

# Brookline Preservation Commission Demolition Application Report



Site map

**Address:** 110 Yarmouth Road  
**Owner:** Sally R. Beckerman

**Applicant:** same

**Type of Building(s):** single family house with attached garage

**National Register Listing (if applicable):** n/a

## **Preliminary Findings of Historical and/or Architectural Significance:**

The house at 110 Yarmouth was designed by the Boston based Royal Barry Wills (1895-1962) in 1955-56. Wills is widely recognized as the preeminent architect of middle- and upper-middle class suburban houses from the 1920s through the early 1960s. He was responsible for popularizing the Colonial style in the early decades of the 20th century, particularly the Cap Cod cottage. Wills graduated from M.I.T in 1918, opening his own architectural firm in 1925. A master self-promoter, Wills regularly published plans & elevations in local newspapers, and entered plans in open competitions for small houses. He received his 1st major award, the Regional Prize in Herbert Hoover's National Better Homes Competition in 1929. He won the gold medal in the same contest in 1932 (at a White House ceremony from Hoover himself) for the house he designed for developer Maurice Dunlavy at 37 Weybridge Lane.

During the 1930s, Wills won at least 8 national competitions and his work was featured in *Life* magazine and *the Saturday Evening Post*.

Rooyal Barre Wills published eight books from 1940 to 1957, including *Houses for Good Living* (1940), *Houses for Homemakers* (1945) and *Living on the Level* (1955). In 1954, he was elected a fellow of the American Institute of Architects. After WWII, Wills continued to design for developers, and also for early prefabrication companies.

Wills' earliest design in Brookline was in 1926 at 78 Stanton Road. He collaborated here with developer Maurice Dunlavy, including twenty-six houses in the Blake Park area alone. The house at 110 Yarmouth represents a typical example of the post WWII Cape Cod full cottage.



110 Yarmouth attached garage

