

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 Old East Boston High School (preferred)

other names/site number Joseph H. Barnes School

2. Location

street & number 127 Marion Street not for publication

city or town Boston (East Boston) vicinity

state Massachusetts code MA county Suffolk code 025 zip code 02128

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.)

Brona Simon
Signature of certifying official/Title Brona Simon, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission

1/27/06
Date

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 H. Beall
Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Old East Boston HS
Name of Property

Suffolk, MA
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

(Check only one box)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

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

Number of Resources within Property

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

Contributing	Noncontributing
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> building
<u> </u>	<u> </u> sites
<u>1</u>	<u> </u> structures
<u> </u>	<u> </u> objects
<u>2</u>	<u> </u> Total

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

n/a

**Number of contributing resources previously listed
in the National Register**

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Education: school

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Vacant

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

LATE 19th AND 20th CENTURY REVIVALS:

Italian Renaissance

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation granite

walls brick

roof tar & gravel

other limestone and bluestone trim

Narrative Description

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

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Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA

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Physical Description

The former East Boston High School (later called the Joseph H. Barnes School) is located on the south slope of Eagle Hill in East Boston. A dense residential neighborhood that predominately dates to the latter half of the 19th century, the Eagle Hill district occupies a broad hill northeast of Central Square that is the highest point in East Boston. Old East Boston High School stands three blocks south of the Trenton Street (south) border of the Eagle Hill NRDIS (02/26/1998) and one block north of Bennington Street, a major thoroughfare that connects East Boston proper and Orient Heights to the east. The building occupies the east end of the block bounded by Princeton, Marion, and Saratoga streets. A narrow driveway at the rear of the lot stretches between Princeton and Saratoga Streets. The grade slopes down from Princeton towards Saratoga Street and the lot is bounded by a granite retaining wall along Princeton Street and by an original **cast iron fence** on a granite base on Princeton, Saratoga and the center portion of Marion streets. **(photo #17)** The building consists of an original 1901 block, which is irregular in plan, and a 1933 rear addition, which is U-shaped in plan. The projecting pavilions of the main building are flush with the sidewalk along Marion Street, and the main building is set back roughly four feet from Saratoga and Princeton Streets. A narrow areaway separates the building from the sidewalk along Princeton. **(photo #2)** The rear addition is set back approximately sixteen feet from Princeton and Saratoga Streets. **(photo #1)**

Designed in the Renaissance-Revival style, the original 1901 building is of buff brick with limestone trim and a granite base. It is three stories high set on a high basement and has a flat roof rimmed by a parapet. Symmetrical in plan about a central east-west axis, the 1901 building is approximately rectangular in plan at the basement story and the upper stories are I-shaped in plan with a semicircular auditorium projecting from the west elevation of the shaft of the I. The buff brick walls of the upper stories rest on a rough-cut granite base.

While the Marion Street elevation has deep projecting pavilions and the Saratoga and Princeton Street elevations have shallow projecting pavilions, the bays of each facade are symmetrically organized. A full-story granite basement wall is penetrated by cross windows with granite mullions and cross bars. A bluestone watertable topped by a limestone course with a three-quarter molding marks the transition between the basement and first story. At the first story, brick is laid in a rusticated pattern and the wall is punctuated by slightly recessed, round-arched windows with paneled brick spandrels below the windows. The second story is marked by a molded limestone beltcourse and a shallow limestone sill course. The shallow segmental-arched window openings are set within molded brick enframements surmounted by limestone lintels with projecting crown molding and egg and dart molding. Projecting limestone sills are supported on

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tab brackets. A stone balcony enriched with panels carved in bas-relief appears on the Princeton and Saratoga facades. The third story has a denticulated limestone sill course and shorter windows with shallow segmental arches framed by molded brick surrounds alternate with blind, molded brick panels. A flush limestone beltcourse rims the building above the third story windows and a simple crown molding caps the top of the parapet, which extends above the flat roof. Interior brick vent stacks with copper hoods are just visible above the parapet.

A three-story, buff brick 1933 addition set on a high basement extends from the rear of the original building. U-shaped in plan, it wraps around a light-court to join the north and south rear wings of the I-shaped 1901 building. Each story of the addition is staggered one floor lower than the main building. The rear addition has a flat roof.

Main Building

Projecting pavilions frame the principal façade on Marion Street. Between the pavilions, a double granite stair leads from the sidewalk to a vaulted arcade sheltering an entry porch at the first story. **(photo #3, 10)** The stair is secured by an iron gate and fence set on a granite retaining wall. **(photo #6)** The entry porch sits over the basement boiler room. Four square windows punctuate the basement story below the porch. Two openings flank the entrance stair at the retaining wall along the sidewalk. The opening to the north is a cast iron door to a coal chute; the south opening has been filled with brick.

