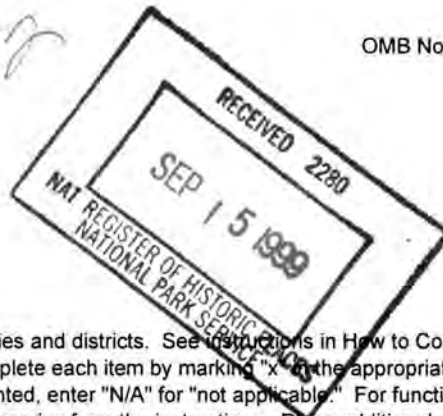


United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

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 How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. 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. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name Azariah Newton House
other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number 44 Silver Hill Road not for publication
city or town Milford vicinity _____
state Massachusetts code MA county Worcester code 027 zip code 01757

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, 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 nationally statewide locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Judith B. McDonough 8/27/99
Signature of certifying official/Title Judith B. McDonough, Executive Director Date
Massachusetts Historical Commission, State Historic Preservation Officer

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional Comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby certify that this property is:
 entered in the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined eligible for the National Register
 See continuation sheet.
 determined not eligible for the National Register
 removed from the National Register
 other (explain): _____

Edson A. Beall 10-14-99
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

Azariah Newton House
Name of Property

Worcester, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- private
- public-local
- public-State
- public-Federal

(Check only one box)

- building(s)
- district
- site
- structure
- object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing	
1	1	building
		sites
		structures
		objects
1	1	Total

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

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic: single dwelling

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Domestic : single dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Colonial ---- Georgian

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation stone: granite and fieldstone
walls asbestos

roof asphalt
other _____

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

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Milford (Worcester Co.), MASection number 7 Page 1

The Azariah Newton House is located in the southeastern part of Worcester County and consists of a single Cape Cod dwelling on a three-quarters acre lot in the Town of Milford. Silver Hill Road is approximately two miles north-northwest of the center of town between the two rivers, the Charles and the Mill River, both of which flow south through the Town forming a level highlands between the two. Unlike other parts of Milford, Silver Hill Road is an area of relatively flat highlands yielding the better agricultural soils of the Town. The property of the Azariah Newton House is surrounded by mid-to-late twentieth century subdivision with houses of modest scale and one or two late eighteenth century properties in the vicinity.

Milford is slightly east of the area characterized as the Blackstone Valley and once was part of Mendon, which lies to the west. Three numbered routes cut through Milford connecting it with its neighbors. Route 16, an east-west route, leads from Holliston on the east through Milford southwest to Hopedale and Mendon. Route 85 originates in Milford center and extends north through Hopkinton. Route 140 cuts through the southwest corner connecting the Town to Upton on the west and Bellingham and Franklin on the south.

The Azariah Newton House is representative of the ubiquitous Cape Cod Cottage built in New England towns in the eighteenth century. This house was constructed in ca. 1747 marking the beginning of the period of significance, which extends to ca. 1945 when the house achieved its present condition. The house represents the consistency of function and the structural architecture that has been sustained for the last two hundred and fifty years. There is a one-car garage set away from the Azariah Newton house at the road edge. It is the only other building or structure on the lot. Remnants of a large barn foundation used to be visible southeast of the house. Demolition of the barn occurred in the early 1900s.

The setting of the house is picturesque and, although the land has been subdivided, the road retains scenic road characteristics. The lot is defined by a low stone wall with an entrance leading from the roadway along a stone walkway to the side entrance of the rear ell of the house. The lot slopes from southeast to northeast so that the root cellar under the rear ell is above ground and a retaining wall extends from the road to the northwest corner of the building forming a flat garden area along the rear ell which today is the

(continued)

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Milford (Worcester Co.), MASection number 7 Page 2

location of the functional entrance to the Azariah Newton House. The house is oriented to the southwest, thus the main entrance faces into the garden area. One of the gable ends of the main block and the side of the rear ell face the road running along the northwest side of the lot. The property is elaborated with mature trees, old-fashioned rose bushes, perennial gardens, and an herb garden. A four-foot high arborvitae hedge grows close to the house foundation on the north and west sides, with a break in the hedge marking the center entrance on the original main façade.

