

28

FORM B - BUILDING

AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

JAN 02 1990

N-A

N-A2

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo. Staple to left side of form.

Town Newton (Newton Corner)

Address 825 Centre Street

Historic Name Henry I. Harriman House
(Putnam House)

Use: Present BC Alumnae Center

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date 1916

Source Building Permit

Style French Eclectic

Architect John Barnard

Exterior Wall Fabric stucco

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

reglazing of south sunporch-c1980?

Condition excellent

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage under one--see attached map

Setting part of Boston College Newton
campus

Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Susan Abele

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date 5/1987; rev. 3/1988

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

see attached map

UTM REFERENCE 19/319410 14690080

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON

SCALE 1:25000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

Putnam House possesses integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as an exceptional example of the French Eclectic style designed by local architect John Barnard. It also represents the high end of Newton's suburban expansion in the major growth decade of the 1920s. Putnam House meets criteria A & C of the NRHP.

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

Putnam House is a former Centre Street estate house which is now integrated into the Boston College Newton campus. Because its former setting has been totally lost, the nomination is confined to the house and the land extending 15' from its perimeter. Putnam House is one of several elaborate estate houses erected on Centre Street in the early 20th century (see forms N-A1 and N-024). Despite the loss of its setting, it remains as an exceptional and intact example of the French Eclectic style.

Putnam House is a symmetrical, seven bay, stucco clad structure that rises two stories to a steeply pitched slate roof with multiple dormers and four chimney stacks which sit at right angles. Carved modillions and an egg and dart molding accent the roofline. The facade is centered on a rather simple arched entry with balustraded Tuscan porch. This element is flanked by niches with shell-carved heads and French windows in the outer bays. Upper story windows are casements with balconies and swags beneath. One story sunporches are appended to both side elevations; that to the south has single-pane replacement sash. The rear elevation is elegantly detailed with a quatrastyle Corinthian balcony overlooking a balustraded terrace with curved steps ascending on both sides. The terrace and foundation are both rusticated.

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

Putnam House was built in 1916 as a private residence for Henry I. Harriman, who was a Vice-President of the firm of Chace & Harriman, President of the Connecticut River Power Company, and manager of the New England Power Company. He was also a Vice-President of the Boston Chamber of Commerce and an alderman for the City of Newton. Architect for the house was John Barnard of Waban. This significant commission, early in Barnard's career, established his reputation and led to many commissions in Newton including the E. A. Day house built in 1924 at 170 Sargent Street.

In 1950, the Harriman house was acquired by Newton College of the Sacred Heart, which was begun by the Society of the Sacred Heart in 1946. The Society of the Sacred Heart, founded in France in 1800 by St. Madeleine Sophie Barat, supports schools and colleges for young women in every part of the world. Its sister school, Newton Country Day School of the Sacred Heart (N-024) is located on an adjacent site at 785 Centre Street. On June 28, 1974, Newton College of the Sacred Heart was joined to Boston College (Area N-A) by an agreement between the trustees of the two institutions. Boston College assumed the assets and liabilities of Newton College, which then terminated its separate existence, and acquired a 40 acre campus with 15 buildings. Putnam House, named in 1967 in honor of a benefactor Roger Lowell Putnam, is presently Boston College's center for alumnae affairs.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Building Department Records: 825 Centre Street, 885 Centre Street
Boston College: A Guide to the Campus, 1973
City Directories and Atlases, *Beautiful Newton*

PHOTOGRAPH FROM NEWTON WAR MEMORIAL NEWTON GRAPHIC PUBLISHING CO., NEWTON, MASS., n.d.



HENRY I. HARRIMAN
EIGHT TWENTY FIVE CENTRE STREET NEWTON

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Newton MRA
State Middlesex County, MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

141. Crimmins, Thomas A., House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
142. Eddy, George W., House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
143. Goodbar, Lafayette, House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
144. Hammond, E. C., House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
145. Harriman, Henry I., House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
146. Harrison, C. Lewis, House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
147. Hayward, Fred R., House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
148. Hopewell, Frank B., House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
149. Howes, C. G., Dry Cleaning--Carley
Real Estate
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____
150. Kessler, William F., House
Entered in the
National Register Keeper Shelores Byers 2/16/90
Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Harriman, Henry I., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Newton MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/02/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/16/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/01/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/16/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000028

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 2/16/90 DATE Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

DOCUMENTATION see attached comments Y/N see attached SLR Y/N

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Signed _____ Phone _____

Date _____



Putnam House - Boston College Newton, MA-MRA.
Newton Campus
825 Centre St.

Hartman, Henry I., House

a Jenkins 4/87
neg. @ Jackson Homestead
Wind - West

87-7-26

COL BY

569 329
21270
569 399

TON
.LEGE

Newton, MA-MRA
825 Centre Street
SBL: 13-21-1

Assessors Map - Verified 1985
Page: 59 NE
Scale: 1"=40' Reduced 50%

