

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

For NPS use only

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

received **SEP 13 1984**
date entered **OCT 23 1984**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Weeks Junior High School

and/or common same

2. Location

street & number 7 Hereward Road. N/A not for publication

city, town Newton N/A vicinity of

state Massachusetts code 025 county Middlesex code 017

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other: conversion to elderly housing

4. Owner of Property

name City of Newton

street & number 1000 Commonwealth Avenue

city, town Newton N/A vicinity of state Massachusetts

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Middlesex County Courthouse

street & number 40 Thorndike Street

city, town Cambridge state Massachusetts

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Assets of the Commonwealth has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1983 (#5711) federal state county local

depository for survey records Massachusetts Historical Commission

city, town Boston state MA

7. Description Weeks Junior High School, 7 Hereward Rd., Newton, MA

Condition		Check one	Check one
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed		

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Weeks Junior High School is a Tudor Revival school built in 1930 and set in a planned subdivision of Tudor Revival single family houses. The school is E-shaped in plan and is three stories in height beneath a truncated hip roof. Of steel frame construction, the exterior walls of the school are brick with cast stone trim.

Southwest Elevation: The main elevation is seven bays wide and is separated by brick and cast stone buttresses. The central bay contains a 4-story entrance tower. The tower's first and second stories consist of a portico approached by a flight of stairs and entered through two double doors set beneath a seven light transom in an ogival arch. The portico is topped by a row of trefoiled niches. Third and fourth story levels of the tower are occupied by a multipaned and transomed window which has a label lintel surround. The roof line of the tower is crenelated and the surface of the tower is made still more complex by buttresses and tourelles of varying heights ornamented with capstones and niches.

Angled bays between principal Southwest facade and Northwest and South facades: These two angled bays have steeply pitched gables above a two story oriel of cast stone. Directly beneath the oriel is the first floor entrance. The entrance is composed of a double door with a seven light transom within an ogival arch. Spandrels are filled with a floral motif. The bay is flanked by tall, tower-like buttresses which terminate in blind tracery.

South and Northwest facades: These two facades are identical, both being four bays in length, separated by buttresses which repeat those of the southwest facade. Watertable, beltcourse and cornice copings continue on each facade.

Northeast facade: The northeast elevation consists of the court formed by the demolition of the northeast wing between the north and southeast wings. A new, one story polygonal entry replaces the central wing. The ends of the north and southeast wings have double gables and have two story high windows with label lintel surrounds above entries in which ogee arches are set within label lintel surrounds. Corner buttresses and the continued beltcourses are the only ornament to these wing facades. Buttresses separate the wide bays. The north wing has a one story boiler room extension.

Interior features: Two rooms have architectural significance in the school. The first is the entrance foyer. On each side of the foyer is a wide stair to the second floor. Wrought iron stair railings are repeated at the central balcony opening from the second floor. A wrought iron chandelier hangs on the foyer. The second room of significance is the third floor tower room which was originally a study hall. It has a vaulted ceiling which has been covered with acoustical tiles.

In converting the school into mixed subsidized and market rate apartments it was necessary to demolish the rear or northeast wing of the school. This wing, of utilitarian Tudor Revival design, contained an auditorium, two gymnasias and a cafeteria. Demolition allows light and air into the units of the wings, provides rear access and parking for the building (thereby maintaining the integrity of the southwest facade) and retains ample floor area for the number of units dictated by the terms of the Federal subsidy.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

For NPS use only	SEP 13 1984
received	
date entered	3 1984

Newton: Weeks Junior

Continuation sheet High School, 7 Hereward Rd item number 7

Page 2

In its place will be a slightly projecting three story pavilion with a contemporary one story entry whose Gothic configuration will be compatible with the school, but whose materials and design will mark it as a later addition. The entry will have simple brick piers standing on concrete bases which rise to a concrete spandrel. The roof will consist of a radiating, seamed metal covering.

8. Significance

Weeks Junior High School, 7 Hereward Rd., Newton, MA

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below					
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation		
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)		

Specific dates 1930

Builder/Architect Henry and Richmond, architects

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

Weeks Junior High School is architecturally significant as the finest example in Newton of a Tudor Revival style school. It was designed by a prominent Boston firm of architects, Henry and Richmond, who designed its three sweeping street facades to carry the symbolism of the style: the close relationship between the late Gothic period in architecture and the rise of educational institutions during that period. The architects also carefully sited the school and limited direct views of it principally to the three street facades and their opposite Tudor Revival homes to emphasize the school's role in a community context. It is significant as the architectural keystone of a Tudor Revival neighborhood which was planned and developed around the school at the time of its construction in 1930. As a fine example of Tudor Revival architecture and an integral component of a planned early 20th century neighborhood, the Weeks Junior High School meets criteria A and C of the National Register.

The school is historically significant as an example of the suburban community planning which took place in the 1920s and 1930s in the United States where a uniformity of style was imposed to create a neighborhood with an ambience, in this case of Tudor England. Another example at larger scale is Tuxedo Park in New York. In both, economic as well as architectural uniformity was the intention of planners, who sought to develop residential neighborhoods for the upper and upper middle classes who were moving out of the cities and into the suburbs at a high rate, encouraged by the availability of the automobile.