The eighteenth century Cape is constructed around a large central chimney and displays a five-bay, center entrance main façade with gable roof. The one and one-half story house is two bays deep with a single window in the northwest gable peak and two sash in the southeast peak. The wide gable ends and the large roof surface are consistent with the ca. mid-eighteenth century date. A single-story, four-bay rear ell extends from the northwest side of the main block.

Although the house was covered with asbestos shingles prior to 1940, the wood clapboards remain under the shingles. The windows of the main (southwest) façade are nearly paired with only a narrow division between each of the two windows flanking the centered entrance. Six over six sash are set in plain recessed frames that are masked by the asbestos shingles. A louvered wood shutter on each side of each pair visually unites each set of windows. The former main entrance has an early twentieth century paneled door reminiscent of Italianate design with paired applied roundheaded panel moldings over a single horizontal applied panel over two square panels. The centered entrance also has flanking, full-length, wood louvered shutters, a twentieth century addition.

The southeast side of the house displays the wide gable end with a narrow roof overhang and return. Great stepping stones lead to an entrance door, which is similar to the main centered entrance on the southwest side, with applied paneled molding displaying rectangular panels in place of the roundheaded panels found on the center entrance.

Structurally the house presents traditional eighteenth century techniques. The common rafter framing shows evenly spaced rafters hewn at the ends and laid upon joints or pockets in the ridge and plates. Long pegs that pierce the rafters and ridge secure these joints. Wide board sheathing then is laid over the rafters from the ridge to the front and rear plates (on the southwest and northeast sides). The chimney rises through the roof

(continued)

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just in front of the ridge and has rafters lain against the two sides of the chimney. The house rests on a large stone foundation with some concrete parging around the main block. The rear ell, which is built into the slope of the land, has a raised stone and granite block foundation indicating a later date of the mid-nineteenth century, which is consistent with the interior framing.

The interior plan displays the common shallow front stair hall in front of the stack with flanking parlors and three rooms behind; one small room that is separated from the east parlor by a narrow entrance hall leading from the east gable end entrance to the eighteenth century kitchen, which is the second room located directly behind the stack and overlapping with part of the east parlor. A third room is directly behind the west parlor. The old kitchen or keeping room and present dining room, behind the west parlor, are divided by a stairwall that lines the attic and cellar steps. This location of the stairs with encasing stairwalls is awkward and would appear not to have been part of the eighteenth century construction. The reason for this assumption is that the stairwalls that now divide the two rooms and encase the attic and cellar steps overlap onto the brick hearth in a fashion that would have made use of the bake over nearly impossible without stepping down on to the cellar stairs. However, this alteration appears to be a mid-nineteenth century alteration and may be coincident with the addition of the rear ell. Behind the rooms on the west side of the house there extends a twenty-four foot one-story ell with twentieth-century kitchen and two small anterooms behind the kitchen. This ell is of a later date than the main block as demonstrated by the foundation wall and by the roof framing. The foundation is of granite and the roof framing in the attic space above this ell has smaller members than the main block including a narrow ridge and narrow evenly cut rafters.

Original interior finish is retained and preserved to articulate the early function and design of this ca. 1747 dwelling. Three fireplaces are located in rooms bordering the center stack that takes up a sizable volume of the core of the house. Each fireplace is shallow with the exception of the kitchen fireplace, which is deeper and has a crane and separate outside beehive bake oven.

The front stair hall is not used today however the wood vertical beaded board stair wall with door to stairs that wrap in front of the stack and low door accessing storage under the stairs, are in tact. The functional stairs to the cellar and attic are behind the stack and separate the original kitchen from the present dining room behind the front southwest

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parlor. There are no front stairs to the cellar due to the size of the stack which extends to the front foundation wall in the cellar. Early access to the attic was from this front stair hall, however, access to the cellar probably was through the bulkhead on the east gable end of the dwelling. As noted above, the stair walls dividing the early kitchen/keeping room from the dining room probably are not part of the original plan because the stair walls and cellar door extend on to the deep brick hearth in front of the bake oven making access to the bake oven difficult. Furthermore it would have been unusual for a house of the original size to have two sets of stairs to the attic. Additional structural research is necessary to account for this odd alteration of plan. These interior rear stairs leading to the cellar have been replaced within the last fifty years, thus yield little information about original date or location. It should be noted that the stair wall facing into the kitchen/keeping room is made of vertical beaded tongue and groove panels of varying width and straightness and may have been relocated. It is similar to other paneling in the room and other parts of the house that are consistent with an eighteenth century date.

