

AUG 04 1989

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

WW

24,25,20,21,22,23

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Photos (3"x3" or 3"x5" black
& white) Indicate on back
of each photo street addresses
for buildings shown. Staple to
left side of form.

Town SomervilleName of Area (if any) Westwood RoadHistoric DistrictPresent Use residentialGeneral Date or Period ca. 1895-1920General Condition goodAcreage more than one acre (4)Recorded by Gretchen G. SchulerOrganization Mass. Historical CommissionDate September, 1988

Resources:

27C / 3NC Buildings

See Attached Assessor's Map

UTM REFERENCE

A 19 - 326/550 - 4694/780
B 19 - 326/700 - 4694/720
C 19 - 326/700 - 4694/640
D 19 - 326/860 - 4694/680

E 19 - 326/820 - 4694/640
F 19 - 326/760 - 4694/680

USGS QUADRANGLE
SCALE

1:25,000

Boston North

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Westwood Road Historic District retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association with turn of the century residential development of Somerville. Illustrative of an intact early 20th century subdivision, the Westwood Road District is significant for its developmental history as well as its architecture, thus, it fulfills Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places at the local level.

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

The Westwood Road Historic District is an intact late-19th to early 20th-century street developed with high quality, architect-designed, Shingle Style, Queen Anne, and Colonial Revival houses. Of the twenty-one buildings in the district (excluding the outbuildings), nearly all were designed for single family use. A variety of original materials are still evident including shingles, fieldstone, leaded glass, and wrought iron work. The best unaltered buildings are #2,3,8 Westwood Road and #12 and 18 Benton Road. #8 Westwood Road is an outstanding example of a Queen Anne/Shingle Style house with its conical, shingled turret which is a focal point of the streetscape. The granite entrance posts on either end of Westwood Road frame #18 Benton Road on the west end. #18 Benton Road is one of the best local examples of Shingle Style architecture with its massive fieldstone chimney and broad cross-gable roof.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain historical importance of area and how the area relates to the development of other areas of the community.

The Westwood Road Historic District was developed at one of Somerville's few exclusive residential enclaves. Westwood Road was originally platted on the Shute Estate and Benton Farm in 1874. the undeveloped tract used for dairy farming, located on Spring Hill was replatted by hardware dealer Charles Bradshaw in 1894. A small adjoining section of Benton Road was laid out by Reuben Benton at about the same time.

As developer of the subdivision, Bradshaw moved one house, built by Elias Goodrich and later owned by the Shute family, to a side lot and built Westwood Road. In 1895 he moved mature elms and maples to the street line. This was a procedure acclaimed as the first tree-moving in Massachusetts according to Edward Samuels, Somerville: Past and Present (1897). Early services on Westwood Road included sewer, water and gas connections. Bradshaw built eight houses all handsome examples of the Queen Anne/Shingle Style and Colonial Revival Styles of architecture. Additional houses were constructed prior to 1905.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Bromely, G.W. Atlas of the City of Somerville, 1895.
City Directories, City of Somerville, 1900s.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Somerville

Form No:

Property Name: Westwood Road

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. Historic District

The first owners of Westwood Road houses were a cross-section of Somerville businessmen and professionals. Owners included lawyers, pharmacists, shoe, jewelry, and desk manufacturers, and dairy and produce dealers.

The Somerville Historical Society at One Westwood Road was built on an empty lot at the corner of Central Street and Westwood Road. The Society, founded in 1897, built its first home from 1925 to 1929. Architect William Dykeman designed the brick building in the Georgian Revival Style.

There are a total of thirty buildings in the Westwood Road Historic District. Nineteen of the twenty-one houses (and museum - the Historical Society) contribute to the significance of the district. While there are some alterations only two have been drastically altered and are considered non-contributing. Of the nine garages in the district, eight were built within the period of significance for the district and contribute to an understanding of the development of the small residential enclave.

These buildings are included in the Westwood Road Historic District because they are the most intact examples of their style and period.

continued

Staple to Inventory form at bottom.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Somerville, Mass.

Form No:

Property Name:

Westwood Rd. Hist. Dist.

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

12 Benton Rd. - Francis Raymond House MC #24

Architectural Significance: This building embodies one of Somerville's finest Shingle Style houses. It is a three story gambrel-roofed structure with a projecting oriel under the front gable. The front porch has paired classical columns and projecting first story bays are distinctive features of the design.