Weeks Junior High School and the houses immediately surrounding it were an early planned neighborhood in Newton Center. While streets had been laid out and developed with buildings of similar styles from the 1850s in Newton Center, never previously had such a tightly controlled development arisen without incorporating buildings from previous periods.

The open farm land just south of Newton Center was conceived as a development to be called Locksley Park as early as 1924. The city bought a portion of the land for a park and the remainder was laid out by Charles Trenholm as a residential neighborhood. In 1928 a street and lot plan had been drawn up. Trenholm sold the land, its new streets and lot plan to Haynes and Hernandez the following year, 1929. The name Locksley Park was dropped, but the medieval England theme had been established as the streets were named Athelstane, Rowena, Cedric, Hereward and Rotherwood after Sir Walter Scott's novel Ivanhoe. Between 1929 and 1938 the houses were built around the junior high school, which was planned in 1929 and completed in 1930. The area became the home, as intended, of upper middle class businessmen and professionals drawn to the city in part by its reputation for a progressive educational system.

The school was named after John Wingate Weeks who was the 14th Mayor of Newton, serving 1902-1903. A retired Rear Admiral in the U.S. Navy, Weeks was a member of the state House of Representatives until 1908, then a U.S. Senator in 1913, and finally

(continued)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Architectural Preservation Associates, Newton Centre, Oak Hill and Chestnut Hill, unpublished manuscript, 1983.
Engineer's Department, Newton City Hall, Plot Plans.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property 3.23 acres

Quadrangle name Newton

Quadrangle scale 1:25000

UTM References

A

1	9	3	1	8	9	2	0	4	7	8	7	9	4	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

B

1	9	3	1	9	0	0	0	4	6	8	7	7	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

C

1	9	3	1	8	8	4	0	4	6	8	7	7	8	0
Zone	Easting				Northing									

D

Zone	Easting				Northing									

E

Zone	Easting				Northing									

F

Zone	Easting				Northing									

G

Zone	Easting				Northing									

H

Zone	Easting				Northing									

Verbal boundary description and justification As indicated by the heavy line on the attached map, entitled City of Newton Assessor's Block System, Engineering Dept. - 1946 (as amended to show demolition; new addition not to scale).

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state N/A code county code

state N/A code county code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Bonnie Parsons Marxer, Partner, Architectural Preservation Association

organization Architectural Preservation Assoc. date July, 1984

street & number 10 Channing Place telephone (617) 492-8169

city or town Cambridge state Massachusetts

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature Valerie A. Talmage
title Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer date Sept, 3, 1984

For NPS use only

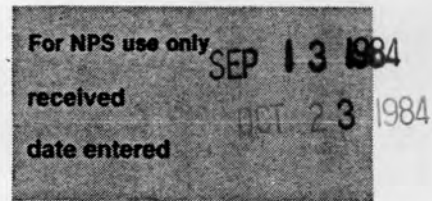
I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

for Delores Byer Entered in the National Register date 10/23/84
Keeper of the National Register

At : _____ date _____
Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**



Continuation sheet Newton: Weeks Junior High School, 7 Hereward Rd. Item number 8 Page 2

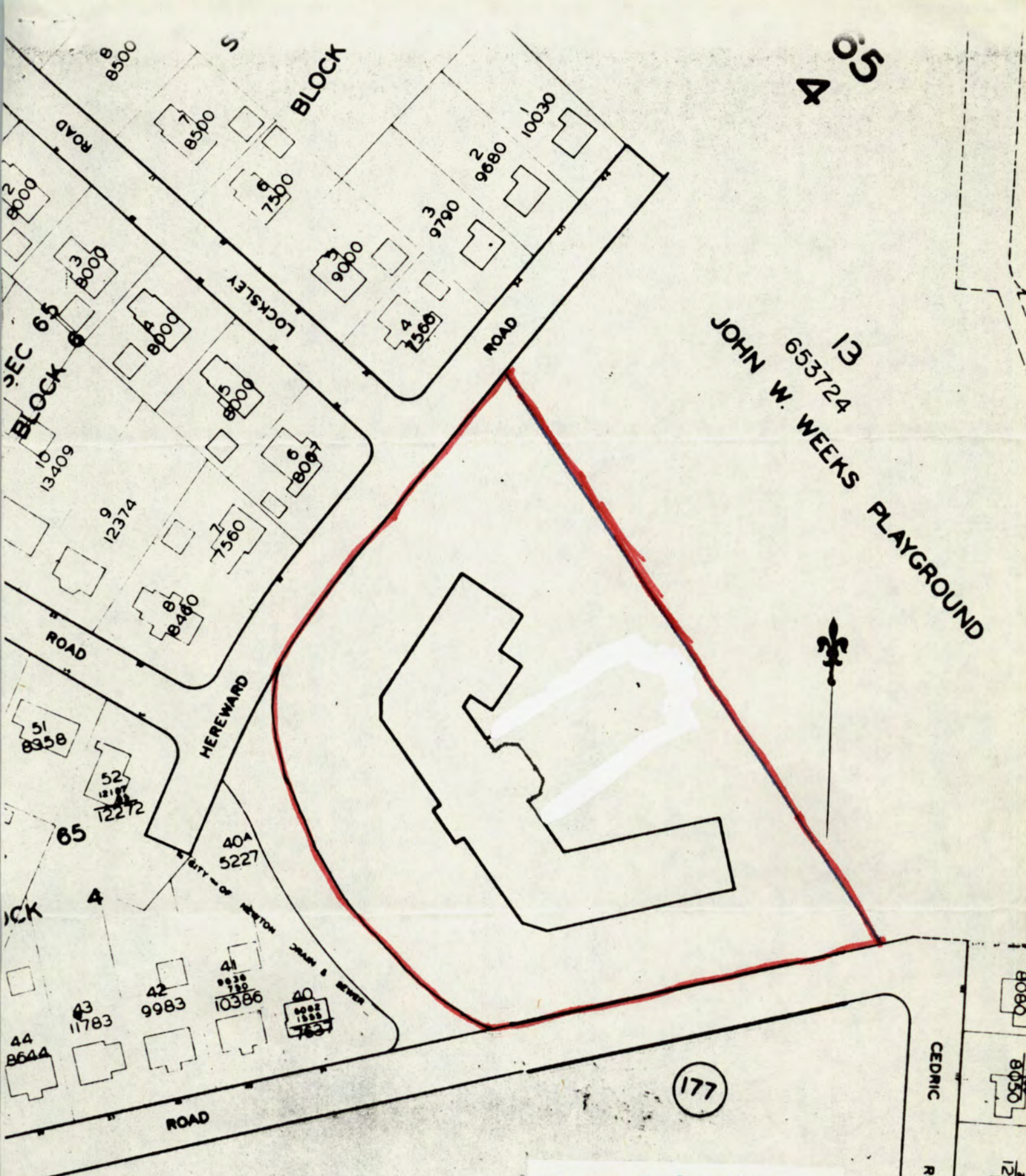
a Secretary of War. A bronze bust of Weeks was presented to the school in 1931.