Structural members visible in the cellar are as expected: large chimney girts running front to back along the side of the stone chimney base have large rough hewn beams, some retaining bark, connecting the end sills with the chimney girts by means of mortise and tenon joints. As noted above, the large stone chimney base takes up most of the cellar and extends to the front foundation wall, thus is only viewed on three sides. Clearly this was part of the original design as the large chimney base stones are laid up randomly and interwoven to form one wall of one construction. As noted above, there is a bulkhead leading from the cellar to the outside at the east gable end, next to the side or southeast entrance to the little hall leading to the old kitchen. The side walls and the sill at the top of the bulkhead are large granite and fieldstone similar to the rest of the mid-eighteenth century foundation. The cellar of the rear ell is not connected with that of the main block and is accessed by an exterior door in the end wall of the rear ell foundation.

Structural evidence in the attic, the half-story above the main block, confirms the mid eighteenth century date and the evolution of this dwelling. The breadth of the house, the low roof pitch, and the wide expanse of the roof area clearly are evident, as well as the roof and framing structure in the unfinished attic. The cut into the original house's roof area to attach the rear ell displays exterior roof sheathing with evidence of the nail holes for shingles. Further the roof structure of the rear ell shows sawn common rafters that are

(continued)

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simply laid on a narrow ridge board. Also in the attic on the southeast end of the original house are two small rooms with plaster walls and board and batten doors. Each of the two rooms has a window accounting for the exterior view of two windows in the southeast gable peak. Attic floor boards are wide and in excellent unfinished, unaltered condition.

Architectural interior detail is extensive and includes raised field panel fire place walls, interior wood partition walls, paneled doors and eighteenth century hardware, and wide pine floor boards. The fireplace walls in each of the two front parlors flanking the centered entrance stairhall display multiple patterns with a raised field four-paneled door at the front end of each wall leading to the center stair hall and against a cased post. Each room has a pattern of three or four side-by-side vertical panels over the mantel, a two paneled door to a narrow shelved closet on one side of the mantel and a cupboard and square panels on the other side. In the southwest parlor, now a living room, there is evidence of eighteenth century and later Federal-like paneling. A bolection molding frames the fireplace opening, however a narrow mantel that is raised above the fireplace opening, separates two sets of three panels over the fireplace. This fireplace wall has recessed panels with a fine bead framing the recessed panels reminiscent of Federal-style detail. The closet door in this room to the right of the fireplace has two large panels, H-hinges and only a wood latch.

In the southeast parlor, now a bedroom, the fireplace wall has a rich raised field panel pattern with H-hinges, thumb latch on the hall door and small wood twist latch on the shallow closet door, and HL hinges on the cupboard door. The mantel in this room also may have been added in the early nineteenth century. The lintel of this fireplace is a stripped wide board with a painted quote similar to others in the house that were added fifty years ago by the present owners.

The keeping room or original kitchen behind the chimney stack has vertical tongue and groove paneling, the boards of which are irregular in width and straightness. The large cooking fireplace opening is nearly four feet high and has a vertical board fireplace wall with two narrow raised-field paneled wall cupboards cut into the upper corners and a vertical paneled door over the beehive bake oven which is outside and to the right of the main fireplace opening. A large iron crane is attached to the interior wall of the cooking

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fireplace. This room has two windows, at the rear of the main block; one six-over-six similar to other windows of the house and one fifteen-over-fifteen double-hung sash that appears to have all old glass and muntin bars of an early window, possibly evidence of the original kind of window.