Eight Ionic columns of the arcade support a frieze and denticulated cornice, which is surmounted by a parapet. **(photo #7)** A copper plaque with the name "JOSEPH H. BARNES SCHOOL" is centered on the frieze. The parapet has a stone coping; each bay is framed by slightly projecting plinths and a carved cartouche topped by a helmeted bust rises from the center of the parapet. **(photo #5)** The seven bays at the rear wall of the porch and the end bays at the north and south ends of the porch each contain a round-arched fanlight flanked by Ionic pilasters. The three central bays contain metal-clad double doors. The remaining six bays are filled with cast iron grilles protecting the typical first story window. **(photo #8-9)**

The projecting pavilions facing Marion Street are four bays wide by two bays deep. The center block of the facade at the upper stories is divided into seven bays. The first story is occupied by the entrance porch described above. The second story windows are capped by limestone pediments, the third story masonry detail matches the rest of the third story.

The north and south wings, along Princeton and Saratoga streets, are seven bays long and are almost identical. A two-bay pavilion projects toward the street at the west end of each wing. The second story windows in the west pavilions

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are different. At Saratoga Street there are two typical second story window openings, at Princeton Street a triple steel window set in a molded brick surround was installed in 1933. At each elevation, a carved stone balcony is supported by brackets at the center of the second story. The two balconies have different carved panels. The Princeton Street balcony has panels announcing the date of East Boston High School's founding and the date ground was broken for the present building; as well as allegories of art and science. **(photo #11)** The decorative panels of the Saratoga Street balcony celebrate "Truth" and "Honor." **(photo #16)**

At the rear (west) elevation of the main block, the 1933 rear addition is recessed one bay from the Princeton and Saratoga Street elevations. The detail matches that found at the Princeton Street and Saratoga Street elevations. **(photo #4)** The third story is fully exposed because the height of the addition is one story below that of the main block. The auditorium, which is only visible from inside the school, is half of an octagon in plan and is built of red brick in Flemish bond with burnt headers.

Early photographs of the High School show that the original windows have been altered. The windows visible in the early photos are cross windows with paired 2-light sash each with a single-light transom above. The original windows at all stories of the 1901 building were vertical pivots at center, with hopper sash transoms. Most were replaced some time after 1933. At the main building, the first story openings currently contain a tri-part window with a 4/4 double-hung window flanked by two narrow 2/2 sash. This is topped by the original 2-light fanlight except at the entry porch where the fanlights have muntins. The second story windows are also tri-part with a 4/4 window flanked by 2/2 sidelights. This window is topped by the original 2-light segmental-arched transom. The second story windows on Princeton Street, however, are industrial steel windows with two hopper sash. Drawings show that these were installed in 1933 to improve illumination in classrooms dedicated to art instruction. Windows at the third story are 6/6 double hung sash at the front half of the main block, and toward the rear there are tri-part windows. At the gymnasium, two 6-light casements are topped by a 2-light fanlight. The balcony level of the auditorium has paired 4-light windows with a 2-light fanlight. At the lower level of the auditorium, there are paired, flat-arched window openings.

The basement of the main block has 2-light and 3-light casement sash and single-light transoms.

1933 Addition

The three-story rear addition is eight bays long by 14 bays deep. **(photo #12)** The basement story is of granite and the buff brick walls rise to a parapet capped by concrete coping. Bluestone beltcourses wrap the addition at the watertable

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above the second story, and as a lintel course at the third story. Window openings are all flat-arched, window sills are concrete and window lintels at the first story are splayed limestone, at the second story they are brick. The symmetrical fenestration of each facade expresses the layout of interior classrooms. Typical windows on the exterior elevations are wood and have 12 over 12 double-hung sashes at the upper stories, 8/8 at the basement. The windows on the interior elevations are 6/6.

