

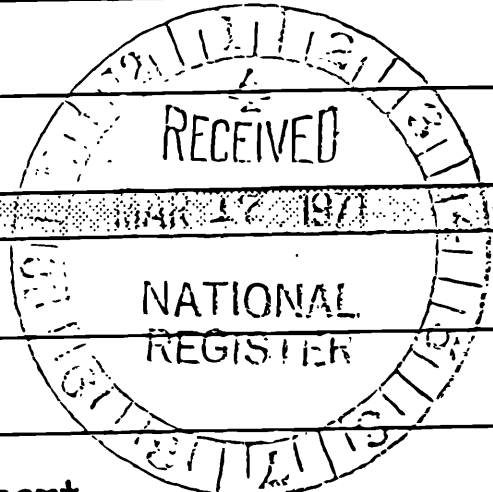
NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Rhode Island	
COUNTY: Newport	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER 715,440013	DATE 5/6/71

1. NAME

COMMON:
Jewish Community Center
AND/OR HISTORIC:
* Gale (Levi H.) House



2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
89, Touro Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Newport
STATE
Rhode Island, 02840

CODE 44	COUNTY: Newport	CODE 005
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3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/>	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	No: <input type="checkbox"/>
Public Acquisition: In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>			

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:
Trustees of Congregation Jeshuat Israel
STREET AND NUMBER:
89, Touro Street
CITY OR TOWN:
Newport

STATE: Rhode Island, 02840	CODE 44
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5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:
City Hall
STREET AND NUMBER:
Broadway
CITY OR TOWN:
Newport

STATE Rhode Island, 02840	CODE 44
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APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Less than 1 acre

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:
Historic American Buildings Survey
DATE OF SURVEY: 1970 Federal State County Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:
Library of Congress
STREET AND NUMBER:
1st Street and Independence Avenue, S. E.

CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: District of Columbia	CODE 11
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS

STATE:
COUNTY:
ENTRY NUMBER
DATE
715,440013 5/6/71

FOR NPS USE ONLY

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>		Moved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Original Site <input type="checkbox"/>	

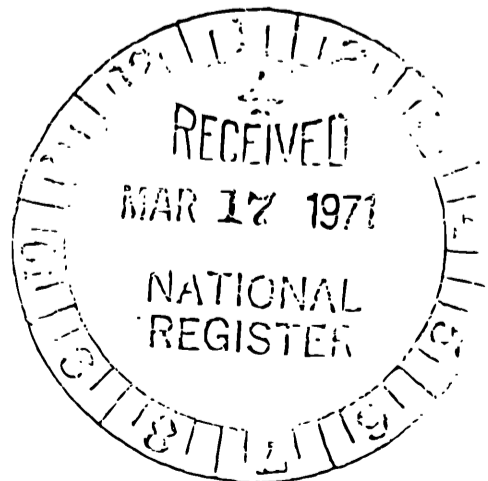
DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The present Jewish Community Center was designed by Russell Warren and built for Levi H. Gale as a large, elegant private residence c. 1833-1835, during the height of the Greek Revival. It is a frame building, fifty feet square, with a formal central-hall plan, two-and-a-half storeys high with a hipped monitor roof. (The monitor is actually cruciform in plan, its rectangular central portion having extensions running to the eaves-line of each façade, where they appear as three-bay panelled and windowed attic employed as ornamental and capping features--a favourite architectural device of Warren.) The exterior walls are covered with horizontal boarding with deeply grooved joints. The square mass of the house is strongly articulated, with rusticated pilasters at the corners; and the five-bay façades on two adjoining sides (north and east) are marked by four Corinthian pilasters on each. At the eaves is a deep entablature scaled to the proportions of the pilasters. Each of the two principal, pilastered façades has a centred one-storey entrance porch with Corinthian columns (whose capitals may be of cast iron, though this has not yet been verified).

Two of the principal first-floor rooms adjoin on the east side of the central hall; they meet with curved end walls having curved double-doors in an enframing of Corinthian columns. Across the hall are the other two main rooms of this floor, separated by the hallway of the west entrance, which is now at basement or pavement level. Interior detail throughout is large in scale, strong in form, classical in derivation, wholly characteristic of the Greek Revival. Original black marble mantels have been retained on fireplaces otherwise rebuilt or closed.

