

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

561

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in National Register Bulletin, *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form*. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions.



1. Name of Property

Historic name: 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue

Other names/site number: _____

Name of related multiple property listing: _____

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing)

2. Location

Street & number: 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue

City or town: Boston State: MA County: Suffolk

Not For Publication: Vicinity:

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended,

I hereby certify that this nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant at the following level(s) of significance:

national statewide local

Applicable National Register Criteria:

A B C D

<i>Brona Simon</i>	<i>July 15, 2014</i>
<hr/>	
Signature of certifying official/Title: Brona Simon, SHPO	Date
<hr/>	
State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government	

In my opinion, the property <input type="checkbox"/> meets <input type="checkbox"/> does not meet the National Register criteria.	
<hr/>	
Signature of commenting official:	Date
<hr/>	
Title :	State or Federal agency/bureau or Tribal Government

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4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that this property is:

- entered in the National Register
- determined eligible for the National Register
- determined not eligible for the National Register
- removed from the National Register
- other (explain:)

Joe Edson H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

9.10.14
Date of Action

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply.)

- Private:
- Public – Local
- Public – State
- Public – Federal

Category of Property

(Check only **one** box.)

- Building(s)
- District
- Site
- Structure
- Object

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Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	buildings
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	sites
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u>	objects
<u>2</u>	<u> </u>	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register 0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions.)

DOMESTIC/Multiple Dwelling

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7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions.)

LATE 19TH AND 20TH CENTURY

REVIVALS/Colonial Revival

Materials: (enter categories from instructions.)

Principal exterior materials of the property: BRICK/CONCRETE with TAR/GRAVEL roof

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current physical appearance and condition of the property. Describe contributing and noncontributing resources if applicable. Begin with a **summary paragraph** that briefly describes the general characteristics of the property, such as its location, type, style, method of construction, setting, size, and significant features. Indicate whether the property has historic integrity.)

Summary Paragraph

The brick apartment buildings at 825 and 829 Blue Hill Avenue, in the northern tip of Boston's Mattapan neighborhood, are located on a single triangular lot at the corner of Calder Street and Blue Hill Avenue, one block southeast of Franklin Park. Built in 1924, the pair of three-story apartment buildings with flat roofs face east to Blue Hill Avenue, a major thoroughfare providing access to downtown Boston. The two buildings are indistinguishable on the main façade, but are separated by a firewall and light court, with no circulation between them. The main facades along Blue Hill Avenue and Calder Street consist of dark red brick with Colonial Revival details at the entrances, window openings, and roofline. The buildings were constructed as apartment units, and continue that intended use today. Aside from replacement windows and doors, there are few alterations to the character-defining features of the buildings. The interior retains its floorplan, staircases, and door openings, with original balusters, wainscoting, and wood floors in good condition.

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Narrative Description

The three-story brick apartment buildings at 825 and 829 Blue Hill Avenue occupy a triangular lot defined by the intersection of Blue Hill Avenue and Calder Street. The property slopes down from the north side of the parcel to the southern point of the lot (Photo 1).

The prominent east and south facades are laid in dark red, seven-course, Flemish-bond brick, with the basement level finished in concrete stucco. The southeast corner of 829 Blue Hill Avenue is angled in two wall sections to follow the narrow angle of the property. Concrete quoins decorate the walls in this canted corner of the building. A full basement extends through both buildings, but the sloping grade of the site exposes more of the lighter-colored concrete walls on the basement level at the south end of the property. A flat roof with a short brick parapet covers 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue.

In general, the buildings surrounding 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue are brick and wood-frame apartment buildings of a similar height, built to the lot lines. Some commercial and institutional buildings of various ages are found among the apartments along Blue Hill Avenue. The adjoining properties at both the north and northwest sides are both multistory, wood-frame apartment buildings. Additional wood-frame apartments line the west sides of Blue Hill Avenue and Calder Street, visible in the primary views of the property. A four-story brick apartment building and a series of one-story brick commercial buildings sit across Blue Hill Avenue to the southeast. A modern wood-frame apartment building, a modern church, and a modern two-story brick apartment line the street directly across Blue Hill Avenue.

Combined Main (East) Façade

The main (east) façade on Blue Hill Avenue has nine bays of windows grouped in three projecting and two recessed sections extending across both buildings (Photos 2 and 3). The division between the two buildings is not apparent on the east façade, but lies between the window openings in the central projecting section. The two recesses on the east façade mark the center of each building and hold the entrances to 825 Blue Hill Avenue to the north and 829 Blue Hill Avenue to the south. Both entrances are covered by a simple, gable-front portico supported by fluted Tuscan columns on raised pedestals (Photos 11-12). Each doorway has a nonhistoric, single-leaf, metal replacement door with transom and sidelights.

Above the concrete basement, the walls of the east façade are composed of a dark brick laid in 7:1 English Stretcher bond, and are pierced at regular intervals by window openings.¹ At the south end of the basement level, paired replacement windows are half the height of those found elsewhere in the building. The basement-level openings at the center of the east façade have been covered with plywood. No window openings exist at the basement to the north side of the building. Fenestration on the east elevation consists of single, paired, and tripled windows on concrete lug sills. The first- and second-story windows have brick rowlock lintels with simple rectangular, concrete medallions marking the edge of the openings as well as the locations of mullions. Third-story windows have a continuous ogee-profiled concrete lintel course. A simple ogee and dentil cornice made of cast stone runs the entire length of the east façade. The window openings on the east façade hold paired windows in the projecting sections. Window openings in the recessed portions of the façade vary. In the south recess, the bay to the south of the entrance to 829 Blue Hill Avenue holds a single and paired set of openings on the second and third floors. These windows are separated by a section of brick wall that covers a demising, or dividing, wall between units. On the first floor, the width of the entrance portico requires a single window instead of a paired opening. In the

¹ Essentially stretcher or "American" bond with every seventh course laid with alternating headers and stretchers.

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bay to the north of the entrance, the second and third level hold triple windows. At the first floor the entrance truncates the triple opening of the upper floor to a paired window opening. At the north recess the two bays to either side of the entrance to 825 Blue Hill Avenue are symmetrical, with triple windows on the upper floors and paired windows at the first floor. All openings have replacement 1/1 metal sash windows.

North and Northwest (Alley) Elevation

The north elevation of 825 Blue Hill Avenue is a painted brick wall with no window or door openings facing the adjacent property to the north (Photo 4). The north elevation steps back into the lot approximately 30 feet from the east façade (Photo 7) to incorporate a deck and balconies at the rear of each unit. This stepped-back portion of the building intersects the northwest elevation, which continues back perpendicular to Calder Street. The northwest section of the alley elevation (Photo 8) is painted brick like the north walls. Unlike the north wall, there are regularly spaced paired and single window openings with rowlock sills. All openings have replacement 1/1 metal sash windows.

South Façades

The south façades face Calder Street and include the same red brick above a concrete basement found along the Blue Hill Avenue side of the buildings (Photos 5 and 6). The southwest corner of the property (829 Blue Hill Avenue) is canted in two wall sections and marked with cast-stone quoins, joining together the two main elevations. Each section of the canted corner holds single window openings with replacement 1/1 metal sash windows (Photo 1). A basement doorway in this section of the property holds a metal fire door with a simple metal railing. Unlike the east façade on Blue Hill Avenue, the two buildings are clearly discernable along Calder Street, with a light court dividing them. The window and cornice details found along the east façade continue along the south elevation.

The south façade of 829 Blue Hill Avenue is eight bays wide, with the two middle bays recessed from the face of the building. Starting at the east end of the façade, two single window openings and a paired window opening line the first projecting section of the wall. The center bays in the recessed portion of wall hold two single window openings, with one of these bays holding a metal fire door on the basement level. The westernmost wall section includes two paired window openings, with a single window opening centrally placed between them. All openings have replacement 1/1 metal sash windows.

The south façade of 825 Blue Hill Avenue is two bays wide, with paired window openings in each bay. Both openings have replacement 1/1 metal sash windows.

The light court between the two buildings at the south side (Photos 9 and 10) has brick walls painted a light color, setting it apart from the main façades of the complex. Like the north and northwest sides of the property, the light court angles to follow the shape of the lot. Simple metal balconies line the court, allowing for a balcony or patio area at each unit. A series of metal fire doors line the light court, linking the apartment units to this rear portion of the property. Paired and single window openings with painted rowlock sills line the light court.

