

1279

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
Spring Hill	159

Town Somerville MRAAddress 16-18 Preston RoadHistoric Name unknownUse: Present multi-family houseOriginal multi-family house

DESCRIPTION

Date ca. 1910Source stylistic analysisStyle Colonial RevivalArchitect unknownExterior Wall Fabric clapboardOutbuildings barn/garage (C)Major Alterations (with dates) Removal of the third tier of full-height front entrance porchCondition excellentMoved no Date n/aAcreage less than one acreSetting urban residential, wellestablished quiet neighborhood ofmostly late-19th century single andtwo family dwellings - well maintainedRecorded by Betsy Friedberg, Preservation PlannerOrganization Mass. Historical CommissionDate June 1986

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 assessor's map

UTM REFERENCE Z E N 19 - 326/950 - 4694/310

USGS QUADRANGLE Boston North

SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Colonial Revival-style three-decker at 16-18 Preston represents Somerville's best-detailed example of this form of multifamily housing. Retaining integrity of location, design, materials, feeling, workmanship, and association, the building fulfills Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places on the local level.

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

Number 16-18 Preston Road is an elaborate three-decker. The flat-roofed structure has projecting eaves and an elaborate modillioned cornice. The full-height polygonal facade bay is offset to the left. The tiered entrance porches have flat roofs supported by clustered colonnettes. The entrance is set within the first-story porch; it consists of a door containing an upper oval panel of bevelled glass set beneath a transom. The porch balustrades have a curved profile, a typical of the Colonial Revival style. The porch newel post is topped by a large spherical finial.

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

The hills above Union Square have a number of high-quality, attractive Colonial Revival apartment houses and triple deckers. Rarely are they seen in more than pairs, with no real concentration in a particular location.

This building was one of the last built on the George Ireland subdivision of Preston Road, a former apple orchard. Ireland returned to his family estate in Somerville in 1853, built the house next to this three-decker (#20 Preston Road) at another location near Somerville Ave. Ireland cultivated fruits and sold real estate. When the apple orchard was subdivided the road was named after Ireland's wife, Jane Preston and Ireland's house was moved to the next door location by 1890. The barn/garage belonging to the three-decker property was built for #20 Preston Rd. A later subdivision, creating the lot for this building divided the early house at #20 Preston Road from its barn which is now part of this property.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

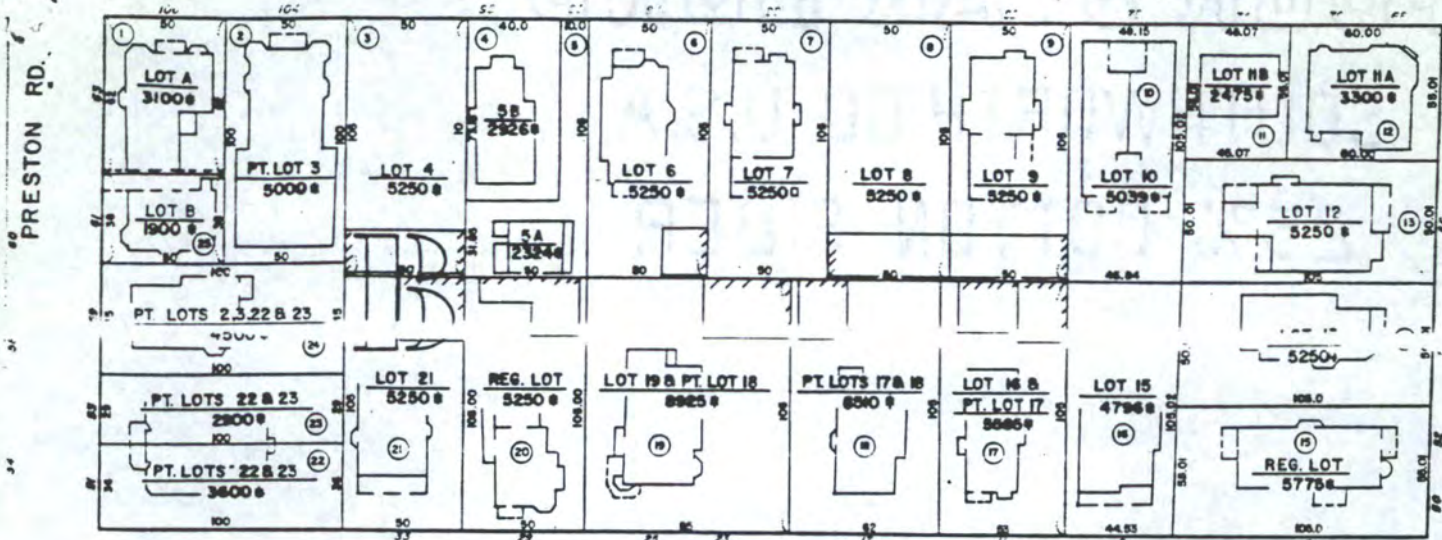
Sanborn Map Company, Insurance Map of Somerville Massachusetts, New York, 1900. Revised to 1931.

