

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

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

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

(SEE ATTACHED MAP)

UTM REFERENCE 19.316770.4687760

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON, MASS.

SCALE 1:25,000

AREA

FORM NO.

96

W-39

Newton, Mass. M.R.A.

Town Newton (waban)

Address 50 Fairlee Road

Historic Name John Woodward House

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date 1686

Source deed, Jackson Historical Archives

Style Colonial

Architect John Woodward

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings garage

Major Alterations (with dates) roof rebuild

early 18th c.; west rear ell 1850s;
windows repl. & porch added-19th c.
Condition

Moved no Date

Acreage 52,060 sq. ft. (1.2 acres)

Setting Isolated 17th c. farmhouse

set amid 20th c. resid. develop.

Adjacent to railroad tracks.

Recorded by D. Shea

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date 5/81; rev. by H. White 3/86

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The John Woodward House is associated with the Woodward family, among the city's earliest settlers, and is one of Newton's few extant seventeenth century dwellings; it therefore meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

The John Woodward house is a 2- $\frac{1}{2}$ story house based on the two room plan. It has a shallow gable roof and massive central chimney. The original roof was dismantled during the early 18th century. At that time the early framing members were re-inserted into new rafters. The house is four bays wide and one bay deep. The center entrance has later sidelights and a Colonial Revival period enclosed entrance porch. The 6/6 window sash also represents a later alteration. The windows of the second story are framed into the cornice. A one-story lean-to on the west elevation was added during the Federal period, and a two-story ell on the west elevation was added during the Greek Revival period.

The interior arrangement consists of rooms opening on to one side of a long hall suggesting that the house may have once operated as an inn.

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

John and Rebecca Woodward acquired this frame house and the surrounding acreage from Eben and Margaret Stone in 1686, for a sum of 31 pounds. The house was among the earliest built along the Sherborn Road, a major early thoroughfare. The Woodward house was occupied by members of the Woodward family for almost 275 years.

John Woodward (1649-1732) was a weaver by trade. The father of 12 children, he was active in local affairs, serving as a highway surveyor in 1686, town constable in 1694, and as a Selectman in 1701 and 1712. His descendants were also active in local and state politics, and fought in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars. One descendant, Deacon John Woodward, (1724-1801) moderated the Town Meeting of 1776, at which a unanimous vote was cast, urging Congress to declare the Colonies independent. He later fought in the battle of Concord.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Jackson Homestead Archives.
M.F. Sweetser. King's Handbook of Newton. Boston, 1889.
Jackson Map, Maps of 1831, 1848, 1855.
Atlases: 1874, 1886, 1895, 1907.
City Directories: 1868, 1891, 1925, 1954.
Newton Vital Statistics.
Francis Jackson. History of Newton. Boston, 1854.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

7/23/86

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

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

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

111. Souther, John, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

112. Staples--Crafts--Wiswall Farm

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

113. Stone, Ebenezer, House

Substantive Review
Determined Eligible

for Keeper

Eligible Talvik Andrus 9/4/86

Attest

114. Stone, Joseph L., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

115. Strong's Block

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

116. Thaxter, Celia, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

117. Thayer House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

118. Ward, Ephraim, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

119. Wheat, Samuel, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

120. Woodward, John, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Silvestre Byers 9/4/86

Attest

86001897

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Woodward, John, House (Newton MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

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

Entered in the
National Register

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: JUL 23 1986
Date Due: 8/21/86 - 9/6/86
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 9-4-86
 ☐ RETURN
 ☐ REJECT

Federal Agency: _____

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
	Public Acquisition	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 ☐ deteriorated
☐ good ☐ ruins
☐ fair ☐ 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: _____



Woodward, John, House

NEWTON, MASS. MRA

50 Fairlee Road, Waban

80-F-16 (22)