825 Blue Hill Avenue - Interior

The interior of 825 Blue Hill Avenue consists of three apartment units on each level, arranged around a central open stairway (Photo 13) with one unit at the west side of the plan and two units at the east. On the first level, two replacement steps in the front vestibule lead up to an interior glass door and the hallway, which joins the vestibule to the main stairway. Pressed-metal wainscoting below a wood chair rail lines the hallway, and an arched header separates the hall from the stairs. Original door trim surrounds

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the entrances on either side of the front hallway that lead into the two east apartment units. Likewise, original door trim is found at the entrance to the west apartment unit beneath the main stair. The main staircase maintains the original varnished woodwork with fluted, box newel posts, a closed stringer bracketed with raised panels, and colonette balusters supporting a traditional wood railing with cyma curve. At each stair level, the base of the landing newel projects from the ceiling below. The second and third floors follow a similar unit plan, with units arranged around a small stair landing. On the first level, each unit at the east of 825 Blue Hill Avenue has two bedrooms along the east wall, with an entrance hall and living room separating them from the kitchen. On upper floors, the living room switches position with one of the bedrooms at the east wall. The west unit on each floor has two bedrooms along the southwest wall, and a living room and bathroom dividing them from the kitchen and entrance hall (Photos 21-24). Egress stairs are placed between the east and west units, and have an exterior door to a fire balcony in the light court or alleys on each level. Access to the egress stairs in every unit is from the kitchen. A single apartment unit sits on the basement level at the west of the building. Utility rooms occupy the rest of the basement space at the east side of the building. Nearly all of the wood window trim and wood flooring in apartment units is original, but door trim and baseboards in units have been removed or replaced with nonhistoric materials. All kitchen, bath, and common spaces now have vinyl-tile floors and vinyl baseboards.

829 Blue Hill Avenue - Interior

The interior of 829 Blue Hill Avenue likewise consists of three apartment units on each level, arranged around a central open stairway (Photos 14 and 15). The triangular shape of the property is evident in the shape of the staircase, which takes a more oblique angle than the rectangular turn at 825 Blue Hill Avenue. On the first level, seven replacement steps in the front vestibule lead up to an interior glass door and a hallway that joins the vestibule to the main stairway. Pressed-metal wainscoting below a wood chair rail lines the hallway, and original door trim surrounds the entrances that lead into apartment units. As with 825 Blue Hill Avenue, the main staircase maintains the original varnished woodwork with fluted box newel posts, a closed stringer bracketed with raised panels, and colonette balusters supporting a traditional wood railing with cyma curve. At each stair level, the base of the landing newel projects from the ceiling below. Unlike 825 Blue Hill Avenue, the west unit on each level of 829 Blue Hill Avenue has just one bedroom placed in the west corner of the building. A hall joins the bedroom to a bathroom, living room, and kitchen, placed in a line along the Calder Street side of the property. The southeast units (Photos 16 to 20) have two bedrooms along the east wall of the building divided from one other by a bathroom and living room. The kitchen for the southeast unit sits along the Calder Street side. Lastly, the southeast unit of the plan in 829 Blue Hill Avenue mimics the upper-floor units from 825 Blue Hill Avenue, with a bedroom and living room along the east wall, and an entrance hall and second bedroom separating them from the kitchen and bathroom. Egress stairs are placed between the east and west units. The northwest egress stair has an exterior door to a fire balcony in the light court on each level. The south egress stair empties at the basement level to a door on Calder Street. Access to the egress stairs in every unit is from the kitchen. Two apartment units sit on the basement level of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, with utility rooms placed in the basement space where the southeast unit is found on other floors. Nearly all of the wood window trim and wood flooring in apartment units is original, but door trim and baseboards in units have been removed or replaced with nonhistoric materials. All kitchen, bath, and common spaces now have vinyl-tile floors and vinyl baseboards.

On the roof, two stairtowers at the center of each building project approximately eight feet above the roofline. Both stairtowers have been covered with metal siding and have replacement doors. Two thin brick chimneys stand next to each of the stairtowers, and project roughly the same height from the roofline.

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The property is in the process of rehabilitation in consultation with the Massachusetts Historic Commission and the National Park Service, and will be completed according to the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

Archaeological Statement

The structure within the property of 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue occupies the entire parcel it stands within. As such, there is no place within the parcel that has not been disturbed by the construction or placement of the building. Therefore, there is no potential for preserved archaeological resources.

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8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- A. Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B. Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C. Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D. Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A. Owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes
- B. Removed from its original location
- C. A birthplace or grave
- D. A cemetery
- E. A reconstructed building, object, or structure
- F. A commemorative property
- G. Less than 50 years old or achieving significance within the past 50 years

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Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions.)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1924-1964

Significant Dates

1924

Significant Person

(Complete only if Criterion B is marked above.)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

Samuel Levy

Statement of Significance Summary Paragraph (Provide a summary paragraph that includes level of significance, applicable criteria, justification for the period of significance, and any applicable criteria considerations.)

The brick apartment buildings at 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue are significant at the local level under National Register Criterion A, for their association with the growth of the Jewish community in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan during the first half of the 20th century. The growth of the Jewish community in these once-suburban areas was the result of expanding transportation routes and city services from downtown into these neighborhoods. When constructed, the apartment buildings provided housing for an already vibrant but still growing Jewish community and offered easy access to the streetcar line and a synagogue. The two brick apartment buildings are also significant at the local level under National Register Criterion C as an excellent example of the Colonial Revival style, designed by local architect Samuel S. Levy.

Narrative Statement of Significance (Provide at least one paragraph for each area of significance.)

The buildings at 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue were erected in 1924 by Herman B. Barron, a real estate developer and house builder, to serve the growing population of working-class Jews in Roxbury and Dorchester. Located in the extreme northern part of Mattapan² adjacent to Franklin Park, the property faces Blue Hill Avenue, a major north-south transportation corridor and the central artery of Jewish culture in the Boston area for much of the 20th century.

Between 1870 and 1900, the population of Dorchester (which includes Mattapan) rose from 12,000 to 80,000, as the extension and electrification of the streetcar lines made these areas increasingly accessible and convenient to downtown Boston.³ The first of two streams of Jewish migration within Boston contributed to this growth. Beginning in the late 1890s, many Boston Jews in the North End and West End were entering the middle class, and could afford to leave the crowded city conditions for the more suburban neighborhoods of Dorchester and upper Roxbury.⁴ A second stream in the early 1900s consisted of lower-middle-class and working-class families, many of whom were displaced after an April 12, 1908, fire in Chelsea. The fire destroyed 492 acres of this largely Jewish town in a matter of hours, and left 17,000 people homeless.⁵ The resulting increase in population in Roxbury and Dorchester drastically changed the built environment of the Blue Hill Avenue neighborhoods. Once characterized by single-family houses and large summer estates on large parcels, Dorchester and Roxbury at the turn of the 20th century saw the construction of more single-family houses, twin dwellings, triple-deckers, and apartment buildings designed to fill smaller lots.

The property on which 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue sits was the estate of Charles Newhall in 1874. A single dwelling house on the property was located on Canterbury Road, between Autumn (now Angell) and Calder Streets, facing northeast. By 1890, the City of Boston had acquired most of the land west of the house to complete Franklin Park. The Newhall property changed ownership, and by 1890 had been subdivided into 47 smaller lots, the majority of which were owned by George W. Nason and Thomas M. Babson. In 1904, Hugh Devine, an Irishman and liquor store owner, purchased two of the undeveloped corner lots on Blue Hill Avenue.⁶

Jewish settlement in Roxbury and Dorchester during the late 19th and early 20th century developed in four major districts: the Blue Hill Avenue-Grove Hall neighborhood, Mount Bowdoin, the area around Elm Hill Avenue, and Mattapan. The number of civic and religious structures in these areas dramatically increased in order to serve the booming population. Between 1900 and 1910, the Blue Hill Avenue-Grove Hall district established itself first with the founding of the new Adath Jeshurun⁷ congregation and the construction in 1906 of its synagogue, both of which were essential components to

² The city of Boston's present-day Mattapan neighborhood was considered part of Dorchester until the 1960s. At that time, a major population shift transformed this western part of Dorchester along Blue Hill Avenue from a predominantly Jewish community into a predominantly African American community.

³ Gerald Gamm, *Urban Exodus: Why the Jews Left Boston and the Catholics Stayed* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 1999) 176-177.

⁴ Jonathan Sarna and Ellen Smith, *The Jews of Boston*. (Boston: Combined Jewish Philanthropies of Greater Boston, Inc. 1995) 142.

⁵ Hillel Levine and Lawrence Harmon, *The Death of an American Jewish Community*. (New York: Free Press, 1992) 33.

⁶ Devine was identified in an article at his death as a successful liquor store operator. He ran a store located at 1824 Columbus Street and was a prominent supporter of state Senator John H. Doyle (1908-1910), the local Democratic party, and their anti-prohibition platform. "Many at Funeral of Hugh Devine, Brighton," *Boston Globe* May 5, 1920.

⁷ Adath Jeshurun is individually listed in the National Register (1999).

the area's growth. The synagogue is the central institution of Jewish life, connecting Jews and creating religious and cultural continuity by providing a place for worship, study, public assembly, socializing, social welfare, and celebrations of holiday and life cycle events.⁸ Thus, as Jews began moving into Roxbury and Dorchester, they established congregations, or new branches of their downtown Boston synagogues, to anchor their new communities.⁹ Construction of these synagogues, like Adath Jeshrun, was both a necessity for the neighborhood residents, and an important symbol of the prosperity of the middle-class Jews who initially settled in Roxbury and Dorchester.