Alterations are consistent with the preservation trends of the early twentieth century and are interesting for the pattern and interest of preservation demonstrated in this area that was a remote rural community at the turn of the century. Although the windows are the expected configuration with the exception of the one fifteen-over-fifteen sash, they appear to be early twentieth century reproductions noted by the muntin bar profile and the overall conformity and tightness that would be unusual for mid-eighteenth century windows. The exposed beams with a swirled plaster ceiling have been added after the period of significance and are not accurate nor original to the construction or decoration of the eighteenth century dwelling. The exposed beams are not consistent with cased structural posts as seen in each room, nor do they extend to and connect to cross beams and first-story plates in the appropriate locations. Most abut plaster and paneled walls in an awkward fashion. However, the concept of exposed beams was a popular notion until just after the mid-1900s when structural analysis dispelled this misunderstanding of Second Period construction. Also consistent with early preservation trends is the fact that many of the paneled walls had been stripped of paint and were in a more natural state. The present owners have painted most which more accurately reflects mid- to late-eighteenth century finishing practices.

Archaeological Description

While no prehistoric sites are recorded on the Azariah Newton House property, sites may be present. Two prehistoric sites have been recorded in the general area (within one mile). One site borders Charles River wetlands located to the east, the other site borders Mill River wetlands to the west. "Some arrowheads" have reportedly been found on the property, however these finds have not been documented. Environmental characteristics (slope, drainage, distance to wetlands) of the property are favorable for many types of prehistoric sites. The property occupies a well-drained level to moderately sloping east facing terrace overlooking a tributary stream of the Charles River. The unnamed stream drains southerly converging with Huckleberry Brook, other unnamed ponds and wetlands

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then a dammed portion of the Charles River known as Milford Pond about one mile southeast of the property. Given the above information, the small size of the property (.75 acre) and historic period development, a moderate potential exists for the recovery of prehistoric resources.

A high potential exists for the recovery of historic archaeological resources on the Azariah Newton House property. Further documentary research combined with archaeological survey and testing can document the locations of outbuildings and occupational related features (trash pits, privies, wells) that were probably present on the property. Foundation stones from a large barn, demolished in the early 1900's, were visible southeast of the house until the mid 20th century. Structural evidence of additional barns and sheds may also be present. One well is known on the property, however additional wells may also exist related to earlier periods of occupancy. The locations of privies and trash pits/areas are presently unknown, however archaeological evidence of these types of occupational features are also probably present. Construction features should also exist around the house and possibly some outbuildings.

(end)

Azariah Newton House

Name of Property

Worcester, MA

County and State

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.)

Property is:

- A** owned by 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 of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

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 # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

ARCHITECTURE

COMMUNITY PLANNING and DEVELOPMENT

Period of Significance

c. 1747-1949

Significant Dates

c. 1747

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

n/a

Cultural Affiliation

N/a

Architect/Builder

N/a

Primary location of additional data:

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository:

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The Azariah Newton House retains its original siting on a now reduced lot. It is reflective of an eighteenth century dwelling, which is intact, displaying distinctive characteristics of the type and method of construction found in the 1700s. The house is one of the only local examples of Second Period architecture of the Cape Cod plan. A more precise mid eighteenth century date is associated with the property based on known land ownership, marriage dates and elaborated detail attributed to the bride's family who are noted in local histories as being accomplished carpenters and house builders. The property retains architectural and historical integrity and is significant for the period beginning in ca.1747 when it was constructed to ca. 1945 when the property achieved its present state of preservation, and throughout which significant Milford families were associated with the property. It is also associated with the agricultural development of the community. The Azariah Newton House retains integrity of location, setting, design, association, materials, workmanship, and feeling. The property meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places and is significant at the local level.

Milford's settlement pattern, as a suburban-industrial hill town with commercial center, follows the typical pattern from an agricultural community to small scale industrial activity of the expanded boot and shoe industry supported by the water ways and the establishment of the Boston and Albany Branch Railroad. The first European settlement was ca. 1700 when Milford was part of the Mendon North Purchase of 1691. The early agricultural settlement was on Silver Hill and in the river valleys for the rich soils. Religious unrest and dissatisfaction with the Mendon minister led to formation of the Second precinct and construction of a Second Parish meeting house in 1741. This precinct would become incorporated as Milford in 1780. Some mills were located on the Charles River near the center of Milford, however the primary economic base was derived from farming until the early nineteenth century when boot and shoe manufactories proliferated as well as hat and bonnet manufacturing, two cotton and woolen mills, and carriage manufacturing.