Samuels, Edward, Somerville: Past and Present, 1897.

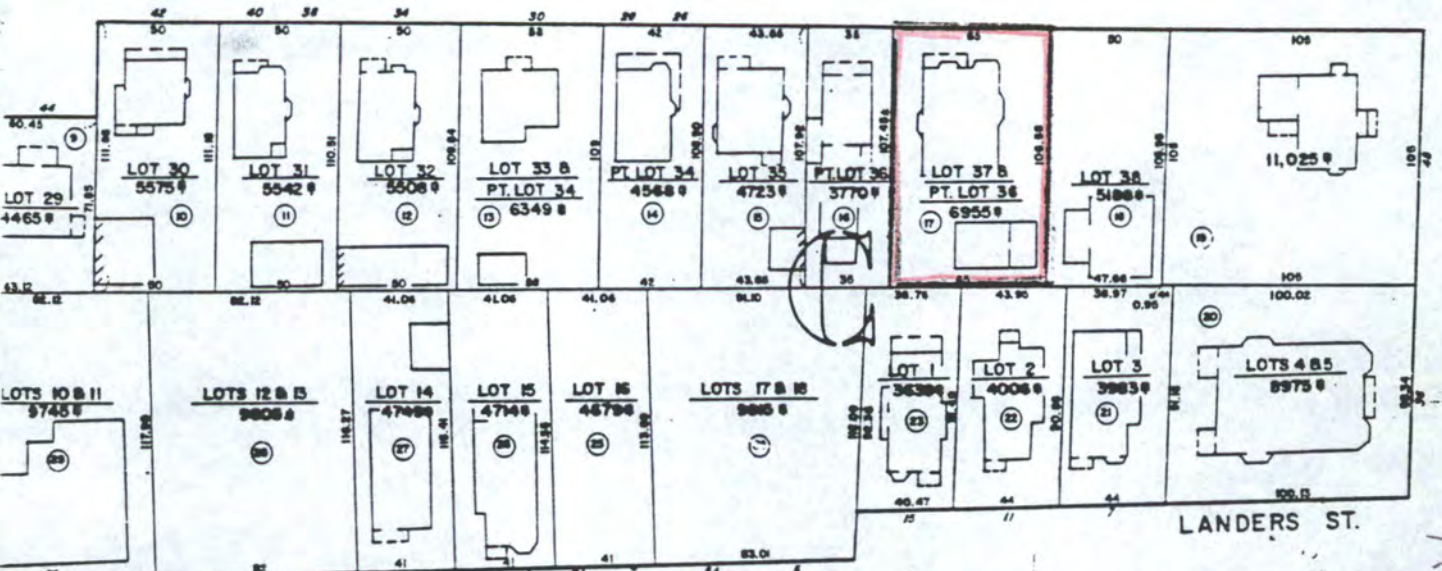
SUMNER STREET

1"=100

159

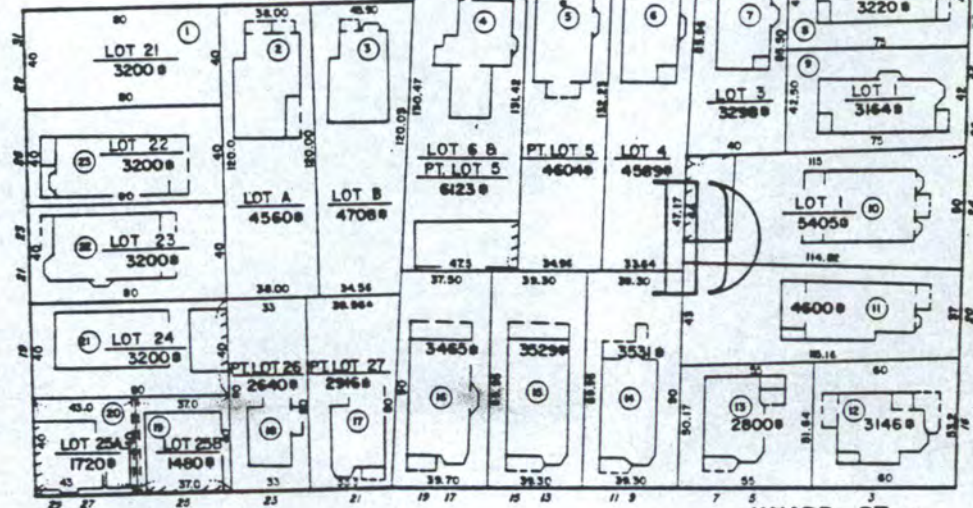
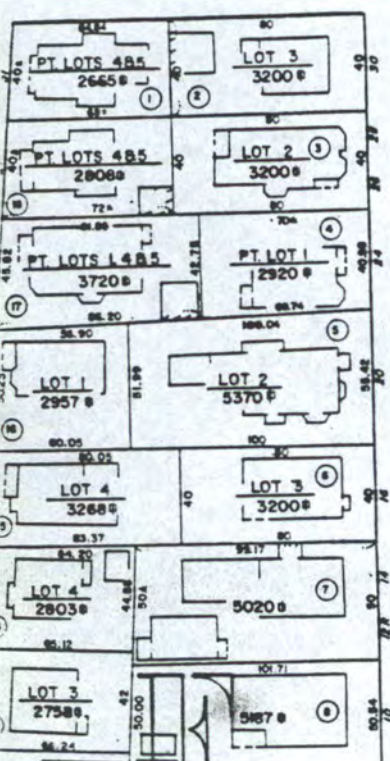


PRESTON RD.

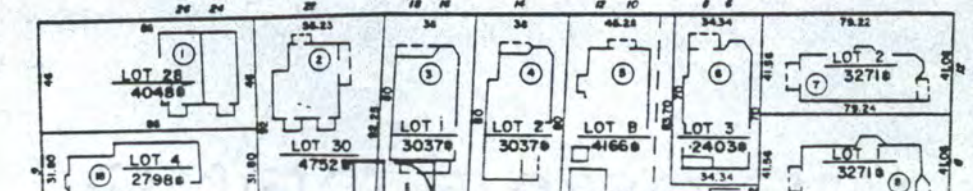


OSGOOD ST.

LANDERS ST.



KNAPP ST.



Stable/Garage
 16-18 Preston Rd.
 Somerville (MKA), Mass.

SCHOOL STREET



United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Somerville MPS
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

- | Nomination/Type of Review | | Date/Signature |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| 31. | Hopkins, Elisha, House
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 32. | House at 10 Arlington Street
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 33. | House at 14 Chestnut Street
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 34. | House at 16--18 Preston Road
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 35. | House at 197 Morrison Avenue
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 36. | House at 21 Dartmouth Street
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 37. | House at 25 Clyde Street
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 38. | House at 29 Mt. Vernon Street
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 39. | House at 343 Highland Avenue
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 9/18/89
Attest _____ |
| 40. | House at 35 Temple Street
Entered in the
National Register | Keeper <u><i>Arlene Byers</i></u> 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 House at 16--18 Preston Road
NAME:

MULTIPLE Somerville MPS
NAME:

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: 89001279

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
 UTM's boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps USGS maps photographs presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____

24 2012 09 31-5



16-18 Preston Rd
Lease cat

1. 16-18 Preston Rd.
2. Somerville, TN *MRS*
3. C. Zellie
4. 1980
5. Somerville City Hall
6. looking southeast
7. # 159

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64500253