Norton/Barney House

Present Residential

Original Residential

DESCRIPTION

ca. 1840

Notes Visual Analysis/Maps

Greek Revival

Architect -

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

Exterior Wall Fabric Clapboard

Outbuildings 2 non-contributing (a garage and barn)

Major Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

1950's - west 1-story wing

Condition Good

Moved No Date \_\_\_\_\_

Acreage Less than 1 acre

Setting Located on historic transportation route between Swansea and Providence just east of The Myles Bridge

UTM REFERENCE \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by Kay Flynn

USGS QUADRANGLE East Providence, R.I.-Mass. 1971-1979

Organization Swansea Historical Commission

SCALE 1:25,000

Date March, 1988

**NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

As part of the Barneyville Historic District, 227 Old Providence Road meets criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places. This district is a concentration of sites and structures that are linked historically and aesthetically by natural geological features as well as physical development. No. 227 Old Providence Road represents the mid-nineteenth century architecture of the Greek Revival Period.

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

This is a 2-1/2-story, 3-bay, pedimented front gable Greek Revival structure of higher style and detailing for Barneyville's predominantly plain architecture. The distinguishing architectural feature is the entrance porch. The details include fluted Doric columns along with the door surround detailed with Greek Key pilasters, a wide plain entablature with block molding and three-quarter sidelights. The windows of the house have six over six lights. There is a one-story wing on the west added, probably in the 1950's, which is insensitive to historic character of the Greek Revival Period.

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

The earliest documented owner of this dwelling is B.F. Norton, by 1871. B.F. Norton was one of the owners of the North Swansea Manufacturing Co. in 1911. After the decline of the Barney Shipyard in 1861, the jewelry shop was established and flourished until 1923. This Greek Revival structure represents the type of dwelling that would have been built by an affluent businessman.

**BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

- Maps: 1871 - "B.F. Norton"
- 1895 - "Algernon H. Barney" (Footprint of 3 separate wood structures - a barn, stable or icehouse)