The mid 1800s was a period of significant economic and demographic development. With the advent of the railroad came the expansion of the boot and shoe manufacturing and related industries, and the significant migration of Irish workers. Also granite quarries were commercialized with 75 stone cutters at two quarries owned by the Boston

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and Albany Railroad. In the late nineteenth century agricultural proceeds as well as the number of households involved in farming declined only to rise again after the turn of the century. Increases were seen in production of dairy farming, vegetable gardening, and poultry raising.

Originally part of Mendon, Milford's boundaries are a result of several changes over the last two centuries. First the town of Milford was part of the Quinshepaug Plantation of 1667 and the Mendon North Purchase of 1691. In 1741 the Second Mendon Parish or Precinct was established and in 1780, that Parish was set off from Mendon and incorporated as the separate town of Milford. At that time there were only about 750 residents. In 1835 the boundaries of Holliston and Hopkinton were altered to effect Milford and in 1886 part of Milford was set off as Hopedale to the southwest. Additional boundary changes at Upton and Hopkinton occurred in 1907 and as late as 1962. Population grew steadily and substantially from the late eighteenth century to 1,360 residents in 1830 to nearly 10,000 by 1870, a result of the industrialization of this town. A slight decrease in population occurred in the late 1880s with the formation of Hopedale, however the continued growth in the economic base and industrialization of Milford led to an increase to 13,600 in 1915 and over 15,000 by 1940. The twentieth century population growth is attributed in large part to Italian immigrants who by 1940 made up 50% of Milford's population.

At the time of the establishment of Mendon's Second Precinct the population of the area that was to become Milford was small with only twenty-six persons signing the covenant to establish the Second Parish separate from Mendon's First Parish. One of the first families was that of John Jones who had a number of children, all of whom built houses in Mendon's Second Parish, now Milford. In 1745-46 the daughter of Deacon Nathaniel and Priscilla Corbett Jones married Azariah Newton (ca. 1719-1794), whose family was from Westborough. Oral tradition maintains that the sons of John Jones, of which Nathaniel Jones was one, were house builders and built this well preserved Cape Cod cottage for Azariah and Sarah Jones Newton in ca. 1747. The Jones and Newton families were Congregationalists and the first church services in Milford, then Mendon's Second Parish, were held in the house of John Jones, father of Deacon Nathaniel Jones and grandfather of Sarah Jones Newton.

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Continuation SheetAzariah Newton House
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The Newton Farm encompassed many acres on both sides of Silver Hill Road and was maintained by two generations of the family. Azariah and Sarah Newton's son, Ichabod, married Rhoda Chapin in 1769 and lived on the property in a small house that is no longer extant, until the death of Ichabod and three children from influenza in 1778. Newton's daughter, Hannah married Daniel Carter in 1787 and they too lived on the property.

Following Azariah's death in 1794 his wife, Sarah Newton, inherited half of his real estate, all of the inside belongings of furnishings and wearing apparel, and the cattle. The other half of the real estate and the "outdoor utensils" were inherited by his daughter, Hannah (d. 1813), whose husband, Daniel Carter (1820), was the executor. Sarah remained here until her death in 1808 at age 86 years.

The next family associated with this property is that of Emory Sumner (1791-1870), who was descended from some of the earliest settlers of the North Purchase of Mendon, now Milford. Emory and his brother, Ellis Sumner, lived two contrasting life styles with Ellis in a spacious house at 209 Purchase Street, still extant, and Emory in this unpretentious modest farmhouse. Emory Sumner, a house carpenter, was referred to as a "quiet and exemplary citizen" by the late nineteenth century historian, Adin Ballou. Emory Sumner married Lois Sadler in 1817. Two more generations of Sumners lived here until 1916; their son, Lovett Haven (b. 1820) and wife, Mary A. Jenness followed by Lovett's daughter, Sarah Elizabeth, and her husband, Lorenzo Perrigo. Thus members of the Sumner family were responsible for the nineteenth century rear ell addition. Both the Newtons and Sumners are associated with early settlers and both families boast illustrious and dedicated town fathers, however, those living at this property are described in local histories as modest people who were part of the agricultural development of the town. The elaborated detail of the house is attributed to Azariah Newton's wife's family.