The building is a fine example of one of the conservative historical revival styles current in the first three decades of the 20th century, the Neo-Gothic/Tudor Revival. While the International Style was developing and providing a new direction in architecture, the historical revival styles were being perfected in far greater numbers and with a refinement derived from the Beaux-Arts school of architecture studied and practiced by many Boston area architects. Advances in technology are represented in the use of cast stone in lieu of carved limestone for the ornament of the building. Cheaper and easier to produce, the cast stone enabled Henry and Richmond to design the school with historical detail at a scale which would have been economically impractical in limestone.

Four other schools were built in Newton in historical revival styles between 1921 and 1927. Weeks is the finest Tudor Revival example and the only one to have been surrounded by homes in the same style.

The architectural firm Henry and Richmond, was a prominent early 20th century Boston firm and successors to the firm of Guy Lowell. Besides the High School, Ralph Henry and Henry Richmond were at that same period responsible for the house of Mrs. Randolph Foppingham on the Sargent Estate in Brookline (1928), the New England Trust Co, now the New England Historic Genealogical Society (1929) and the Massachusetts College of Art on Brookline Avenue (1930).

Few artifacts of native American presence have been located in Newton and none specifically in this area. Archaeological potential is slight.



4 05

13
653724
JOHN W. WEEKS PLAYGROUND



(177)

CITY OF NEWTON
ASSESSOR'S BLOCK SYSTEM
ENGINEERING DEPT — 1948



*Weeks Junior High School
Newton, MA*

200
14

ORDINARY
ARTS
EXHIBITION



3

see MR
OCT 23 1984

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Weeks Junior High School
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

SEP 13 1984

Working No. _____

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/4/85

Date Due: 10/11/84 - 10/28/84

Action: ACCEPT 10-23-84

_____ RETURN

_____ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- resubmission
- nomination by person or local government
- owner objection
- appeal

Substantive Review: sample request appeal NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____

Reviewer _____

Discipline _____

Date _____

_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
_____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	<u>Public Acquisition</u>	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? yes no

7. Description

Condition

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- summary paragraph
- completeness
- clarity
- alterations/integrity
- dates
- boundary selection

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

date

13. Other

- Maps
- Photographs
- Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Weeks Junior High School
Newton, Massachusetts
South Bay and West Facade
Jung/Brannen, 1983

Photo 2 of 8

SEP 13 1984



Weeks Junior High School
Newton, Massachusetts
South Bay and East Facade
Jung/Brannen, 1983 *Photo 3 of 8*

SEP 13 1984



Weeks Junior High School
Newton, Massachusetts
Southwest Facade
Jung/Brannen, 1983

Photo 4 of 8

SEP 13 1984



Weeks Junior High School
Newton, Massachusetts
Northwest Facades
Jung/Brannen, 1983

Photo 5 of 8

SEP 13 1984

Missing Core Documentation

Property Name

Weeks Junior High School

County, State

Middlesex,
Massachusetts

Reference Number

84000105

The following Core Documentation is missing from this entry:

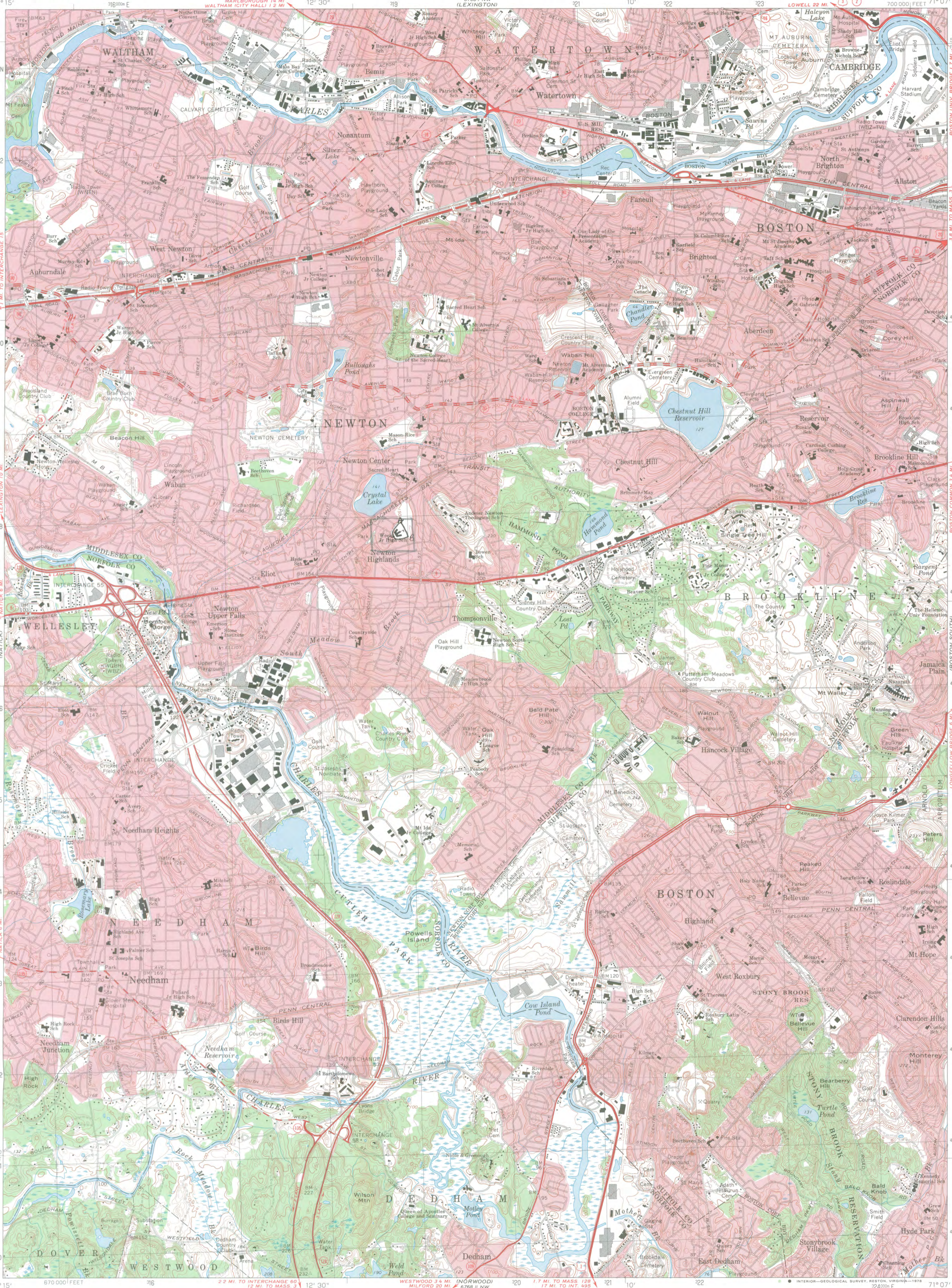
Nomination Form

Photographs (#s 1, 6-8)

USGS Map

CONCORD
71° 15' E
42° 22' 30"

71° 07' 30" E
42° 22' 30" N
BOSTON NORTH

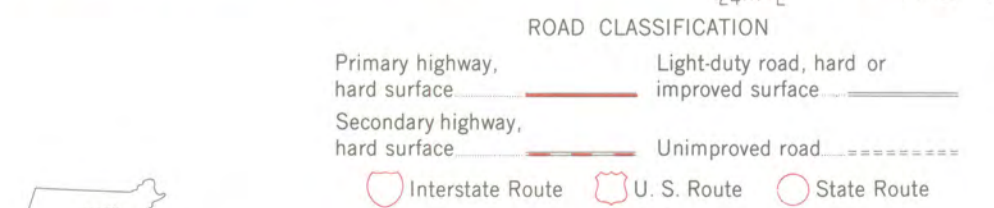
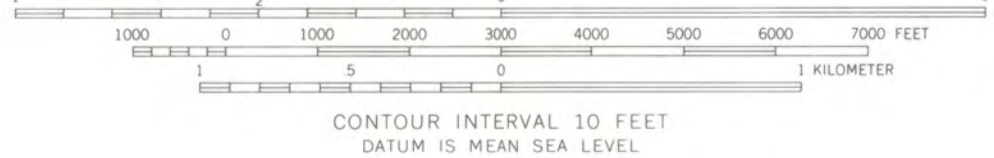
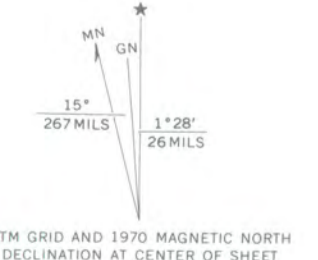


Weeks Junior High
Newton, MA
UTM References:
A 19 318920 4687940
B 19 319000 4687780
C 19 318840 4687780