As early as the mid 1910s, the middle-class community in Blue Hill Avenue-Grove Hall was becoming overwhelmed with thousands of lower-middle-class and working-class Jews, who initially chose to settle in areas with established congregations. As these new Jewish residents settled in and around the large, newly completed houses of worship in the Blue Hill Avenue-Grove Hall neighborhood, the more prosperous existing Jewish community began moving to other parts of Roxbury and Dorchester. Three new, largely middle-class, Jewish neighborhoods formed to the south along Blue Hill Avenue in Mount Bowdoin, Mattapan, and Elm Hill. Middle-class residents tended to purchase single-family houses removed from commercial and transportation activity. The lower-middle-class and working-class families moved into two-, three-, and multifamily structures constructed in close proximity to streetcar lines, which provided access to their workplaces.¹⁰

The Jewish population in Mattapan organized their first congregation, Hadrath Israel, in 1911. By 1917, a second synagogue, Agudath Israel, was established further south in the Blue Hill Avenue corridor. In 1915, Hadrath Israel purchased land for the construction of a new synagogue; the proposed synagogue was never built, and the congregation instead moved into a former Baptist church on Woodrow Avenue. Although neither of these congregations constructed a permanent structure before 1920, the district "contained the most heavily Jewish neighborhoods in Dorchester."¹¹ In addition to Hadrath Israel and Agudath Israel, the northern portion of Mattapan near Franklin Park became home to an array of other Jewish institutions between 1910 and 1920. Chevra Chai Odom was created in 1915 in the building vacated by Hadrath Israel; and Congregation Linas Hazedek on Michigan Avenue was established in 1917. Both served the growing number of Jews in the Franklin Park area. These groups and two institutions, the Home for Destitute Jewish Children (established 1910, NR pending) and the Temple Beth El Hebrew School (started 1917), made the northern part of portions of Mattapan a desirable place to create housing for the expanding Jewish enclave along Blue Hill Avenue.

Immediate Neighborhood

Between 1910 and 1920, nearly all of the properties of the former Newhall estate were filled with one- and two-family, wood-frame houses. However, the prominent parcels owned by Hugh Devine at the corners of Calder Street and Blue Hill Avenue, and Canterbury Road and Blue Hill Avenue remained unimproved in 1920 at the time of Devine's death. In 1924, four years after his death, the property was cleared in probate and deeded to Herman B. Barron.¹²

Herman B. Barron arrived in the United States from Lithuania in 1904, at the age of 23, and initially lived with his cousin Louis Weinstein on Lauriat Street in the heart of Mattapan. Weinstein and several other family members living in the house were builders specializing in cornice work. Although he married Celia Epstein in Philadelphia in 1909, the census in the following year indicates that Barron was out of work as a carpenter for several months and living with family but without his wife until establishing himself.¹³

By 1914, Herman Barron was living with his wife and son, Edward, on Woodrow Avenue, not far from the newly located Hadrath Israel and Agudath Israel synagogues. His career in the United States may have begun as a house carpenter, but Barron quickly turned to real estate development in the Mattapan and Roxbury neighborhoods. In 1915, he was the owner of record for construction of five brick stores along Intervale Street in Grove Hall. The next year, those buildings and additional property were sold, and eventually became a local park and playground. Also in 1915, Barron purchased a lot

⁸ Sarna and Smith, *Jews of Boston*, 175-176.

⁹ Sarna and Smith, *Jews of Boston*, 194.

¹⁰ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 180-1.

¹¹ Sarna and Smith, *Jews of Boston*, 153.

¹² Bromley Maps, West Roxbury 1890, 1905, 1914, 1924, and Dorchester 1884, 1889, 1904, 1910, 1918, and 1933. Property Deed and Plat dated January 17, 1924, Suffolk County Registry of Deeds.

¹³ 1910 Federal Census.

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Marriage Index 1885-1951, accessed via Ancestry.com.
City Directories 1821-1989, accessed via Ancestry.com.

of land on Magnolia Street in Grove Hall and constructed a house, where he lived in 1920 with his growing family. In 1918 he was working for Hugh Nawn Construction Company in Roxbury.¹⁴

The influx of new Jewish residents to Dorchester during the 1910s and 1920s led to many speculative apartment developments. In the northern portions of Dorchester and in Roxbury developers typically created traditional wood-frame, three-story apartments and single-family houses along residential side streets, and substantial brick apartment complexes and commercial buildings on lots facing primary transportation routes.

In early 1924, Barron filed a building permit for 825 and 829 Blue Hill Avenue with the City of Boston, and construction was underway by April of that year. Barron selected Samuel S. Levy, Jr., a prolific architect of apartment buildings throughout the Boston area. The design for the buildings conformed to the irregular-sized lot at the corner of Blue Hill Avenue and Calder Street, but took on many of the Colonial Revival characteristics found both in apartment buildings of the area and in the architect's previous work.¹⁵

Samuel Levy

Samuel S. Levy, Jr. (1885-1936) was born in Russia and arrived in the United States with his mother and father at the age of four. His family lived in Brookhaven, New York, until his father, a tailor, moved them to Boston between 1895 and 1900. By 1910, he was listed as an architect and lived with his parents and siblings on Wayland Street, in the Grove Hall section of Roxbury. Nothing is known of Samuel S. Levy's schooling in architecture, but his early career was greatly affected and assisted by the massive 1908 fire that destroyed much of the heavily Jewish neighborhood of Chelsea in Boston.¹⁶

Levy's first known building, the Julius Cohen Apartments at 481-483 Broadway in Chelsea, led to a plethora of commissions for the young architect.¹⁷ Between 1911 and 1916, Levy filed permits for at least 30 building projects in Chelsea. Those buildings included both small commercial and mixed-use buildings along Broadway, and residential apartment buildings along Chester, Chestnut, Grove, Hawthorn, and Shurtleff streets.¹⁸ All of Levy's early designs incorporated Colonial Revival decorative elements, and nearly all were constructed of brick. The architect's early experience in Chelsea honed his technique for producing the ubiquitous three-story, brick, triple-decker apartment buildings found throughout the Boston area. In addition to his long list of groups of buildings in Chelsea, Levy worked on a handful of stand-alone projects in East Boston, Brighton, and Brookline between 1912 and 1915, all owned by developers for whom he also worked in Chelsea.¹⁹

During World War I, Samuel Levy's work focus, like that of many others, was pushed toward the industrial sector. He worked as an architect for the Hood Rubber Company in Watertown, which greatly expanded their facilities to provide products, tires, shoes, helmets, and boots for the war effort. By 1920, the company employed 10,000 people and had several dozen buildings in operation, now demolished.²⁰ After the war, Levy produced a commercial building in Watertown (608-616 Mount Auburn Street) and three single-family houses of different styles on Verndale Street in Brookline, before turning his architectural practice back to brick apartment-building construction.²¹

Like his earlier Chelsea projects, most of Samuel S. Levy's commissions during the 1920s were generally for Jewish developers and housed Jewish tenants. However, unlike his early career, those projects were now focused on the rising

¹⁴ City Directories 1821-1989, accessed via Ancestry.com.
Boston Globe, September 3, 1915 p. 14 and November 3, 1916, p. 3
City of Boston Building Permits, 71-79 Intervale Street.

¹⁵ City of Boston Building Permits, 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue.
MHC, MACRIS Database.

¹⁶ Federal Census, 1900-1940.

¹⁷ MACRIS Database, CLS.28.

¹⁸ Many of Levy's buildings in Chelsea are contributing resources to the Bellingham Square Historic District and the Downtown Chelsea Residential District, listed in the National Register in 1985 and 1988, respectively.

¹⁹ MHC, MACRIS Database.

²⁰ Richard Heath, *Egleston Square* (Jamaica Plain Historical Society, 2005). Accessed online August 1, 2012.

²¹ Ancestry.com. U.S., *World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918* (database on-line). Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 2005.
"Hood Rubber Company -- Watertown (Mass.)," *Digital Commonwealth*, accessed February 22, 2013.

²¹ MHC, MACRIS Database, WAT.189, BKL.274, BKL.251, BKL. 272.