The assumption that the Joneses, known as house builders, constructed this property for Sarah Jones and her husband Azariah Newton would account for the bold detail and variety of paneling found in the house. The methods of construction and the varied architectural detail, which is well preserved, contribute to the architectural significance of this property. Further research is necessary to determine the accuracy of the construction date associated with the Newton marriage and the assumption that the house was built by his bride's family, the Joneses.

(continued)

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The house had several owners from 1916 to 1944, when Thelma and Arthur Floyd purchased the house. For the last fifty-five years the Floyds have been intent on preserving the important and somewhat unique architectural features of this Second Period dwelling.

There are many idiosyncrasies found in the property that may be clarified with further research and would shed light not only on the evolution of this property but also on the development of the community. For example, the evidence of the one 15/15 double hung window introduces the thought that in the original house all windows may have been of this larger size. The narrow divide between each of the two windows flanking the centered entrance on the southwest façade may be reflective of replacements of single large 15/15 sash. The location of the attic and cellar steps near the hearth of the eighteenth century kitchen is puzzling and not consistent with typical Cape Cod house plans. There may be physical structural evidence to explain whether these stairs were moved and from where. Finally the variation in architectural detail and the sophistication of the finishing details pose questions about the builders, other works, and the reasons for such elaboration for the farmers who were to live here.

Archaeological Significance

Since patterns of prehistoric settlement and subsistence in Milford are poorly understood, any surviving sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area can be important by providing information on upland/interior sites in general, especially those sites in the interior Charles River drainage within which the Newton House belongs. Prehistoric sites in this area may contain information that helps understand the extent to which river drainage boundaries influenced the social, cultural and economic systems of Native people who lived in the area. The Charles River drainage drains northerly and easterly to the Boston Harbor locale. Less than one mile west of the Newton House, the Mill River, part of the Blackstone River drainage, ultimately connects the Worcester Plateau locale with the waters of Narragansett Bay to the south in Rhode Island. Prehistoric sites in the area of the Newton House may contain information that indicates the extent to which Native American social, cultural and economic systems were influenced by the natural resources present in these different areas as well as the different Native cultural groups that occupied each area. Prehistoric sites in the Newton House locale can also help

(continued)

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establish the nature of Native settlement in more upland/interior areas beyond the floodplains and middle to lower reaches of the major drainages stated above. Interior portions of both the Charles and Blackstone River drainages are underreported indicating an important part of the Native American subsistence and settlement system models may be missing in our current data base. Prehistoric sites in this area can be significant by more fully defining the local and regional subsistence and settlement models by contributing examples of site variability and resource use within the district area.

Historic archaeological resources described above have the potential to contribute social, cultural and economic information on a farm and it's inhabitants that played an important role in the agricultural development of the town. Documentary research and archaeological testing can identify artifacts, features and structural remains which can help reconstruct the layout of one of the first homes and farms in Milford. This information can test the accuracy of the construction date associated with the Newton marriage and the assumption that the house was built by the bride's family, the Joneses. Archaeological testing may produce artifacts and information on construction methods and architectural details for the Newton House which through comparative studies with other properties might be associated with the Jones family construction. Archaeological resources may be present which can help define a more definite construction date and any architectural variations which may be present in one of the only local examples of Second Period architecture of the Cape Cod Plan. Structural evidence from outbuildings and detailed analysis of occupational related features can contribute additional information relating to the technology and types of agricultural production that occurred at the farm. Similar research may also produce information indicating the extent to which boot and shoe or hat and bonnet manufacturing may have been conducted at the farm, possibly as a cottage type industry. Detailed analysis of occupational related features might also contribute information on the lives of the occupants of the farm who were reportedly modest yet some of the more significant families in Milford. Archaeological resources together with documentary studies can define local use of the term modest, at least as it applies to the farms inhabitants and town.