SEP 13 1961



Maped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey
Control by USGS, USC&GS, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey
Planimetry by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs
taken 1939. Topography by planimetric surveys 1943.
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,
mainland zone
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,
zone 19
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS
FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

NEWTON, MASS.
N4215—W7107.5/7.5
1970
AMS 6768 1 SW—SERIES V814

128 Brooks Street
Brighton, Mass. 02135
March 26, 1982

Mr. Lawrence Bauer
Chairman, Newton Historical Commission
334 Kenrick Street
Newton, Mass. 02158

Dear Mr. Bauer,

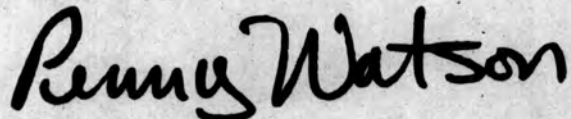
I am a preservation consultant who lives just over the Newton line in Brighton. Recently I heard that there is to be a hearing on April 1 concerning the National Register nomination of the Weeks Junior High School on Allerton Road in Newton Center. Unfortunately I am going to be out of town next week, so I would like to take this opportunity to state my support for putting this building on the Register.

The school is a fine example of Late Gothic Revival, well proportioned and nicely detailed. The quality of its design is more what one would expect to find in a collegiate building rather than in a public school.

Not only is the building worthy of nomination in its own right, it also contributes a great deal to the cohesiveness and atmosphere of the neighborhood. The school seems to be a focal point around which the Tudor houses in the neighborhood cluster. Its massiveness is not overwhelming because it is echoed in the rock ledges across Allerton Road. The whole neighborhood gives the impression of being a well-thought-out unified plan, and the school is a most essential part of the overall design.

The National Register is a means of protecting just such successful and cohesive neighborhoods, and I strongly recommend that the Weeks Junior High School be nominated to the Register.

Sincerely,



Penelope S. Watson

bcc: Rick Bohn, NCDF

MAY 5 RECD

BRANDEIS UNIVERSITY
WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS 02254

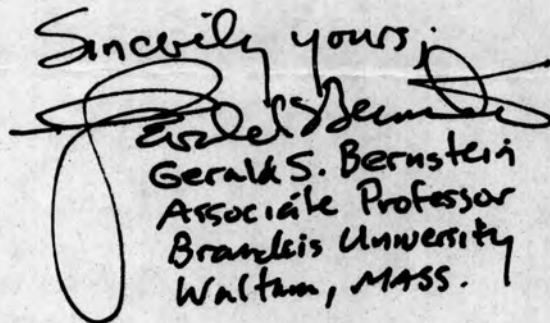
DEPARTMENT OF FINE ARTS

May 2, 1982

Dear Mr. Bohn,

I am writing to you in regard to the projected redevelopment of Weeks Junior High School in Newton Centre. As an architectural historian I would like to add my voice to those committed to the project. We have for too long neglected our architectural heritage. Historic architecture provides a unique resource for the study of our built environment and provides a documentary record of societal change and growth. By retaining structures of quality, such as the former Weeks Junior High School the community is able to preserve distinguished buildings within their urban context.

I congratulate you and your associates in your efforts and wish you the best of luck in being able to accomplish your goal.

Sincerely yours,

Gerald S. Bernstein
Associate Professor
Brandeis University
Waltham, MASS.



newton community development foundation

*OT-kr huh?
this isn't sched-
uled yet.*

37 Hamlet St., Newton Centre, Massachusetts 02159

Telephone 244-7062

OFFICERS

- President:*
Eloise K. Houghton
- Vice Presidents:*
Mary Haskell
Marc A. Slotnick
- Treasurer:*
Peter K. Barber
- Clerk:*
Lillie B. Jefferson

May 3, 1984

Ms. Valerie A. Talmage
Executive Director & Deputy State
Historic Preservation Officer
294 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- K. E. Alexander
- Peter K. Barber
- Robert A. DiSimone
- Paul C. Doherty
- Helen Drinan
- Irene Egan
- John Eller
- Louis Garfield
- Mary Haskell
- Howard Haywood
- Fiora Houghteling
- Eloise Houghton
- Ann Howkins
- Eliot Jacobson
- Lillie B. Jefferson
- Barbara Kravitz
- Ellen B. Lipson
- Mark Maloney
- Vincent F. O'Donnell
- Emma Oliver
- Diane Paulson
- Wilson F. Pollock, Jr.
- Carol Rabinovitz
- Edward Ritchie
- Hugh Rogovin
- Marc A. Slotnick
- Alfred Smith
- Donald Worth

Re: Hearing on the Nomination of the Weeks Junior High School
in Newton, MA to the National Register of Historic Places.

Dear Ms. Talmage:

The Newton Community Development Foundation is a community-based non-profit corporation founded in 1968 to help provide mixed-income housing in Newton. In 1981, the City of Newton asked us to carry out the rehabilitation of the former Weeks Junior High School which was about to be closed. For the past three years our organization has worked hard to find a financially feasible plan to provide housing on the site, while saving this historically significant building from demolition.