Heath, *Egleston Square*. (Jamaica Plain Historical Society), 2005. Accessed online August 1, 2012.

population in Roxbury, Dorchester, and the suburbs west of Boston. From 1924 until 1929, Samuel Levy produced at least twenty-one apartment buildings in Dorchester, Roxbury, Brookline, Jamaica Plain, and Newton. For some of these, his younger brother Bernard (Barney) Levy appears as the architect of record on neighboring apartment buildings, and it is likely that they worked together in securing and completing work.²²

Most of Samuel Levy's postwar apartment buildings show a more refined use of Colonial Revival details. His later buildings look less like the traditional three-story apartment houses in the Boston area, with extended bays featuring harder corners, proper proportions, and greater ornamental details. In 1928 Levy designed arguably his most important building, the Congregation Ezrath Israel Synagogue building in Malden (demolished).²³ The large, brick building on Bryant Street included more Art Deco features than Levy's traditional commissions. Unfortunately, the synagogue was one of his last works, and his career appears to have ended abruptly with the onset of the Great Depression. There are no records of commissions after 1929, and he lists no office location or profession in directories after 1930. Census records, city directories, and Bromley Atlases indicate that Levy purchased a home at 257 Warren Street in 1930 but retained ownership of the single-family house at 607 Morton Avenue, his residence for the ten years prior. He lived at the property on Warren Street, half of a duplex, with his wife until her death in 1934. Levy died two years later in December of 1936.²⁴

It is likely that Samuel Levy's continual professional success and Herman Barron's business interests were maintained in part by their participation in the local Jewish institutions like the Adath Jeshurun congregation. The synagogue is the central institution of Jewish life, connecting Jews, and creating religious and cultural continuity by providing a place for worship, study, public assembly, socializing, social welfare, and celebrations of holiday and life-cycle events. In the developing neighborhoods of Roxbury and Dorchester, it was also a place that solidified business relationships within the community.²⁵ Levy and Barron were members of the Adath Jeshurun congregation, and are buried with their wives in the synagogue's cemetery. The leaders responsible for construction of the Adath Jeshurun synagogue—Davis Krokyn, Nathan Pinanski, Joseph Rudnick, and Myer Dana—were all members of the real estate business and former members of the North End's Baldwin Place Shul. According to David Kaufman, the congregation wanted their new building constructed in 1906 to "reflect their interest in property development and the affluence that had started to come their way."²⁶

The apartment buildings at 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue are an example of Levy's later work, and are architecturally similar to his other projects from this time. His designs throughout his career embody the Colonial Revival style, but show small shifts in architectural fashion from classical ornamental details to simplified modern design and principles. The use of Colonial Revival architectural elements at 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue provided traditional forms with which his client, the developer, and the potential residents could identify. With speculative developers looking to create housing communities for rising middle-class immigrants, Colonial Revival forms were a comfortable way to market the properties to the upwardly mobile. Colonial Revival buildings place heavy emphasis on the entrances, windows, and cornices.²⁷ The 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue apartment buildings have ornate entrances that feature ornamental pilasters, pediments, and brackets inspired by American Georgian and English Adam precedents.

By the mid 1920s, many middle- and upper-middle-class Jews began to leave Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan for the nearby Boston suburbs, especially Brookline. As Gerald Gamm notes, the conditions in towns like Brookline and Newton recreated "the rural ideal that had brought an earlier generation of suburbanites to upper Roxbury and Dorchester. Suburban homes were a refuge from the busyness and hustle of urban life, from the European immigrants and black migrants who huddled in urban neighborhoods."²⁸ Two additional factors spurred the migration to Brookline and Newton: the rise of the automobile, and federal housing programs of the 1930s. The automobile allowed people to commute into the city from increasingly distant residential areas, freeing those that could afford a car from dependence on

²² MHC, MACRIS Database.
City of Boston Permits.

Heath, *Egleston Square*. (Jamaica Plain Historical Society), 2005. Accessed online August 1, 2012.

²³ MHC, MACRIS Database, MAL.188.

²⁴ City Directories 1928-1937.

²⁵ Sarna and Smith, *Jews of Boston 175-176*.

²⁶ Sarna and Smith, *Jews of Boston 195*.

²⁷ Virginia and Lee McAlester. *A Field Guide to American Architecture*, (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1995), 321-324.

²⁸ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 185.

streetcar routes.²⁹ Federal housing programs in the 1930s contributed to the exodus by actively guiding middle-class homeowners away from urban housing and toward single-family, suburban homes.³⁰ Although the population of Roxbury and Dorchester increased sixteen percent between 1920 and 1930, the populations of Brookline and Newton increased 26 and 42 percent, respectively, during the same period.

As middle- and upper-middle-class Jews began to leave, lower-middle- and working-class Jews replaced them. These new residents inherited a network of institutions that had been constructed between 1905 and 1925—a period that oversaw the most substantial construction of synagogues, schools, and community halls ever built in Roxbury or Dorchester.³¹ Overall, the population of the Jewish community, especially along Blue Hill Avenue, increased during the 1920s despite the exodus of upper-middle- and middle-class Jews. Housing developments like the apartments at 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue created space for the newly arriving population.

In 1930, six years after it was built, all of the fifteen households in the buildings at 825 and 829 Blue Hill Avenue had at least one first-generation immigrant, with all but two of eastern European and Jewish descent. Only two families, one German and one English, did not list Yiddish as their language. The residents were middle- and working-class. Professions listed in the census include: clothing salesman, clothing manufacturer, dentist, junk collector, cigar factory packer, lawyer, fruit packer, and musician.³²

The Jewish community of Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan reached a population of 77,000 in the late 1920s and early 1930s, which was approximately half of the entire Jewish population in the Boston area, and ten percent of Boston's total population. Census tract data from the 1940s depicts a swath encompassing the area's three major transportation routes—Seaver Street, Columbia Road, and Blue Hill Avenue—where the percentage of Jewish residents was between 85 and 100 percent of the population (Figure 2). Adjacent areas on the census tract map as far east as Dorchester Avenue and as far north as Quincy Street, indicate that between 35 and 85 percent of the residents were Jewish.³³

By 1940, more than half of the households represented at 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue continued to have at least one first-generation immigrant, the vast majority of them from Russia. Most of the residents at that time had lived in the building for at least five years, and a handful had been there at least ten years. Like the original tenants, most residents were working- and lower-middle-class professionals: salesmen, store owners, painters, manufacturing workers, a librarian, an undertaker, and numerous “managers.”³⁴ This consistency in population mirrored the rest of the surrounding neighborhoods. Despite a slight overall decline in population, the Jewish community in Roxbury and Dorchester was still the largest in New England through the late 1940s and early 1950s. In fact, the 1950 population was almost twice that of the Jewish communities in Brookline, Brighton, and Newton combined.³⁵

However, the change in demographics of the Jewish residents did eventually affect the Blue Hill corridor. At first, middle- and upper-middle-class Jews who were migrating from Roxbury and Dorchester to the suburbs continued to be active in their urban congregations, because membership rules for synagogues do not limit participation based on geography. Not only did the new suburban residents remain active, but many continued in their leadership roles with these institutions. As Gerald Gamm writes, many middle-class Jews in suburbs like Brookline and Newton “continued to celebrate weddings in those institutions, to send their children to school in those institutions, and to participate in the social and communal life that centered on those institutions.”³⁶ However, as suburban Jewish families settled in their new houses, they began to establish new institutions that were more convenient than their former urban synagogues. The construction of suburban institutions created financial instability for synagogues in Roxbury, Dorchester, and Mattapan, as they lost the monetary

²⁹ Once the federal government, as well as state and local governments, began committing resources to building roads and highways, the modern suburb was created. Between 1913 and 1927, automobile ownership rose from 1 million to 26 million, meaning there was one automobile for every five persons in the United States.

³⁰ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 185.

³¹ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 184, 187.

³² Federal Census, 1930.

³³ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 80, 196.

³⁴ Federal Census, 1940.

³⁵ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 80, 196.

³⁶ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 184.

contributions from their well-to-do members.³⁷ During the late 1960s and 1970s a large percentage of the Jewish population in Mattapan dispersed, as immigrants and working-class African Americans moved into the neighborhood.

The apartments at 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue experienced a similar change with the neighborhood. The majority of residents listed in the 1960 city directory continued to have traditionally Jewish surnames, but greater diversity shows with each passing year. In 1972, the buildings were acquired by Abrams Realty Corporation and rehabilitated. Although there have been changes to the ownership grouping, the apartments have been owned and managed by the same owners for the last four decades. Additional rehabilitation took place in the buildings in 1988, which modernized finishes in the units and in common spaces.

The property continues to operate as affordable apartment units and is fully occupied. A recently completed rehabilitation utilized state and federal historic tax credits, and was the impetus for listing in the National Register. The rehabilitation updated kitchens, bathrooms, and finishes, while retaining the historic character of the property.

³⁷ Gamm, *Urban Exodus*, 187.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography (Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form.)

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Jewish Advocate, September 2, 1910:1.

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Jewish Advocate, June 3, 1948.

Other Sources

Donovan, Leslie et al. *Nazing Court National Register Nomination*. Massachusetts Historical Commission, 2004.

Dorchester Athenaeum. *Roxbury Timeline*, accessed online 8/1/12.

Heath, Richard and Betsy Friedberg. *Congregation Adath Jeshurun*. National Register Nomination. Massachusetts Historical Commission, 1999.

JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR) [database on-line]. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc., 2008.