(end)

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Continuation Sheet

Azariah Newton House
Milford (Worcester Co.), MA

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Ballou, Adin. History of the Town of Milford, Franklin Press: Rand, Avery, & Co., Boston, 1882.

Maine and Massachusetts Direct Tax Census of 1798. New England Genealogical Society, ed. Michael Gorn, Reel 14, Vol. 16, Milford.

Massachusetts Historical Commission. Reconnaissance Survey Report: Milford, 1983.

Milford Historical Commission, History of Milford Massachusetts 1780-1980, Charlescraft Press of Milford, 1980. Pgs. 129, 134

Vital Records to 1850 for Milford, Massachusetts.

Will of Azariah Newton, 1794, Worcester County Probate Office, Series A, Case # 43060.

10. Geographical Data

Verbal Boundary Description

The boundaries for the National Register nomination include the lot lines of 44 Silver Hill Road as shown on Town of Milford Assessors Atlas, Sheet No. 21, Lot No. 23 and are described in the deed found in Book 2211, Page 561 at the Worcester County Registry of Deeds.

Boundary Justification

The lot lines of 44 Silver Hill Road form the house lot for the Azariah Newton House as it is owned and described in the ownership deed at this time. The land that once was part of the farm has been subdivided and constructed upon, thus no longer lends integrity to this property. The existing boundaries define a legal building lot and an appropriate house lot separate from the farming land of the past, articulating the immediate physical surroundings of the early house.

(end)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Newton, Azariah, House

MULTIPLE NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester

DATE RECEIVED: 9/15/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 9/27/99
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 10/13/99 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 10/30/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99001252

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 10.14.99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



Milford, MA

Azariah Newton House, 44 Silver Hill Road

Worcester County, MA

Photographer: J. Schuler

1/99

Milford Historical Comm.

Southeast gable end looking northwest



Milford, MA

Azariah Newton House, 44 Silver Hill Road
Worcester County, MA

Photographer: J. Schuler

1/99

Milford Historical Commission

Southeast gable end + rear/northeast elevation looking
+ rear side west



Who Dreams She

Milford. VT

Azariah Newton H. 44 Silver Hill Rd

East parlor (now bedroom) facing towards
front hall door - raised field panel doors



Milford, PA

Azariah Newton Ho. 44 Silver Hill Rd.

East, north east gable end looking west
northwest

Side entry



Milford, MA

Azarah Newton Ho. 44 Silver Hill Rd

Exterior northwest corner of ell
having retaining stone wall and
granite block foundation on stone wall

Note

Stone wall

+ granite foundation



Milford, MA
Azarah Newton Ho. 44 Silver Hill Rd
Northwest side viewed from road
looking east

Arthur + Thelma Floyd's
44 Silver Hill Rd.
Milford, MA 01757



Milford, MA

Azariah Newton Hs. 44 Silver Hill Rd

West parlor showing raised field panel
fireplace wall



Milford. MA

Azariah Newton Ho. 44 Silver Hill Rd
Interior of cupboard in west parlor
showing top of beehive oven of keeping room.

Inside the Dutch oven
showing the incredible brick
work + wood door.



Milford, Ma
Araucaria Newton Ho. 44 Silver Hill Rd
East parker door to front hall
Sherry raised field panels + # hinges.



AZARIAH NEWTON HOUSE
MILFORD (WORCESTER) MA

Milford

MASSACHUSETTS

1:25 000-scale metric topographic map

7.5 X 15 MINUTE QUADRANGLE SHOWING

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

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

1982

Produced by the United States Geological Survey in cooperation with Massachusetts Department of Public Works

Control by USGS, NOS/NOAA, and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1960. Field checked 1981. Map edited 1982. Supersedes Milford and Grafton 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1968 and 1969

Projection and 1000-meter grid, zone 19: Universal Transverse Mercator
10,000-foot grid ticks based on Massachusetts coordinate system, mainland zone. 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983 move the projection lines 6 meters south and 40 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private inholdings within the boundaries of the National or State reservations shown on this map