Now that we have started renovation work, we join with the Newton Historical Commission, Mayor Theodore Mann, and various interested preservationists, in supporting the placement of the school in the National Register of Historic Places. We strongly support the listing for the following reasons:

- 1 - We believe that the building is the best example in Newton, and perhaps even in the State, of a Late Gothic Revival public school style of architecture, and
- 2 - The building plays a key role in the design concept of the surrounding residential neighborhood. The Gothic Revival theme expressed in the building is supported by the style of the surrounding homes, and even in the local street names which have been taken from the English Gothic novel Ivanhoe. The entire neighborhood was clearly planned as a total unit, and, as such, is a noteworthy example of early twentieth-century suburban city planning. The Weeks School, as a central focus of this Gothic theme, is, in fact, a symbol of it, and worthy of preservation.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Joseph E. Bennett
- Leon A. Brathwaite II
- George Bresnahan
- Stephen J. Buchbinder
- Robert Carleo
- Robert Casselman
- Andrew Dean
- Thomas Drinan
- Janet Fox
- Ruth Anne Glotzer
- Richard Glovsky
- Betty Kaufman
- Jason Kirshen
- Douglas Koch
- Terry S. Lane
- Zezette Larsen
- Cavin Leeman
- Tom H. Lehman
- Norman B. Leventhal
- Arthur Lyman
- George MacIver
- Stephanie Martin
- Paul McDaniel
- Joseph McDonnell
- Robert Mitchell
- William B. Neenan
- Charles Redmon
- Michael Rosenberg
- Melvin Ross
- Murray Rothman
- Frances Seasholes
- Ethel Sheehan
- Lewis Songer
- James Spikes
- Betty Taymor
- Mary Tracy
- John Vaccaro
- Linda Whitlock

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Richard F. Bohn

RECEIVED

MAY - 7 1984

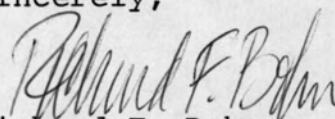
MASS. HI ...

Ms. Valerie A. Talmage
May 3, 1984

- 2

Attached to this letter please find copies of two letters sent to the Newton Historical Commission in 1982, just prior to the Commission's decision to support nomination of the School.

Sincerely,


Richard F. Bohn
Executive Director

RFB:jm
Enc.

Newton

HISTORICAL COMMISSION



City of Newton, Massachusetts

Incorporated 1873

CITY HALL

1000 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE, NEWTON CENTRE 02159

TELEPHONE (617) 552-7135

May 15, 1982

RECEIVED

MAY 14 1982

LAWRENCE C. BAUER
Chairman

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Richard F. Bohn
Executive Director
NCDF
37 Hamlet St.
Newton 02159

Dear Mr. Bohn:

On May 6, 1982, the Newton Historical Commission voted to nominate the Weeks Junior High School building to the National Register of Historic Places with the following conditions:

that the Historical Commission be granted design review over exterior elevations and site treatment; and that a preservation easement be placed on the exterior façade and be included in the long-term lease.

The Commission wishes you success in the project and looks forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Thibault,
Secretary

cc: Larry Bauer, Chairman
Barry Canner, Planning Department
Candance Jenkins, Mass. Historical Commission
Mayor T. Mann



MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORIC
COMMISSION

July 23, 1984

Richard F. Bohn, Executive Director
Newton Community Development Foundation
7 Hereward Road
Newton, MA 02159

Dear Mr. Bohn:

The Massachusetts State Review Board will be considering the nomination of the Weeks Junior High School on September 12, 1984. I am writing to you to inform you that the staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission will not be recommending that this property be voted eligible by the State Review Board. This decision is based on the long standing opinion of the MHC staff that the National Register eligibility of the Weeks Junior High School is integrally related to its plan. MHC staff have consistently upheld that demolition of the rear wing would damage the integrity of the structure and, in our opinion, render the building ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Numerous communications have evidenced the MHC staff position, the most notable of these being the staff's failure to recommend certification of the rehabilitation of the structure. In light of these prior decisions and since the wing in question is now demolished, it would be inconsistent for the staff to recommend that the State Review Board vote the property eligible.

This action is not expected to impair or prevent the eventual listing of the Weeks Junior High School on the National Register. Several possible scenarios suggest themselves. First, the State Review Board could overrule the staff recommendation and vote the property eligible. The nomination would then be forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register for final approval. Second, should both the State Review Board and the SHPO agree that, in their opinion, the building does not now meet the National Register criteria, this decision may be appealed to the Keeper of the National Register, according to 36CFR 60.12 (see attached regulations), the appeals procedures for the National Register program.

In this instance, the appellant shall forward to the NPS in Washington a copy of the nomination form submitted to the SHPO, an explanation of why the appeal is being submitted, and copies of any pertinent correspondence from the SHPO. The Keeper shall respond within 45 days of receipt. If the appeal is sustained, the Keeper will request the SHPO to submit the nomination within 15 days and listing will proceed. Given the prior decision of Dr. Connally, Chief Appeals Officer for the National Park Service, allowing the certification of the rehabilitation to proceed, it is expected that the Keeper of the National Register would sustain any appeals and that the property would ultimately be listed.

SETTS

THIS NOMINATION WILL BE COMING IN
SHORTLY. PLEASE ADD THIS TO THE FILE.

I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE STATE WILL REQUEST
SUBSTANTIVE REVIEW. (IT WAS PASSED BY
THE REVIEW BOARD).

