

141 High Street

Built by Guy Hebb, a labourer, and his wife Eliza, in 1908, this house was acquired by Pearl S. Frausel in 1914 and by the Garber family in 1920. It then became the Garber family dairy farm, run by Archibald, his wife Florence, and their daughter Ena. As of 1985, the family had owned the property for 65 years – quite a long time!

The house itself was a relatively simple L-shaped farmhouse, with relatively plain, unadorned, windows and doors. This follows the Folk Victorian style of the turn of the century, a very humble style of construction. Nevertheless, the house was quite large, and its location on a hilltop added to its tall, imposing appearance. The roof does feature returning eaves on the side gables – and likely on the front as well. The veranda, while making use of a simple railing and simple posts, did contain ornamental brackets at the intersection of the supporting posts and the roof. Over the steps leading to the front door, the veranda roof peaks upwards, a common trend around the turn of the century when large, spacious verandas obscured the prominence normally associated with a home's entryway.

In addition to its design, this house was a lovely example of how location and landscape can greatly affect the atmosphere of a home. Located in the midst of a cluster of large trees, at the top of a peaceful, grassy drumlin, this house was

picturesque and an image of tranquility. Even in 1985 it was noted that it "...seem[ed] removed from the hustle and bustle..." as well as declaring it "a local landmark."

Sadly, this house was torn down just shy of its 100th birthday, as construction on the new Bridgewater Justice Centre was slated to begin immediately next door. Now this hill sits empty.

From the 141 High Street Built Heritage File