CONTOUR INTERVAL, 3 METERS
NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929
CONTROL ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.1 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 0.3 METER

THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE		DECLINATION DIAGRAM	ADJOINING MAPS
Meters	Feet		1 2 3
1	3.2808		4 5
2	6.5617		6 7 8
3	9.8425		
4	13.1234		
5	16.4042		
6	19.6850		
7	22.9659		
8	26.2467		
9	29.5275		
10	32.8084		

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1983 magnetic declination (MD) at center of map
Diagram is approximate

1 Worcester North
2 Middleborough
3 Framingham
4 Worcester South
5 Milfield
6 Milford
7 Uxbridge
8 Franklin

FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

Topographic Map Symbols

Primary highway, hard surface	
Secondary highway, hard surface	
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	
Unimproved road, trail	
Route marker: Interstate, U. S., State	
Railroad: standard gage, narrow gage	
Bridge: drawbridge	
Footbridge; overpass; underpass	
Built-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	
House; barn; church; school; large structure	
Boundary:	
National, with monument	
State	
County, parish	
Civil township, precinct, district	
Incorporated city, village, town	
National or State reservation; small park	
Land grant with monument; found section corner	
U. S. public lands survey: range, township, section	
Range, township; section line; location approximate	
Fence or field line	
Power transmission line, located tower	
Dam; dam with lock	
Canal; waterway	
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	
Windmill; water well; spring	
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or cave	
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand	
Bathymetric contours: index, intermediate	
Perennial lake and stream; intermittent lake and stream	
Rapids, large and small; falls, large and small	
Submerged marsh; marsh, swamp	
Land subject to controlled inundation; woodland	
Scrub; meadow	
Orchard; vineyard	

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request.



*Azariah Newton House
44 Silver Hill Road*

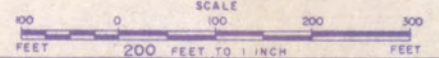
PREPARED BY
SCHOFIELD BROTHERS INC.
 PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS & REGISTERED LAND SURVEYORS
 1071 WORCESTER ROAD, FRAMINGHAM MASSACHUSETTS
 121 EAST MAIN STREET, MILFORD MASSACHUSETTS

PHOTOGRAMMETRIC COMPILATION BY
Lockwood Mapping Inc.
 ROCHESTER N.Y.

PLANS SHOWN HEREIN ARE
 COMPILED FROM AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS,
 DEEDS, AND PLANS OF RECORD AND
 ARE NOT TO BE CONSTRUED AS
 HAVING SUFFICIENT ACCURACY FOR
 CONVEYANCES.

TOWN OF MILFORD

Massachusetts
 ASSESSORS ATLAS
 MAY OF 1968



REVISION DATES (CONT.)
 JANUARY 1991
 NOVEMBER 1993
 JANUARY 1995

REVISION DATES
 MARCH 31, 1970
 APRIL 20, 1971
 MARCH 1975
 FEB 1977
 JULY 1980
 BEAR 1980
 MARCH 1982
 MARCH 1983
 SEPT 1983
 APRIL 1984
 MARCH 1986
 APRIL 1987
 MAY 1988
 1989
 JANUARY 1990



10	9	8	7	6	5		
11	12	13	14	15	16		
21	22	21	20	19	17		
26	25	26	27	28	29	30	
37	36	35	34	33	32	31	
38	39	40	41	42	43	44	
50	49	48	47	46	45		
51	52	53	54	55			
					56	57	58
					60	61	

SHEET
 No.
 21

*Page 21
 Lot 23*



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

August 25, 1999

Ms. Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Mail Stop 2280, Suite 400
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Azariah Newton House, 44 Silver Hill Road, Milford (Worcester Co.), 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 were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30 to 45 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Arthur & Thelma Floyd, owners
Robert M. Andreola, Chair, Milford Historical Commission
Gretchen Schuler, Preservation Consultant
John J. Speroni, Jr., Chair, Milford Board of Selectmen
Reno DeLuzio, Town Planner