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____
- recorded by Historic American Landscape Survey # _____

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
 - Other State agency
 - Federal agency
 - Local government
 - University
 - Other
- Name of repository: _____

Historic Resources Survey Number (if assigned): N/A
HPCA # 26,812

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than 1 acre

Use either the UTM system or latitude/longitude coordinates

Latitude/Longitude Coordinates

Datum if other than WGS84: _____
(enter coordinates to 6 decimal places)

- 1. Latitude: 42.296885 Longitude: -71.087667
- 2. Latitude: Longitude:
- 3. Latitude: Longitude:
- 4. Latitude: Longitude:

Or

UTM References

Datum (indicated on USGS map):

NAD 1927 or NAD 1983

- 1. Zone: 19T Easting: 327907 Northing: 4684850
- 2. Zone: Easting: Northing:
- 3. Zone: Easting: Northing:
- 4. Zone: Easting: Northing:

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property.)

The parcel boundary serves as the property boundary for registration purposes. Calder Street forms the southwest boundary to the lot, while Blue Hill Avenue serves as the eastern boundary. The alley to the rear of the two buildings forms the northern boundary.

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected.)

Since their construction in 1924, the buildings at 825 and 829 Blue Hill Avenue have been associated with Boston tax parcel 1404198000. The lot measures 8,326 square feet.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title: Richard Sidebottom and Roysin Younkin, MacRostie Historic Advisors with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC
organization: Massachusetts Historical Commission
street & number: 220 Morrissey Blvd.
city or town: Boston state: MA zip code: 02125
e-mail betsy.friedberg@sec.state.ma.us
telephone: 617-727-8470
date: July 2014

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

- **Maps:** A USGS map or equivalent (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources. Key all photographs to this map.
- **Additional items:** (Check with the SHPO, TPO, or FPO for any additional items.)

Photographs

Submit clear and descriptive photographs. The size of each image must be 1600x1200 pixels (minimum), 3000x2000 preferred, at 300 ppi (pixels per inch) or larger. Key all photographs to the sketch map. Each photograph must be numbered and that number must correspond to the photograph number on the photo log. For simplicity, the name of the photographer, photo date, etc. may be listed once on the photograph log and doesn't need to be labeled on every photograph.

Photo Log

Name of Property: 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue

City or Vicinity: Boston (Dorchester)

County: Suffolk **State:** MA

Photographer: Mary Nastasi

Date Photographed: December 10, 2011

Description of Photograph(s) and number:

Photograph 1 of 25: Looking north toward south elevation of 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue, at corner of Calder St.
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0001

Photograph 2 of 25: Looking west toward east elevation and main entrance of 829 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0002

Photograph 3 of 25: Looking west toward east elevation and main entrance to 825 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0003

Photograph 4 of 25: Looking southwest toward north elevation of 825 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0004

Photograph 5 of 25: Looking southeast toward west elevation of 829 Blue Hill Avenue along Calder Street
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0005

Photograph 6 of 25: Looking southeast toward west elevation and rear alley of 829 Blue Hill Avenue along Calder Street
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0006

Photograph 7 of 25: Looking east toward alley along north elevation of 825 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0007

Photograph 8 of 25: Looking south toward Calder Street along rear alley of 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0008

Photograph 9 of 25: Looking east in light court of 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0009

Photograph 10 of 25: Looking west into light court from roof of 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0010

Photograph 11 of 25: Entrance portico of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking west
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0011

Photograph 12 of 25: Entrance stairway of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking west

- MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0012
- Photograph 13 of 25: Stair Lobby of 825 Blue Hill Avenue, looking west
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0013
- Photograph 14 of 25: Staircase of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking south
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0014
- Photograph 15 of 25: Upper Floor Hallway at 829 Blue Hill Avenue
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0015
- Photograph 16 of 25: Corridor in typical two-bedroom unit of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking south
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0016
- Photograph 17 of 25: Living Room in typical two-bedroom unit of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking southeast
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0017
- Photograph 18 of 25: Bedroom in typical two-bedroom unit of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking south
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0018
- Photograph 19 of 25: Corridor in typical one-bedroom unit of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking north
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0019
- Photograph 20 of 25: Kitchen in typical one-bedroom unit of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking southwest
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0020
- Photograph 21 of 25: Bedroom in typical one-bedroom unit of 829 Blue Hill Avenue, looking northwest
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0021
- Photograph 22 of 25: Corridor in typical two-bedroom unit of 825 Blue Hill Avenue, looking southwest
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0022
- Photograph 23 of 25: Living Room in typical two-bedroom unit of 825 Blue Hill Avenue, looking northwest
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0023
- Photograph 24 of 25: Bedroom in typical two-bedroom unit of 825 Blue Hill Avenue, looking west
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0024
- Photograph 25 of 25: Kitchen in typical two-bedroom unit of 825 Blue Hill Avenue, looking southwest
MA_Suffolk County_825-829 Blue Hill Ave_0024

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C.460 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 100 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Office of Planning and Performance Management, U.S. Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C. Street, NW, Washington, DC.



Figure 1: Site Plan for 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue, adapted from City of Boston Assessor's Maps.

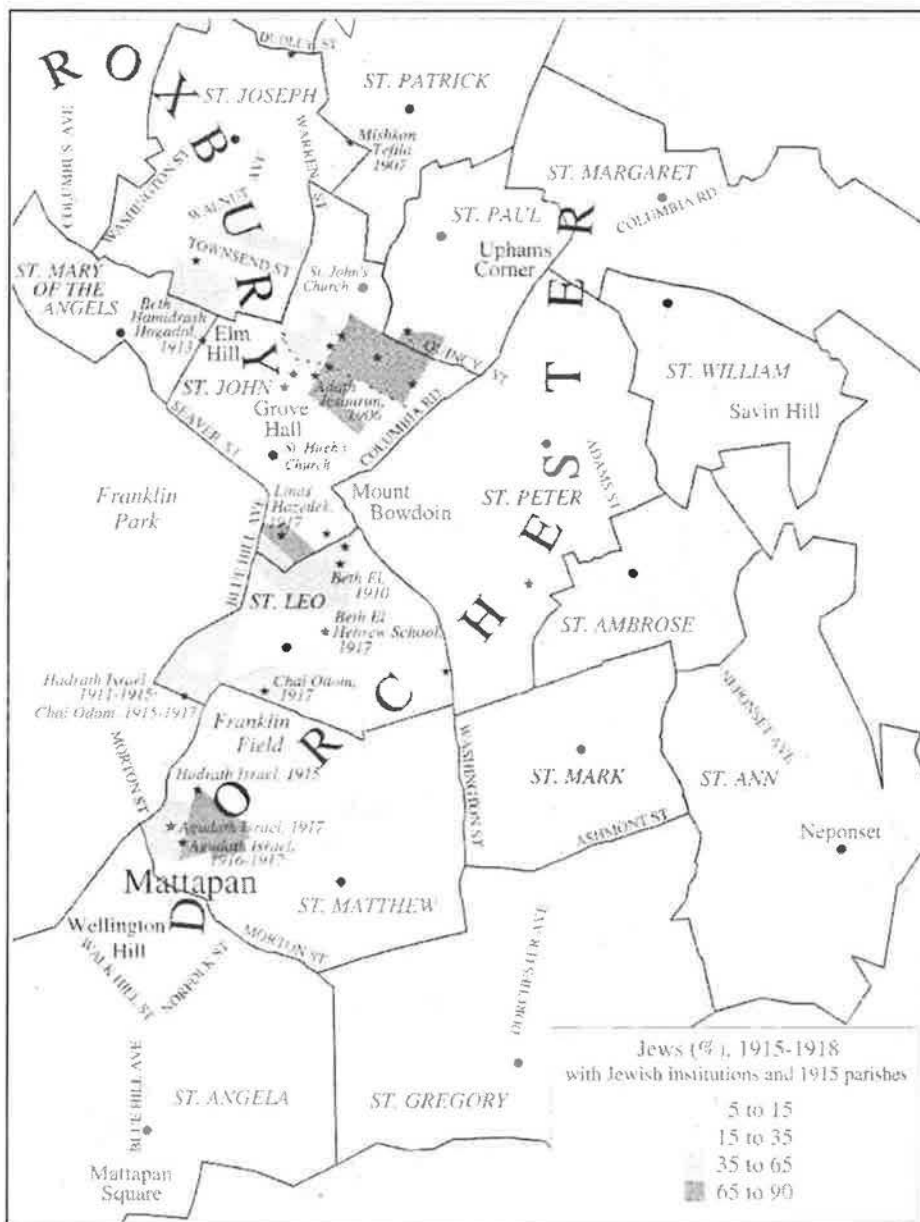


Figure 2: Distribution of Jewish Residents, 1915-1918, from *Urban Exodus*.