LLY



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

July 23, 1984

Richard F. Bohn, Executive Director
Newton Community Development Foundation
7 Hereward Road
Newton, MA 02159

Dear Mr. Bohn:

The Massachusetts State Review Board will be considering the nomination of the Weeks Junior High School on September 12, 1984. I am writing to you to inform you that the staff of the Massachusetts Historical Commission will not be recommending that this property be voted eligible by the State Review Board. This decision is based on the long standing opinion of the MHC staff that the National Register eligibility of the Weeks Junior High School is integrally related to its plan. MHC staff have consistently upheld that demolition of the rear wing would damage the integrity of the structure and, in our opinion, render the building ineligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Numerous communications have evidenced the MHC staff position, the most notable of these being the staff's failure to recommend certification of the rehabilitation of the structure. In light of these prior decisions and since the wing in question is now demolished, it would be inconsistent for the staff to recommend that the State Review Board vote the property eligible.

This action is not expected to impair or prevent the eventual listing of the Weeks Junior High School on the National Register. Several possible scenarios suggest themselves. First, the State Review Board could overrule the staff recommendation and vote the property eligible. The nomination would then be forwarded to the Keeper of the National Register for final approval. Second, should both the State Review Board and the SHPO agree that, in their opinion, the building does not now meet the National Register criteria, this decision may be appealed to the Keeper of the National Register, according to 36CFR 60.12 (see attached regulations), the appeals procedures for the National Register program.

In this instance, the appellant shall forward to the NPS in Washington a copy of the nomination form submitted to the SHPO, an explanation of why the appeal is being submitted, and copies of any pertinent correspondence from the SHPO. The Keeper shall respond within 45 days of receipt. If the appeal is sustained, the Keeper will request the SHPO to submit the nomination within 15 days and listing will proceed. Given the prior decision of Dr. Connolly, Chief Appeals Officer for the National Park Service, allowing the certification of the rehabilitation to proceed, it is expected that the Keeper of the National Register would sustain any appeals and that the property would ultimately be listed.

I am also writing to let you know that the MHC will be happy to include on the agenda for the September 12th meeting an opportunity for you to formally present to the State Review Board your case for the School's eligibility. If you wish to make such a presentation, I will need to know by August 24th. The agenda is circulated to the Massachusetts Historical Commission on August 28 and any materials you might also like to submit in support of the school's eligibility should be received by this office before that date. I am available to discuss this with you at any time.

In conclusion, let me state that the MHC staff is aware of and appreciative of the diligence with which you have pursued this project to date. I am sure you will understand that for the MHC staff to alter its opinion regarding the eligibility of the school at this late date would be inconsistent and improper.

Please feel free to call me if you have any questions.

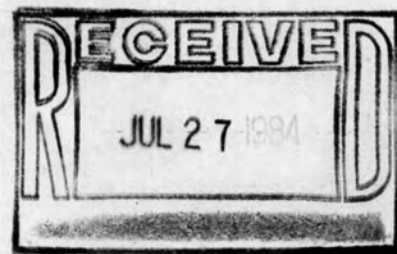
Sincerely,

Sarah J. Zimmerman

Sarah J. Zimmerman
Preservation Planning Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

SJZ/hi
Enclosure

cc: Honorable Barney Frank
Honorable Theodore Mann, Mayor
Mr. Leonard Gentile, School Department
Ms. Barbara Thibault, Chairman, Newton Historical Commission
Bonnie Parsons Marxer, APA
Carol Shull, NPS
NPS MARO



AUG 3 1984

BARNEY FRANK
4TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMITTEE
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS:

CHAIRMAN,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MANPOWER AND HOUSING

BANKING, FINANCE, AND
URBAN AFFAIRS

JUDICIARY

AGING

John W. Curtis, Chairman
Massachusetts State Review Board
c/o Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street, Fifth Floor
Boston, MA 02108

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

August 1, 1984

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1317 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5931

DISTRICT OFFICES:
437 CHERRY STREET
WEST NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02165
(617) 332-3920
(617) 223-1648

10 PURCHASE STREET
FALL RIVER, MASSACHUSETTS 02722
(617) 674-3551

8 NORTH MAIN STREET
ATTLEBORO, MASSACHUSETTS 02703
(617) 226-4723

Dear Mr. Curtis:

Last week, I received a copy of a letter from Ms. Sarah Zimmerman of the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) to Richard Bohn of the Newton Community Development Foundation (NCDF). This letter informed NCDF that the staff of the MHC will not be recommending the Weeks Junior High School as eligible for listing on the National Register. With all due respect to the MHC staff, I feel that their recommendation should not be followed in this instance.

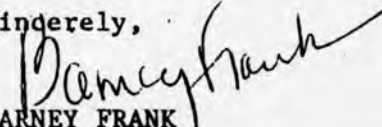
The development of this property as subsidized housing has been a long and difficult process. All obstacles have been overcome because of the commitment of the City of Newton and NCDF to rehabilitate this building in a manner which will preserve its historic and architectural value while also helping to alleviate the City's serious shortage of affordable housing.

While I can understand the stand taken by the staff of the MHC in light of their earlier statements concerning the destruction of the rear wing of the building, and while I respect their consistent attempts to enforce their view of maintaining the historic and architectural integrity of this building, I think it would be destructive to follow their recommendation at this moment in time. Ms. Zimmerman agrees, in her recent letter, that the property will ultimately be listed on the National Register. She also notes the prior decision of Dr. Connally, Chief Appeals Officer for the National Park Service, allowing the certification of the rehabilitation to proceed.