Historical Significance: Francis Raymond was the original owner of the house. He was the treasurer at Cambridge Electric Light Co. He was a Charlestown native, who began a grocery business. In 1876 He left the business to become treasurer of the American Arms Co. and in 1878 became the treasurer of Cambridge Electric Light Co. Prior to building this house at Benton Rd. Raymond lived at Laurel Street, Somerville.

18 Benton Rd. - Eugene Carr House MC#25

Architectural Significance: This building is an exceptional Shingle Style house. It is notable for its broad, cross gabled roof and massive exterior fieldstone chimney supported by fieldstone buttresses. The entrance porch displays dramatic Syrian arches that are accentuated by the use of various building materials. There is also a round headed stained glass window set into the chimney wall.

Historical Significance: This house was built for one of the partners of the M.W. Carr Company, which was a Somerville manufacturer of jewelry and novelties. The house is on a lot that was subdivided by Reuben Benton who developed most of Benton Rd.

One Westwood Rd. - Somerville Historical Society MC#20

Architectural Significance: This building is the home of the Somerville Historical Society. It is a two story Federal Revival building, executed in red brick with a slate roof. The main exhibition hall of the Museum includes Charles Bulfinch's "Flying Double Staircase," which Bulfinch had designed for the Joseph Barrell Mansion (later the McLean Asylum) in 1792. The Society acquired the staircase from the Shaw family of Wayland in the late 1940's, after the Shaws had saved it from demolition in 1892. The front doors, steps and foyer which form the main entry to the Museum, are from the city's original public library.

The building site is the geographic center of the community and was chosen for its central location. The museum is the only cultural facility constructed by the community since its founding as a town in 1842.

continued

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Form No:

Somerville, MA

Property Name: Westwood Rd. Hist. Dist.

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Historical Significance: The Somerville Historical Society was founded in 1897 by professionals, businessmen, religious, social, cultural, educational and municipal leaders. Many of these founding members were descendants of the original settlers.

Two Westwood Rd.

MHC#21

Architectural Significance: An intact example of transitional Colonial Revival/Shingle Style residence. This house occupies a prominent site on the corner of Westwood Rd and Central St. The house is a 2 and 1/2 story gable roofed structure with spring eaves. The central gabled pavillion balances the full width dressed fieldstone front porch piers. Colonial Revival decorative elements include the balastraded porch parapet and diamond muntin windows. The shingled wall surfaces and recessed gable window are part of the Shingle Style decorative vocabulary.

8 Westwood Rd.- Elbridge Newton House - MHC#23

Architectural Significance: The Newton House is an outstanding example of a Queen Anne / Shingle Style House in Somerville. The house displays a cross-gambrel roof with conical Queen Anne tower and copper finial at the intersection of the two main blocks of the house. An extension of the front porch with its slender paired colonnettes of composite order. The entrance with half sidelights is offset to the right. The second story windows of the east elevation have wooden tracery and some diamond shaped muntins.

Historical Significance: Eldridge W. Newton was an agent according to the 1904 City Directory. Hardware dealer Charles Bradshaw developed this subdivision.

This building is included in this nomination because it is an excellent example of its style for the Somerville area. It is located in a neighborhood which has many particularly well preserved Queen Anne and Shingle Style buildings.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

SOMERVILLE MRA - DATA SHEETS

WESTWOOD ROAD HISTORIC DISTRICT

MAP#	MHC#	HISTORIC NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE	TYPE	STAT
WW-1		- garage	2 Benton Road "	ca.1910 ca.1910	Colonial Revival Col.Rev./siding	B B	C C
WW-2		-	3 Benton Road	ca.1905	Craftsman/ altered/siding	B	C
WW-3	24	Raymond House	12 Benton Road	ca.1910	Shingle Style	B	C
WW-4	25	Carr House garage	18 Benton Road "	ca.1910 ca.1910	Shingle Style Colonial Revival	B B	C C
WW-5		-	58 Central St.	ca.1898	Shingle Style	B	C
WW-6	20	Somerville Historical Society	1 Westwood Rd.	1925-29	Federal Revival	B	C
WW-7	21	Berry-Kelley House garage	2 Westwood Rd.	ca.1898 ca.1910	Shingle Style/ Colonial Revival Colonial Revival	B B	C C
WW-8	22	Sibley House	3 Westwood Rd.	ca.1898	Queen Anne	B	C
WW-9	-		5 Westwood Rd.	ca.1898	Shingle Style/ altered	B	NC
WW-10	-	garage	6 Westwood Rd.	ca.1910 ca.1930	Dutch Colonial Colonial Revival	B B	C NC
WW-11	-	-	7 Westwood Rd.	ca.1898	Georgian Revival	B	C
WW-12	23	Newton House garage	8 Westwood Rd.	ca.1898 ca.1910	Queen Anne/ Colonial Revival Dutch Colonial	B B	C C
WW-13			9 Westwood Rd.	ca.1898	Shingle Style	B	C