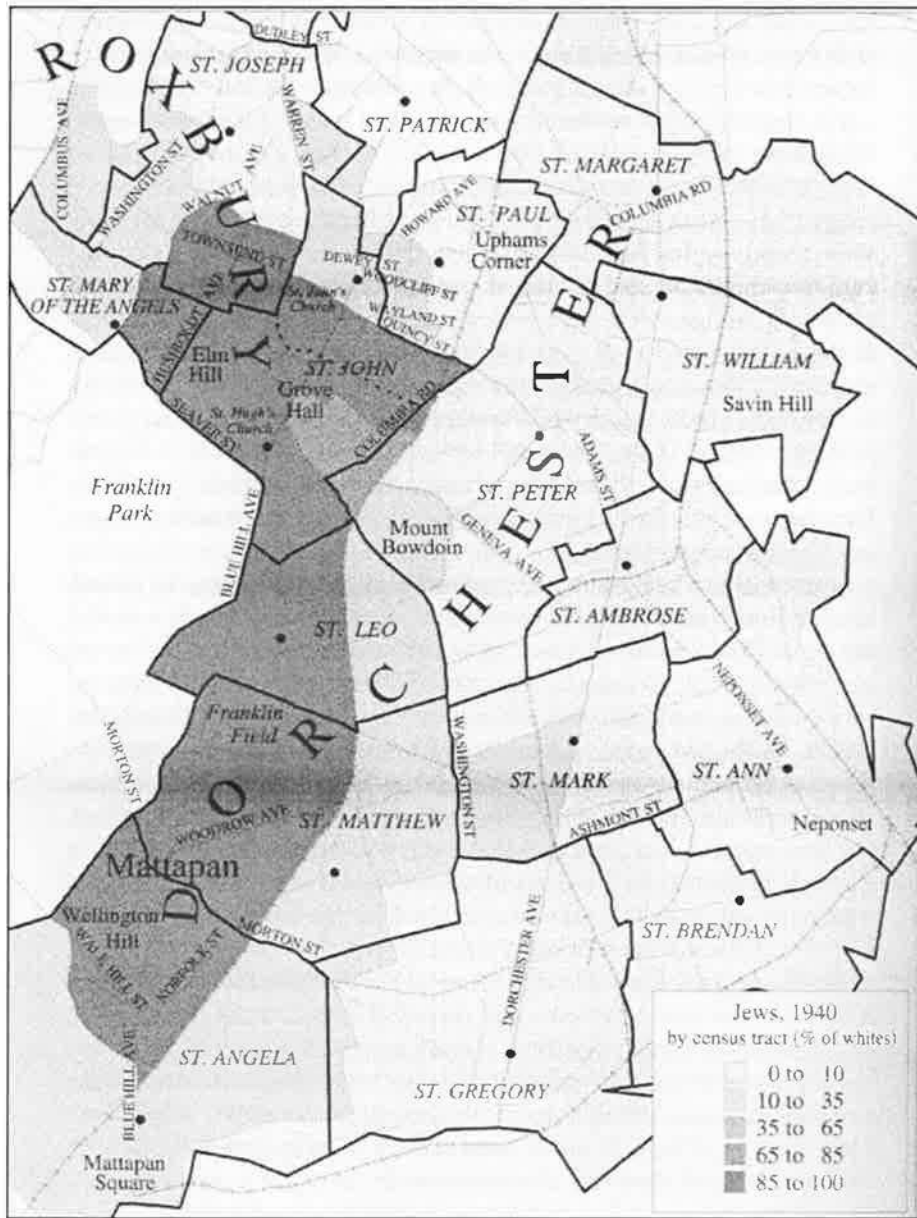
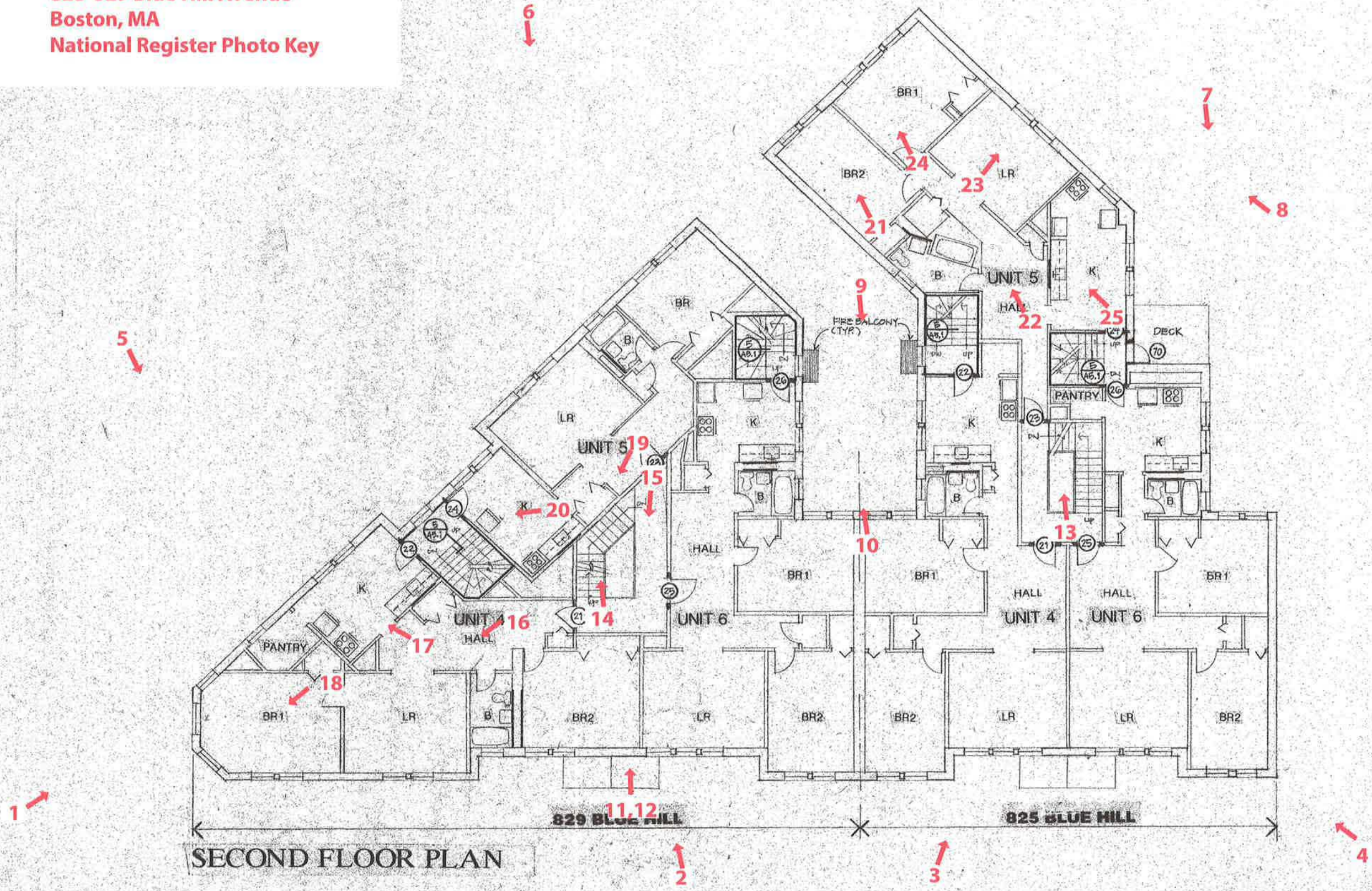


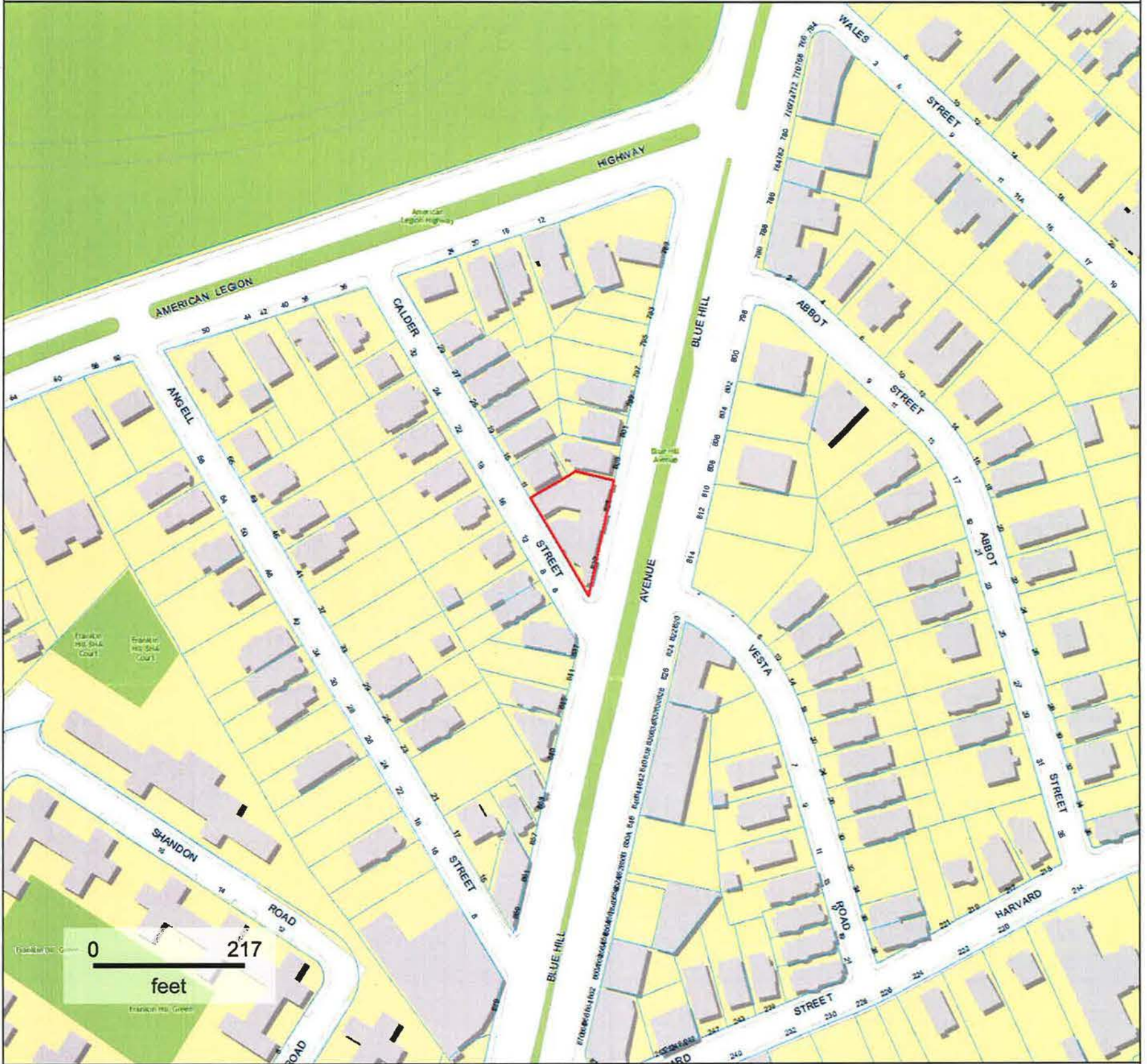
Figure 3: Distribution of Jewish Residents, 1940, from *Urban Exodus*