I hope that Ms. Zimmerman is correct when she says that this property will ultimately be listed despite their recommendation. I do not think, however, that there is anything to be gained by forcing NCDF to go through a long, expensive and frustrating appeals process to reach this goal.

The MHC staff cannot be faulted for making this recommendation in light of their professional opinions, but I think it is very important that the State Review Board recognize the opinions of Dr. Connally and other experts and bring this matter to a quick conclusion by overruling the staff recommendation and voting the property eligible for listing on the National Register before the success of this worthwhile project is further endangered.

Sincerely,


BARNEY FRANK

Member of Congress

cc: Secretary Connolly
James W. Igoe



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
MASSACHUSETTS HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY
50 MILK STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109 • (617) 451-3480

MARVIN M. SIFLINGER
Executive Director

August 7, 1984

RECEIVED

AUG 15 1984

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Mr. John W. Curtis, Chairman
State Review Board
Massachusetts Historical Commission
294 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02108

Dear Mr. Curtis:

The Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency is providing construction and permanent financing for the Weeks School Apartments, now under construction by the Newton Community Development Foundation. Our Design and Technical staff has worked closely with NCDF to insure that the rehabilitation work conforms to our own high standards and those required for a "Certified Historic Rehabilitation". Since a prompt listing of the Weeks School on the National Register of Historic Places is a major factor in the financial viability of this development, and since the building appears eligible for nomination, I urge the State Review Board to vote in favor of the nomination at its August 8th meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marvin Siflinger".

Marvin Siflinger
Executive Director

MEMORANDUM
OF CALL

Previous editions usable

TO: Bruce Joyce

YOU WERE CALLED BY- YOU WERE VISITED BY-

Bonnie Marper
OF (Organization)

PLEASE PHONE ▶ FTS AUTOVON

617-492-8169

WILL CALL AGAIN IS WAITING TO SEE YOU

RETURNED YOUR CALL WISHES AN APPOINTMENT

MESSAGE

Re weak Jr. H. school
Newton, Mass.
(Should have been rec'd recently -
Please call her and give
her the dates that it could

RECEIVED BY	DATE	TIME
<u>Mary C</u>	<u>9/4</u>	<u>10:35</u>

BE LISTED BY AND THE
END 45 DAY DATE. (I
PRESUME THAT IT WILL NOT
BE SUBSTANTIVELY REVIEWED.)

SHE ALSO WOULD LIKE TO
KNOW IF THERE ARE ANY
PROBLEMS WITH IT. PLEASE
LET ME KNOW FIRST, IF THERE
ARE.

THANKS.

BRUCE.



**MASSACHUSETTS
HISTORICAL
COMMISSION**

Certified mail # P03 0198286

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Office of the Secretary of State**

294 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts
02108
617-727-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

September 5, 1984

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
18th and C Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following nominations forms:

Newton: Weeks Junior High School
Peabody: Southwick-Strauss Tannery

All have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Please note that the owner of the Weeks Junior High School waived their notification right; see waiver letter with nomination. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

Sarah J. Zimmerman
Director, Preservation Planning
Massachusetts Historical Commission

SZ/sac

enclosures

Certified mail 7/10/84 012256



Rec'd SEP 13 1984

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION

284 Washington Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02108
617-737-8470

MICHAEL JOSEPH CONNOLLY
Secretary of State

September 5, 1984

The Secretary, Chief
Historical Section of Historic Places
National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37125
Washington, D.C. 20513

Dear Mr. Smith:

Enclosed you will find the following nomination forms:

- 1. Boston, Weeks Junior High School
- 2. Boston, St. Ann's Roman Catholic Church

All have been reviewed eligible by the State Review Board and have been approved by the National Park Service Preservation Officer. (Where were notified of the nomination board consideration 30-45 days before the hearing and were given the opportunity to comment. Please note that the owner of the Weeks Junior High School waived their notification right; see history folder with nomination. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

John J. Bunker
Director, Preservation Planning
Massachusetts Historical Commission

FLOWER BOND

2/2/84

25% COTTON FIBER

encl: 2

U.S.A.

WALTER G. WELLS
3606 VEAZEY ST., N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008

29 Sept. '84

National Register
National Park Service
United States Department of the Interior
Washington, DC 20243

Dear Sir:

The Federal Register, Vol. 49, No 187, Tuesday, Sept. 25, 1984, p. 37674, includes the Weeks Junior High School, Newton, Massachusetts, as a Nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

I am a bit curious as to the criteria used for this nomination as, unless I am old enough myself, it hardly seems to be of an age to qualify. I was a member of the second group to attend Weeks Junior High for 3 years, from fall of 1932 to the spring of 1935. Long after that I learned that Senator Weeks was instrumental in some major legislation affecting the Park Service or the Forest Service, but the name has little to do with the historic significance of the structure or its uses.

If it is not already in the National Register, a far more venerable structure, or structures, is the Hyde School, two buildings in Newton Highlands, about a mile from the Weeks Junior High. One of the buildings was old even in the '30's.

I have no objection to the Nomination of Weeks Junior High other than to express surprise that such a relatively "new" structure can be nominated. But, then, newness depends on where you're at, doesn't it.

Sincerely,

Walter G. Wells