

Specific Belmont History Documentary Sources and Where to Find them:

History relating to your specific building:

- Belmont Tax Cards (Belmont Town Offices)
- *Deeds and Wills*. On file at the Belknap County Registry of Deeds (Laconia) Records from 1645-1711 can be found at the NH State Archives in Concord, with some probate records available online through archive.org. Belknap County Registry of Deeds has Belknap Deeds back to 1955 available online through their website. (www.nhdeeds.com/belknap/BeHome.html)
- New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources Files. Previous building studies and some town history information, as well as 1992-3 and 2002-3 Section 106 Studies. 19 Pillsbury Street, Concord, NH 03301 (www.nh.gov/nhdhr)
- Belmont Historical Society. Copies of some of the Section 106 Studies, copies of State and National Register Nominations of Belmont Buildings, and historic photographs and postcards. (Belmont Public Library)

Published Histories Specific to Belmont:

- Hurd, Duane Hamilton, ed. *History of Merrimack and Belknap Counties, New Hampshire*. Philadelphia: J.W. Lewis & Co., 1885. (New Hampshire State Library, Concord, NH)
- Lancaster, Daniel. *The History of Gilmanton, Embracing the Proprietary, Civil, Literary, Ecclesiastical, Biographical, Genealogical, and Miscellaneous History, from the First Settlement to the Present Time; Including what is Now Gilford to the Time it was Disannexed*. Gilmanton, NH: Alfred Prescott, 1845. (Belmont Public Library)
- Marden, Diane M & Belmont Historical Society. *Belmont Postcard History*. Arcadia Publishing, 2006. (Belmont Public Library)
- Rhodes, Wallace P., ed. *Reminiscences of a New Hampshire Town*. Concord, NH: The Capital Offset Company, 1969. (Belmont Public Library)

Primary Source Materials Such as Newspapers/Town Reports:

- *Laconia Democrat* (Microfilm at NH State Library & Laconia Public Library)
- *News & Critic* (Microfilm at NH State Library & Laconia Public Library)
- *Concord Monitor*
- *Town Records* available through Belmont Town Clerk, NH State Library or Belmont Historical Society.
- *Town Reports*. The 1860-2009 Town of Belmont Annual Reports digitized and available through the University of New Hampshire (UNH) Library Digital Collections (www.library.unh.edu/digital)

Further information on Homeowners/Architects/Builders (Genealogy)

- *Belmont and State of New Hampshire Vital Records* (Births, Marriages, Deaths). Available through town clerks, the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services in Concord, and through www.ancestry.com. (Available for free through Belmont Public Library)
- *United States Census Reports*, 1790 to present. Conducted every 10 years by the United States of America, Bureau of the Census. (Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration). Records from 1790-1940 are available through www.ancestry.com (Belmont Public Library) The early census records list the heads of families only with additional information on other household members added by about 1850.
- *Family Genealogies*. Check the Belmont Public Library, NH Historical Society Library, NH State Library and www.archive.org for further information regarding specific families.
- *Cemetery Records*. NH cemetery records are located at the NH Historical Society Library. Some are also available through the free online database, www.findagrave.com.

Specific Belmont History Documentary Sources and Where to Find them:

Historic Maps of Belmont:

- Woodford, E. M. "Map of Belknap County, New Hampshire." 1860. Library of Congress website (www.loc.gov)
- Hurd, D. H. & Co. *Town and City Atlas of the State of New Hampshire*. Boston: D. H. Hurd & Co., 1892. Available through the UNH Library Digital Collections at www.library.unh.edu/digital/.
- Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps, 1898, 1904 1912, 1923, and 1929. (village center only)
- *United States Geological Survey Maps*. Highly accurate federal surveys. Current maps are available through NH Fish and Game at www.wildlife.state.nh.us/maps/topo.html. Historic USGS Topo Maps are available through the UNH Library Digital Collections at www.library.unh.edu/digital/.

Additional documentary sources such as photograph and postcard collections can be found at the following institutions:

- Belmont Public Library, 146 Main Street, Belmont, NH 03220 (www.belmontpubliclibrary.org)
- Lakes Region History Online. Collaborative effort between the Laconia Public Library, Laconia Historical & Museum Society and Belknap Mill Society. (laconia.pastperfect-online.com)
- New Hampshire State Library, 20 Park Street, Concord, NH 03301 (www.nh.gov/nhsl)
- New Hampshire Historical Society, 30 Park Street, Concord, NH 03301 (www.nhhistory.org)
- AND on internet auctions sites such as ebay.com and cardcow.com. You'll be amazed how much you can find out by just searching on google!

Some Additional Useful Sources for researching the physical changes to your home:

(Things I keep on my desk at all times)

- Garvin, James L. *A Building History of Northern New England*. Hanover, NH: University Press of New England, 2001. Great source of information on the evolution of various aspects of architecture (from changes in hardware through time to evolutions in framing) that give clues to help date architectural features.
- Gottfried, Herbert and Jan Jennings. *American Vernacular Buildings and Interiors: 1870-1960*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2009. Overview of the evolution of American buildings with very detailed drawings and photographs of interior building features and approximate dates.
- Light, Sally. *House Histories: A Guide to Tracing the Genealogy of Your Home*. Spencertown, NY: Golden Hill Press, Inc., 1989. Though somewhat older, this guide is excellent in steering you toward the many different ways to date your home and learn about its evolution.
- McAlester, Virginia & Lee. *A Field Guide to American Houses*. New York, Alfred A. Knopf, Inc., 1984. A great overall history of the evolution of the American home across the US, with tips as to how to date your home based on architectural style.

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