825-829 Blue Hill Avenue
Boston, MA
National Register Photo Key



SECOND FLOOR PLAN

825-829 Blue Hill Avenue



Property Information

Parcel ID	1404198000	
Owner	ABRAMS EDWIN	E
Address	825 BLUE HILL AV	
Property Type	0125	
Building Value	\$326,981.00	
Land Value	\$297,218.00	
Total Value	\$624,199.00	
Lot Size	8326 sq ft	
Land Use	Apartment Building	



**MAP FOR REFERENCE ONLY
NOT A LEGAL DOCUMENT**



The City of Boston makes no claims, no representations, and no warranties, expressed or implied, concerning the validity (expressed or implied), the reliability, or the accuracy of the GIS data and GIS data products furnished by the City, including the implied validity of any uses of such data. The use of this data, in any such manner, shall not supercede any federal, state or local laws or regulations.



825-829 Blue Hill Avenue

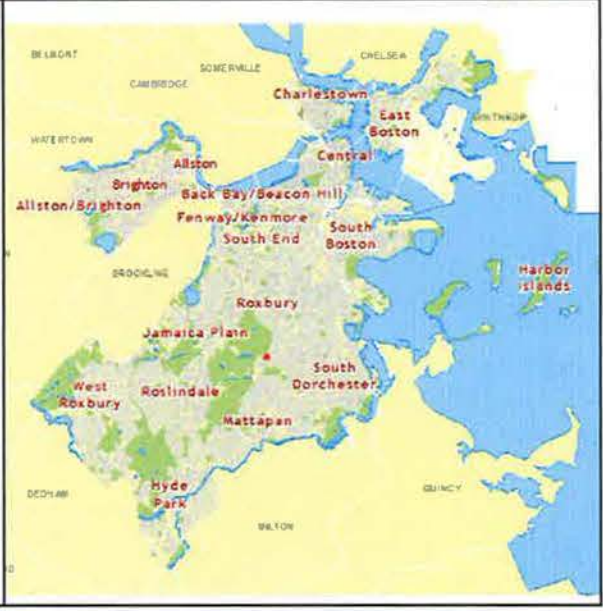


Property Information	
Parcel ID	1404198000
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Building Value	\$326,981.00
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825-829 Blue Hill Avenue



Property Information

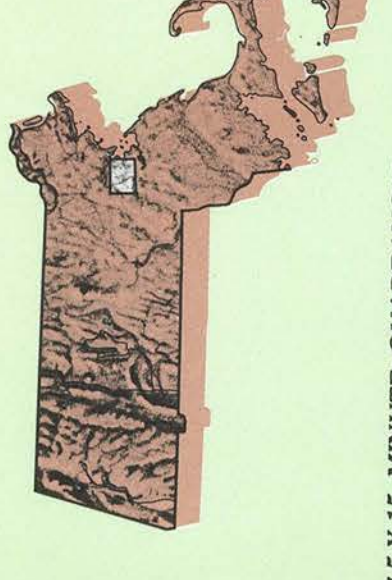
Parcel ID	1404198000	
Owner	ABRAMS EDWIN	E
Address	825 BLUE HILL AV	
Property Type	0125	
Building Value	\$326,981.00	
Land Value	\$297,218.00	
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7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE
SHOWING

- Contours and elevations in meters
- Highways, roads and other manmade structures
- Water features
- Woodland areas
- Geographic names



Produced by the United States Geological Survey of the Massachusetts Department of Public Works
Surveyed by LEOG, NORTON, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken in 1979
Supersedes Newton and Boston South, 1977, 1987
This information is not intended for navigation purposes
1:25000-scale metric grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system

1927 North American Datum
The map is projected on the North American Datum of 1927. The datum is based on the geoid of mean sea level. The datum is based on the geoid of mean sea level. The datum is based on the geoid of mean sea level.
These maps be used as a guide only. They do not constitute a warranty of any kind. They are for informational purposes only.
The National System of State Reservations shown on this map is based on the National System of State Reservations. It is not intended for navigation purposes.

CONTOUR INTERVAL 3 METERS
CONTOUR ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER
ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST METER
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
ON THE MEAN HIGH WATER, THE APPROXIMATE LINE
THE MEAN RANGE OF THE IS APPROXIMATELY 20 METERS
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

Meters	Feet
0.305	1
0.914	3
1.828	6
3.658	12
9.144	30
18.288	60
36.576	120
73.152	240

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

UTM grid convergence (along map center) is 0.1 centimeter per kilometer. UTM grid zone is 18 Q, northing is 4820000. UTM grid easting is 682000.



Topographic Map Symbols

Symbol	Description
—	Primary highway, four-lane
—	Secondary highway, two-lane
—	Light-duty road, yard or improved surface
—	Unimproved road, trail
—	Railroad
—	Proposed railroad
—	Proposed expressway
—	Proposed intercity, interstate, express
—	Proposed transit, rapid transit
—	Proposed bus
—	Proposed subway
—	Proposed light rail
—	Proposed streetcar
—	Proposed trolley
—	Proposed tram
—	Proposed streetcar
—	Proposed trolley
—	Proposed tram



A three-story brick building with a white decorative border around the windows and a white base. The building has a prominent corner with a decorative cornice. The windows are arranged in a grid pattern. The building is situated at a street corner.

A multi-story residential building with light-colored siding and a dark roof. The building has several windows and a small porch area. It is situated on the left side of the street.

A dark-colored sedan parked on the street. The car is facing away from the camera. The license plate is visible.

A line of parked cars along the street. The cars are of various colors and models. They are parked parallel to the curb.

A white utility vehicle or van parked at the corner. The vehicle has a flatbed and some equipment on the back. It is facing away from the camera.

A line of parked cars along the street. The cars are of various colors and models. They are parked parallel to the curb.