**SOMERVILLE MRA - DISTRICT DATA SHEETS
WESTWOOD ROAD HISTORIC DISTRICT**

MAP#	MHC #	HISTORIC NAME	ADDRESS	DATE	STYLE	TYPE	STATUS
WW-14	-		10 Westwood Rd.			B	C
WW-15	garage		11 Westwood Rd.	ca.1900	Shingle Style	B	C
			"	ca.1910	Colonial Revival	B	C
WW-16			12 Westwood Rd.	ca.1900	Shingle Style/ altered	B	NC
WW-17	garage		14 Westwood Rd.	ca.1900	Colonial Revival	B	C
				ca.1920	Colonial Revival	B	C
WW-18	garage		15 Westwood Rd.	ca.1900	English Revival	B	C
				ca.1930	Colonial Revival	B	C
WW-19	-		16 Westwood Rd.	ca.1910	Colonial Revival	B	C
WW-20	-		17 Westwood Rd.	ca.1900	English Revival	B	C
WW-21	garage		18 Westwood Rd.	ca.1900	Shingle Style	B	C
				ca.1910	Colonial Revival	B	C

27 C / 3NC B= Buildings
4 Acres

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Form No:

Somerville, MA

Property Name:

Westwood rd. Hist. Dist.

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

8 Westwood Rd. - Elbridge Newton House

2 Westwood Rd.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community:

Somerville, MA

Form No:

Property Name: westwood Rd. Hist. Dist.

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

12 Benton Rd.- Francis Raymond House

18 Benton Rd.-Eugene Carr House

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

BER-
KELF
ST

AV
S

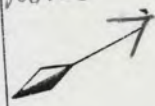
CENTRAL ST

CAMBRIA ST.

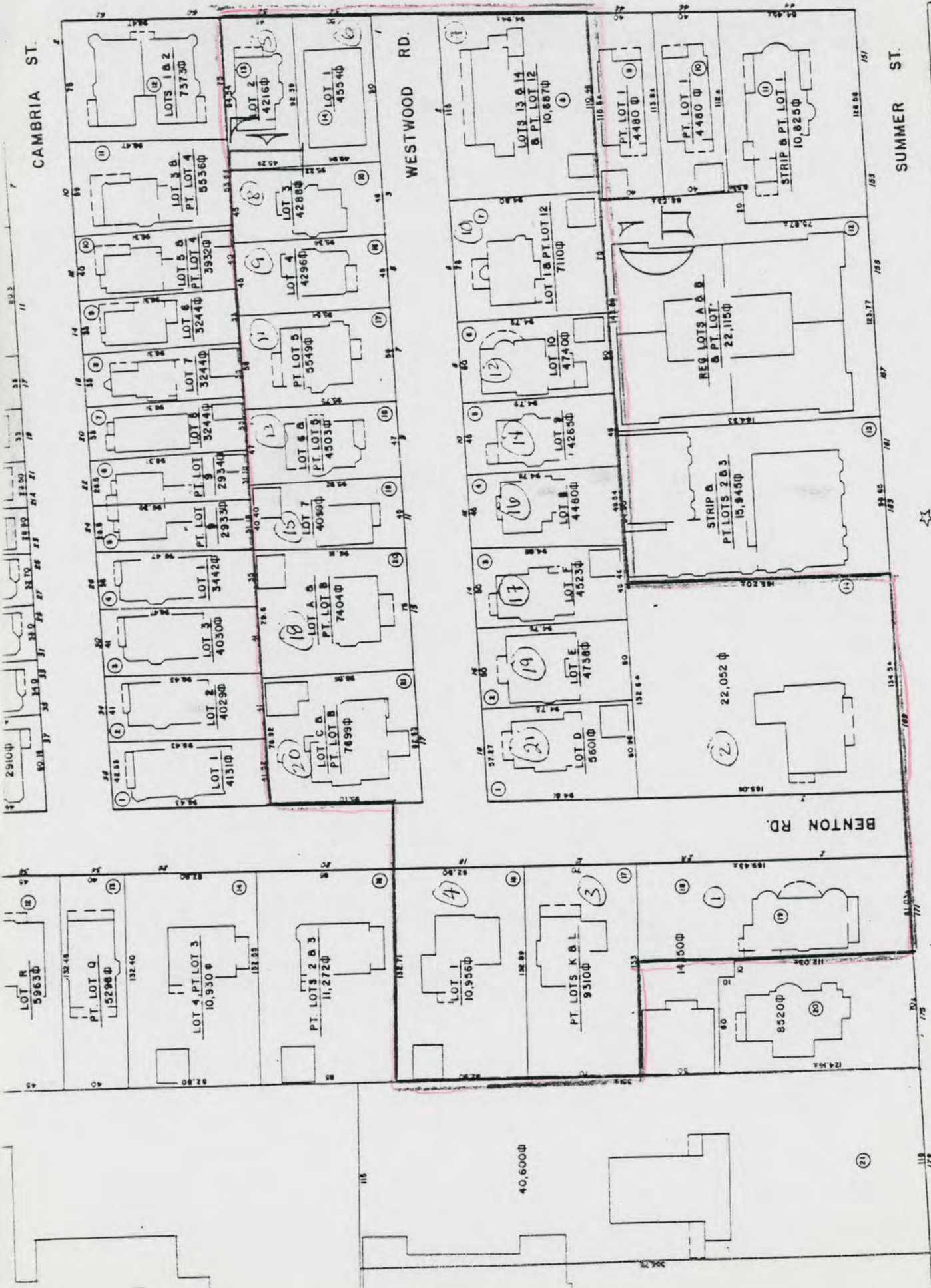
WESTWOOD RD.