In 1925 the Gale house was moved to its present site from the head of Washington Square, where the Court House is located. It was sawn in two for moving and then placed upon a much higher foundation due to the slope of Touro Street. A good part of the interior was necessarily remodelled for new institutional uses. The exterior survives in large and fortunate measure, although photographs taken before the house was moved show parapets on attic, eaves and porches (as well as extremely awkward window shutters), which are no longer in place.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



8. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian <input type="checkbox"/>	16th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	18th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	20th Century <input type="checkbox"/>
15th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	17th Century <input type="checkbox"/>	19th Century <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) **1833-1835**

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal <input type="checkbox"/>	Education <input type="checkbox"/>	Political <input type="checkbox"/>	Urban Planning <input type="checkbox"/>
Prehistoric <input type="checkbox"/>	Engineering <input type="checkbox"/>	Religion/Philosophy <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>
Historic <input type="checkbox"/>	Industry <input type="checkbox"/>	Science <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Agriculture <input type="checkbox"/>	Invention <input type="checkbox"/>	Sculpture <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Art <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input type="checkbox"/>	Social/Humanitarian <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Commerce <input type="checkbox"/>	Architecture <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Theater <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Communications <input type="checkbox"/>	Literature <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	_____
Conservation <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>		_____
	Music <input type="checkbox"/>		_____

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

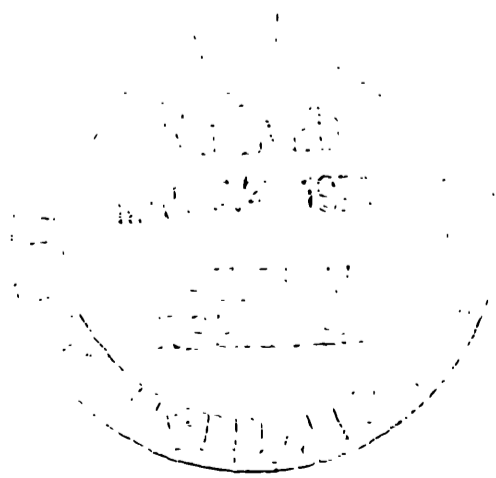
This house has distinction in the fact alone that it was designed by Russell Warren, a Rhode Island native and one of the state's most distinguished and prolific architects of the XIX Century--now generally advanced to an important place in national architectural history also.

The Gale house, with its strong cubic shape, its monitor-attic feature and its rich Corinthian decorations inside and out, is by size and style imposing, impressive. It is an important example of the Greek Revival applied with intentional monumentality to domestic architecture.

It is a most valuable remnant of Warren's now-diminished oeuvre. Cramped as it may be on its new site, without former front or rear lawns and side garden, it nevertheless takes a place (with the Touro Synagogue opposite) as a dominant feature of Touro Street, a memorable landmark. Although serving purposes for which it was not designed, it has been well maintained--with all possible respect for its form and fabric--by the present owners. However, there are thoughts that it no longer practicably accommodates their needs and activities, leading to contemplation of demolition and replacement.

In the city of Newport it is one of only three surviving monumentally scaled and classically detailed dwellings of the Greek Revival period, and one of the other two (this also by Warren) is irreparably mutilated. Newport may be rich in architecture, but it is not rich in examples of this particular period; neither does Rhode Island remain rich in extant works of an important native architect.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS



9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

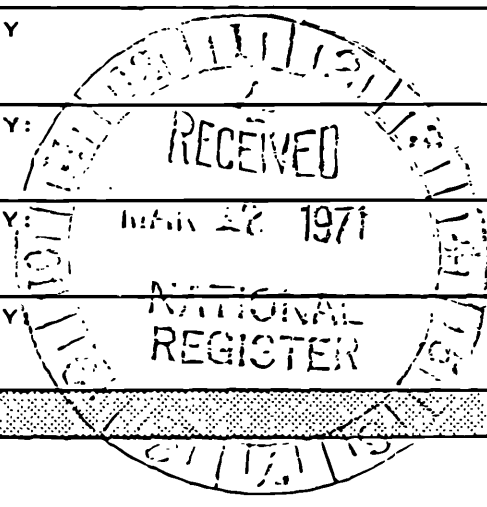
Downing, Antoinette F., and Scully, Vincent J., Jr.: The Architectural Heritage of Newport, Rhode Island, 1640-1915, 2nd ed. (New York, 1967); pp. 118, 119, 348, 349.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		41° 29' 20" N	71° 18' 45" W	
NE	° ' "	° ' "				
SE	° ' "	° ' "				
SW	° ' "	° ' "				

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE



11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:
Osmund Overby, Project Supervisor

ORGANIZATION: Historic American Buildings Survey--Newport Project DATE: September, 1970

STREET AND NUMBER:
90, Bridge Street

CITY OR TOWN: Newport STATE: Rhode Island CODE: 44

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison 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. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National State Local