cbt







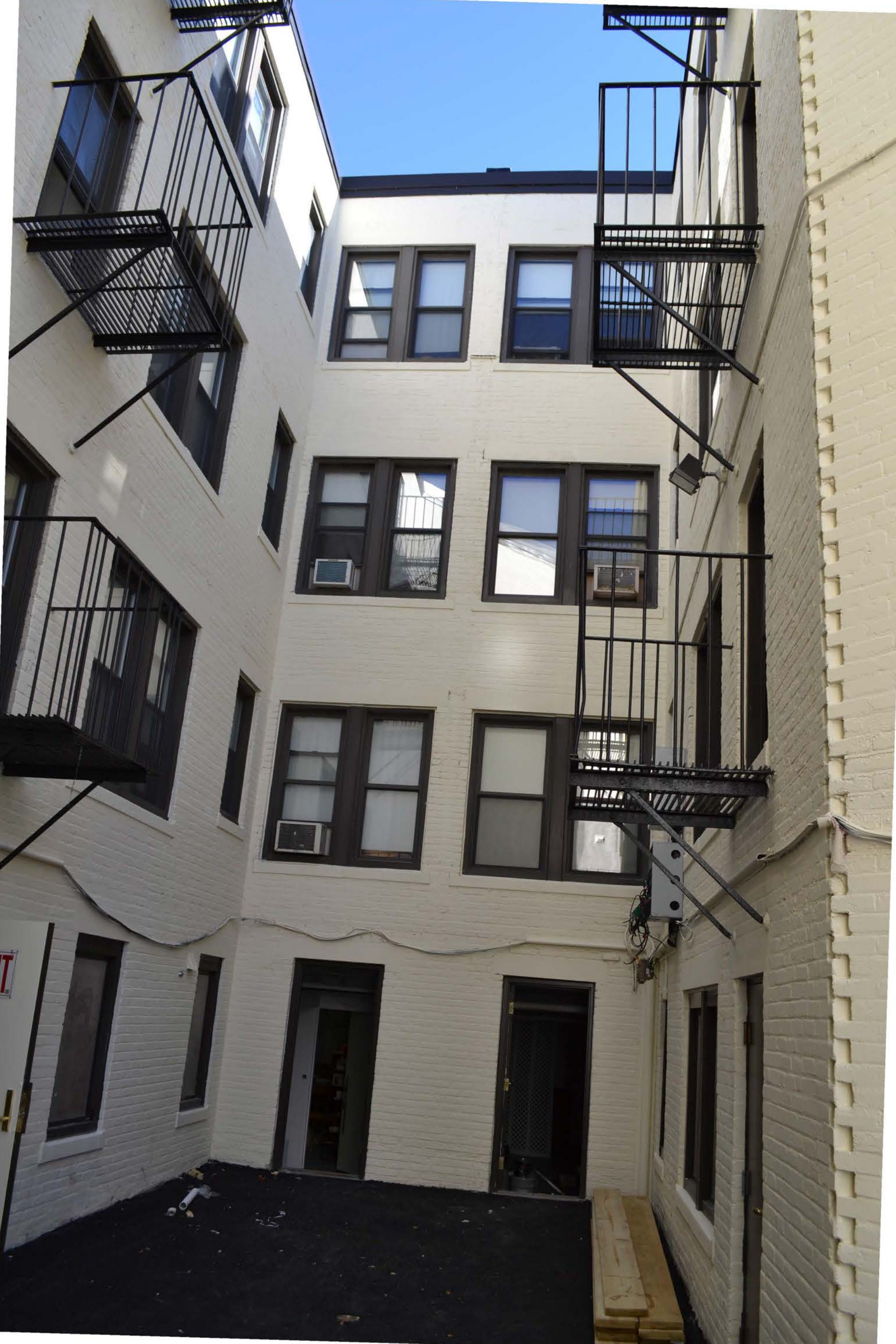








United
SERVICES





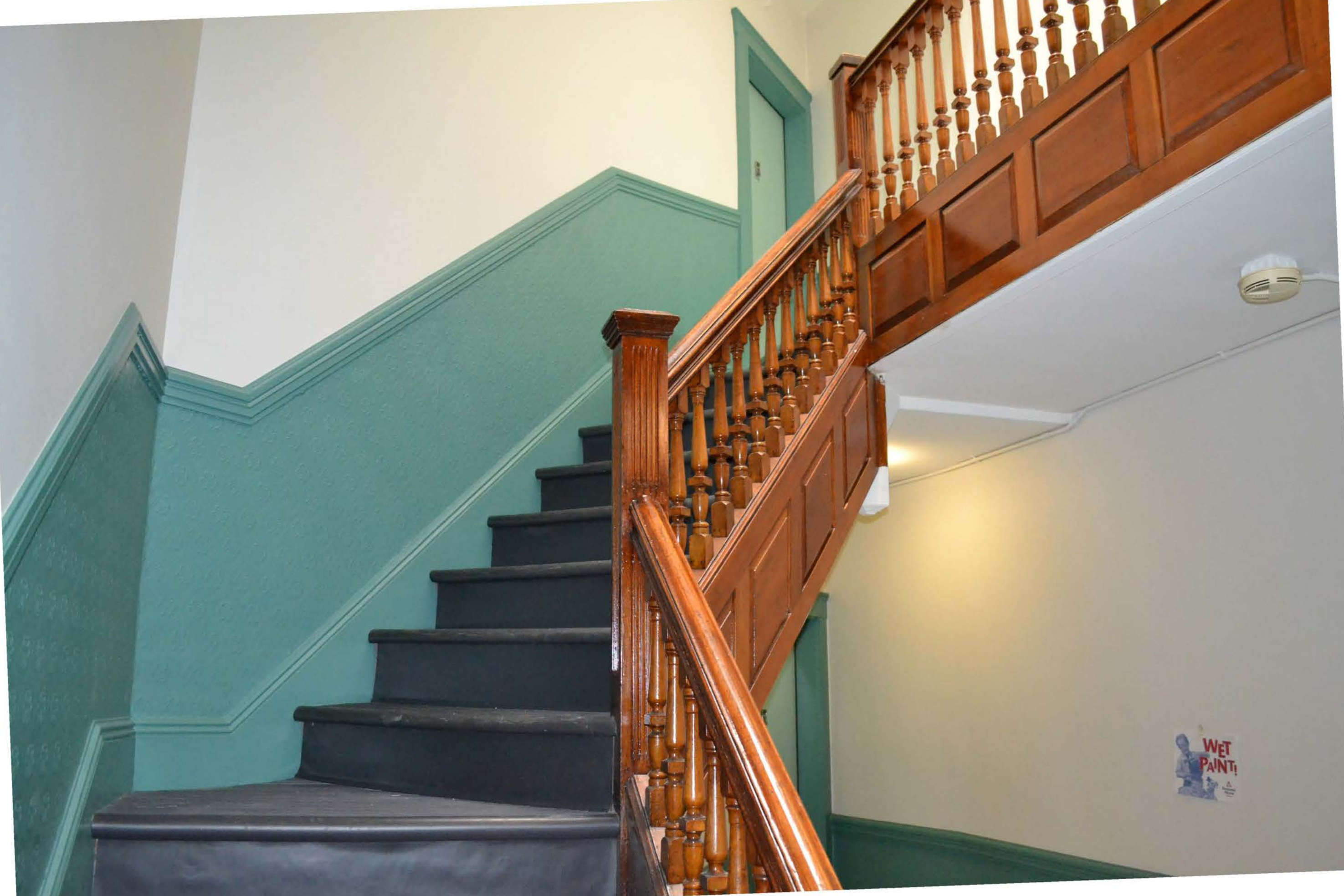
024047 FAE



829







WET
PAINT!







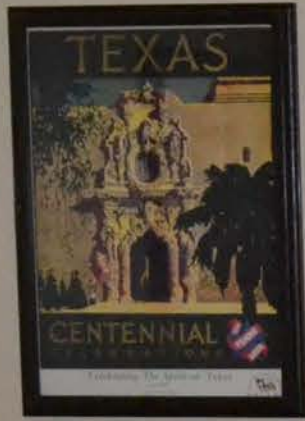
















UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Buildings at 825--829 Blue Hill Avenue

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Suffolk

DATE RECEIVED: 7/25/14 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/22/14
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 9/08/14 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/10/14
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 14000561

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 9.10.14 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in
The National Register
of
Historic Places

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

July 15, 2014

Mr. J. Paul Loether
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Loether:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

825-829 Blue Hill Avenue, Boston (Mattapan) (Suffolk), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of the property in the Certified Local Government community of Boston were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60 to 90 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

A letter of support has been received.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Tonya Loveday, Boston CLG coordinator, BLC
Richard Sidebottom, MacRostie Historic Advisors
Lynn Smiledge, Boston Landmarks Commission
Martin Walsh, Mayor, City of Boston
Martha Abrams-Bell, Peridot II, Inc.GP, Danube Apartments LLC



CITY OF BOSTON

THE ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT HIST. COMM

Boston City Hall, Room 709 • Boston, MA 02201 • 617/635-3850 • FAX: 617/635-3435

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MAY 29 2014

May 28, 2014

Ms. Brona Simon
State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Re: 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue, Dorchester
National Register of Historic Places Nomination

Dear Ms. Simon:

The Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) is very pleased to support the listing of 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue, Dorchester, in the National Register of Historic Places. The BLC unanimously voted to support this listing at its May 27, 2014 public meeting.

Thank you for providing the BLC with the opportunity to support this deserving nomination. BLC staff will be in attendance at the Massachusetts Historical Commission's June 11, 2014 quarterly meeting, at which it will review the 825-829 Blue Hill Avenue nomination.

Sincerely,

Tonya M. Loveday
Assistant Survey Director
Boston Landmarks Commission

Cc: Betsy Friedberg, National Register Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission
Richard Sidebottom, Senior Associate, MacRostie Historic Advisors, LLC (via e-mail)

VOTE TO SUPPORT THE LISTING OF THE 825-829 BLUE HILL AVENUE, DORCHESTER,
IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

MOTION: D. Parcon **SECOND:** S. Goganian
IN FAVOR: D. Berarducci, J. Freeman, S. Goganian, K. Hoffman,
T. Hotaling, D. Parcon, S. Pranger, L. Smiledge **OPPOSED:** None