

# 89 Woodland Street



*Bothfeld House "Ridgemoor", June, 1999*

<b>Form No.</b>	384 house, 385 garage
<b>Town</b>	Sherborn
<b>Address</b>	89 Woodland Street
<b>Assessor's #</b>	8/23
<b>USGS Quad</b>	Medfield
<b>Historic Name</b>	Bothfeld House, "Ridgemoor"
<b>Uses: Present</b>	Residence
<b>Original</b>	Residence
<b>Constructed</b>	ca. 1916
<b>Source</b>	Tax valuations
<b>Style/Form</b>	Colonial Revival
<b>Architect/Builder</b>	
<b>Exterior Material:</b>	
<b>Foundation</b>	Undetermined
<b>Wall/Trim</b>	Wood clapboards
<b>Roof</b>	Asphalt shingles
<b>Outbuildings</b>	Detached garage
<b>Alterations</b>	West side 1 story addition, 1966; East
<b>Condition</b>	Good
<b>Moved</b>	No
<b>Acreage</b>	6.91 acres
<b>Setting</b>	Rural
<b>Film Roll/Negative</b>	Roll 3
<b>Recorded by</b>	Sanford Johnson, May 1999

## **ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION**

The Colonial Revival style mansion at 89 Woodland Street has at its core a side-gabled mass of five bays' width and two and one-half stories. The original plan has been expanded with one-story and two-story additions on the left (east) side elevation and a similar form on the right. The secondary masses project forward from the facade rather than subordinating themselves to it, indicating the street elevation may actually be the rear of the house. A variety of windows exists, including 8/8, 10/10 and 12/12 double-hung sash, multiple-pane casements, a tripartite sash over the center entry and double-hung sidelights flanking the entry. Decorative elements consist of the half-round entry hood, molded cornice, gable returns and balustrade atop the right side addition. Three prominent brick chimneys rise from various parts of the roofline. Two larger examples are at the side walls of the principal mass and a third is attached to the side of the left side addition.

A one-story, side-gabled garage is located east of the house and was also built in 1916 according to assessor information. The wood-clapboard building is lit by double-hung sash flanked by shutters. The setting is wooded with the house removed from the road by several hundred feet.

## **HISTORICAL NARRATIVE**

The Henry E. and Haidee Bothfeld House at 89 Woodland Street was built around 1916. The house had a tax valuation of \$6200 in 1925, far more than surrounding homes, according to property valuations. Mr. Bothfeld worked as a Vice President of the First National Bank in Newton. The Bothfelds also had a garage built in 1916 which is likely the current outbuilding. Henry Bothfeld served as mayor of the city of Newton, president 1937-1944 and trustee 1903-37 of the Newton Savings Bank. Mr. Bothfeld was an associate of Calvin Coolidge, founder of the Wellesley Tennis Association, a representative to state legislature, and Sherborn Town Meeting moderator for 20 years. The lot was cleared of trees but surrounded by forest in 1939 according to WPA maps from that time. Daughters Helen and Nan occupied the house and ran the household in the mid 20th century. Helen was active in the Sherborn Red Cross and an excellent gardener, raising night-blooming cereus plants. The house remained in the family until at least 1978. The west elevation was expanded with a one-story ell in 1966 and the east ell in 1972.

A Bothfeld son, Theodore, farmed 104 Woodland Street and later moved to Cabot, Vermont.

## **BIBLIOGRAPHY and REFERENCES**

- Tax valuations for the town of Sherborn.
- Conversation with Betsy Johnson, 1/99.
- Resident Directories, 1915, 1917, 1930 -1931.
- 1939 W.P.A. map of Sherborn.
- Comments of family member