Name: Frederick R. Williams

Title: State Liaison Officer

Date: February 18, 1971

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

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

Ernest A. Connally
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

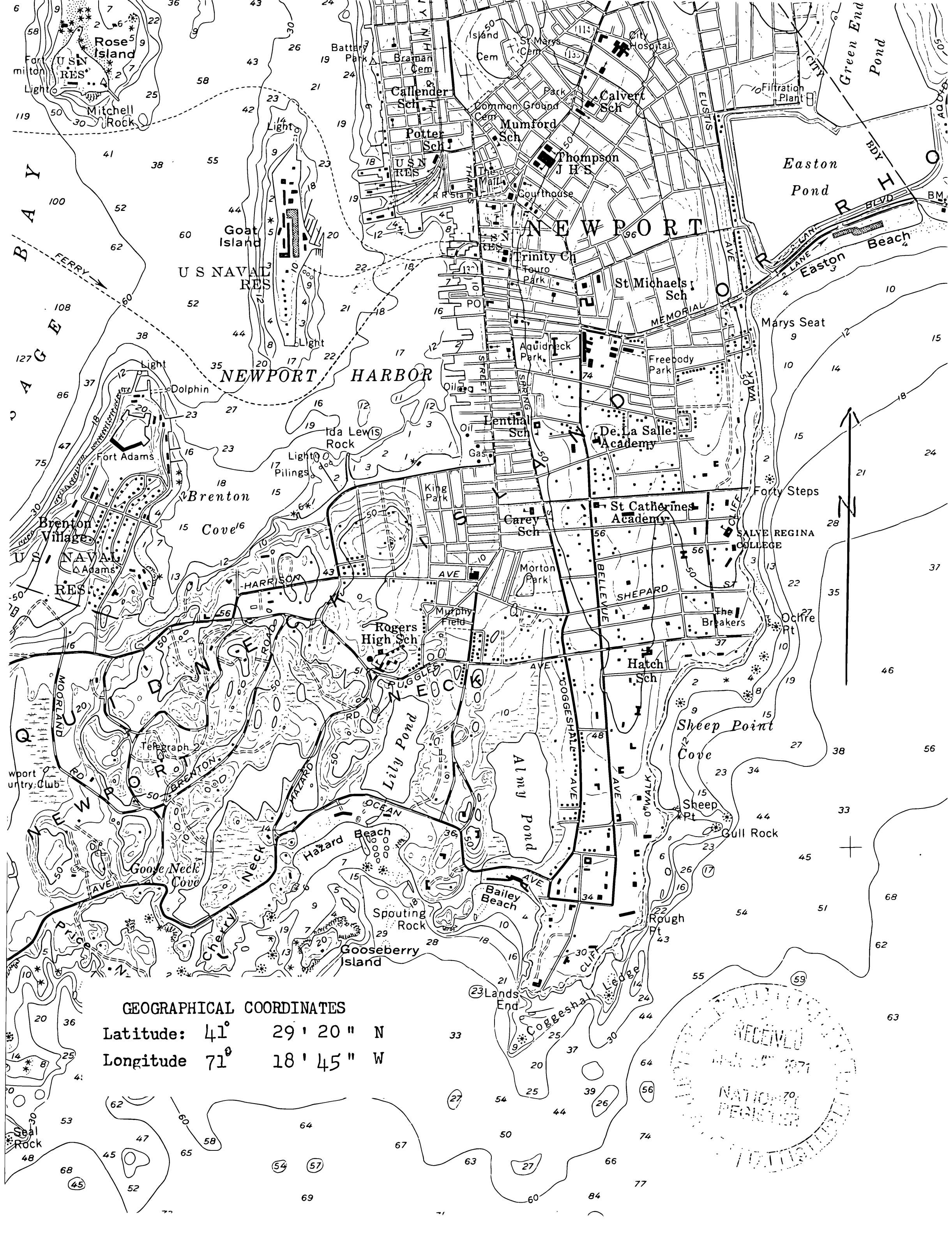
Date: MAY 6 1971

ATTEST:

William Stewart
Keeper of The National Register

Date: APR 27 1971

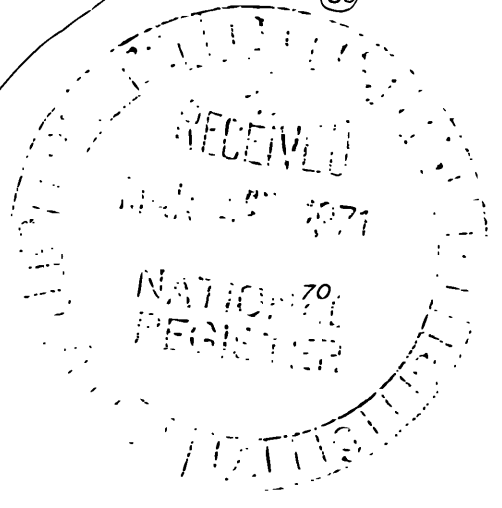
19/306969/HIS95-440
 UTM REF
 13-10-75-41M
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GEOGRAPHICAL COORDINATES

Latitude: 41° 29' 20" N

Longitude: 71° 18' 45" W



Form 10-301
(July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
PROPERTY MAP FORM**

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

STATE Rhode Island	
COUNTY Newport	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE
415440013	5/6/71

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

1. NAME

COMMON: Jewish Community Center
AND/OR HISTORIC: Gale (Levi H.) House

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:
89, Touro Street

CITY OR TOWN:
Newport

STATE: Rhode Island	CODE 44	COUNTY: Newport	CODE 005
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3. MAP REFERENCE

SOURCE:
U. S. Geological Survey

SCALE: 1: 12,000

DATE: 1957

4. REQUIREMENTS

- TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS
1. Property boundaries where required.
 2. North arrow.
 3. Latitude and longitude reference.