SUMMER ST.

scale
1"=100'
WESTWOOD
ROAD H.D
SOMERVILLE
MA,
MASS



RD ST.



United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Somerville MPS
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

Substantive Review

for Keeper Beth Savage 9-18-89

1. Dow, L.W., Farmhouse

Substantive Review

for Keeper Eligible Beth Savage 9-18-89

Attest

2. Hollingsworth, Robert, House

Substantive Review

for Keeper Eligible Beth Savage 9-18-89

Attest

3. House at 437 Somerville Avenue

Substantive Review

for Keeper Eligible Beth Savage 3/12/20

Attest

4. House at 53 Hudson Street

Substantive Review

for Keeper Eligible 9-18-89 Beth Savage

Attest

5. Mentzner, W.C., House

Substantive Review

for Keeper Eligible 9-18-89 Beth Savage

Attest

6. Sparrow, Edmund, House

Substantive Review

for Keeper Eligible 9-18-89 Beth Savage

Attest

7. Mt. Vernon Street Historic District

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Helena Byers 9/18/89

Attest

8. Spring Hill Historic District

Substantive Review

for Keeper Beth Savage 9-18-89

Attest

9. Westwood Road Historic District

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Helena Byers 9/18/89

Attest

10. Adams, Charles--Woodbury Locke House

Entered in the
National Registerfor Keeper Helena Byers 9/18/89

Attest

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Westwood Road Historic District

MULTIPLE NAME: Somerville MPS

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 8/04/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 8/15/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 8/31/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 9/18/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89001221

NOMINATOR: STATE

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 9/18/89 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

___count ___resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

___historic ___current

DESCRIPTION

___architectural classification
___materials
___descriptive text

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

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

___acreage ___verbal boundary description
___UTMs ___boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

___sketch maps ___USGS maps ___photographs ___presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



1 Westwood Road

Westwood Rd. Hill
Somerville MA, Ma

1. 1 Westwood Rd
2. Somerville, MA
3. C. Zellie
4. 1984
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking northwest
7. MHC # 20



1. 2 Westwood Rd
2. Somerville, MA Westwood Rd 14.7
Somerville MAA, No
3. G. Schuler
4. 1988
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking Southwest
7. WW #21



8 Westwood Rd

1. 8 Westwood Road
2. Somerville, MA
3. C. Zellie
4. 1984
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking Southwest
7. HHC #23

Westwood Rd. H.P.

Somerville MRA, MA



Westwood Road from Central St.
(Area Four)

1. Westwood Road Streetscape
2. Somerville, MA
3. C. Zelic
4. 1984
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking west
7. Area WW

Westwood Rd. H.P.
Somerville MA, MA



1. 12 Benton Road *Westwood Rd. H. R.
Somerville MA, MA*
2. Somerville, MA
3. C. Zelle
4. 1984
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking west
7. MHC # 24



18 Benton Rd (Westwood H.D.).

1. 18 Benton Road
2. Somerville, MA
3. C Zelle
4. 1984
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking ~~south~~ west
7. MHC #25

Westwood Rd H.D. Somerville MRA, Ma

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500253