Along Princeton Street, the first story is partially below grade and faces an areaway enclosed by a granite retaining wall along the sidewalk. An ornamental iron gate set between granite pillars leads to granite steps and the paved drive behind the addition. Along Saratoga Street, the granite basement story is revealed exposing seven 8/8 double-hung windows at bays 1 -7. Bay 8 is a door. **(photo #15)**

The rear facade has a blank wall at either end flanking tall windows at the stairs and the remaining bays between the stairs are set in 3 groups of four signaling three classrooms. **(photo #13)** The stairwell bays are recessed from the plane of the wall with stepped brick corners. A tall window is set at the third story of the stairwell above a square window at the second floor and double steel doors at ground level. The lintels and sills match the Princeton and Saratoga Street facades of the addition. Egress doors at each stair hall are set in trabeated granite surrounds containing paired flush doors and a filled transom. **(photo #14)**

Interior Main Building 1901

The first three floors of the main building are approximately I-shaped in plan with a two-story, polygonal-shaped auditorium attached along the west shaft of the I. The corridors in the main building follow the I-shaped plan and in general the classrooms are at the north and south wings. The basement contains a gymnasium below the auditorium, only two classrooms at the north and south wings, and a boiler room along the east side of the central shaft. The gymnasium walls are exposed brick; the vaulted terra cotta block ceiling is exposed.

The main lobby of the school at the first floor is entered from the entrance porch through three sets of double doors with fanlights in the east wall. The space is finished with high marble wainscoting, marble baseboard, a geometric patterned terrazzo floor, and vaulted plaster ceiling. A gold-painted, ornamental leaf molding frames a panel in the ceiling. Gold painted wreaths of similar detail are applied to the spandrel in the wall between the arches. Some of the wreaths are missing. Compound pilasters between the bays are faced with dark green, heavily veined marble. The corridors continue the vocabulary with a lower marble wainscot, marble base, terrazzo floor, and high vaulted plaster ceilings. The vaults spring from a shallow bracket that project from an architrave molding set high on the wall. The

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wainscot marble is a pale green, and the baseboard marble is a dark gray or black. Fire doors and partitions of metal and wire glass installed in the corridors to enclose the stairs are a later alteration. Teachers' rooms or offices are located at either end of the lobby, entered from the main corridor, and three classrooms each line the north side of the north wing and the south side of the south wing. An office south of the entrance lobby has a broad fireplace with a marble surround and a paneled wood mantelpiece. Flanking the auditorium, wide half-turn stairs with landings run from the basement to the third floor. The marble wainscot continues up the stairs to the second floor.

The typical classroom has plaster walls and ceilings, wood floors, and windows are recessed in the masonry openings with no window surround on the face of the wall. A simple picture rail runs around the room above the windows, exposed heating pipes cover the wall below the windows and chalk boards and bulletin boards have simple surrounds. Boxed beams run across the ceiling in some classrooms, in others, it appears the ceiling has been lowered below the height of the beam. Some classrooms have windows on the interior wall, which would have provided light to the corridor. Typically, these windows were later covered on one side blocking the light. The three-panel classroom doors are tall with a glazed panel in the middle. Doors between classrooms are typically shorter with no glazed panel. At the NW and SW classrooms, an interior storeroom or coat room is located along the corridor and the classroom is set behind that room.

The auditorium is entered from the north and south stairs at the intermediate landing between the first and second floors. The double doors to the auditorium have been joined to create one single door. The auditorium is a semicircular space with a domed ceiling, and the stage is recessed in the east wall. The elliptical proscenium arch sits on large cornice blocks supported by Ionic columns. The arch is framed by pilasters of similar detail. The balcony is supported on Ionic columns and the wooden balcony rail consists of paneled posts with an open lattice. The ceiling at the underside of the balcony consists of shallow vaults. The end stanchions at the seats are detailed with a carved reeding topped by a stylized flower. Around the base of the domed ceiling at each bay there was a shield ornamented with scrolls, anthemions and a swag. The name of a noted literary figure is painted along the swag. Several of the shields are missing. The balcony is entered from double doors in the west wall of the second floor corridor.

At the second floor, a library is located over the entrance lobby and a similar fireplace is stacked over that on the first floor at the south end of the library. Steps and double doors lead out to the balcony enclosed by the parapet over the porch. The walls of the boys and girls toilets are glazed tile. The classroom layout and finishes are similar to the first floor. The plan of the third floor appears to have been the most altered. Wood and glass partitions separate some of the rooms and bisect two skylights in the ceiling. Gypsum board partitions were added in some classrooms as well. In some classrooms the exterior walls are exposed brick rather than plaster.

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1933 Addition

The corridors of the addition are I-shaped in plan, connecting at the east to the corridors of the 1901 building. At the west end, the corridors lead to stairhalls. The stairs are metal pan, half-turn stairs with landings. The classrooms are located along the exterior walls. The first floor cafeteria occupies the entire central wing and serves as the circulation corridor between the north & south wings which each contain two rooms. At the upper floors there are two classrooms each in the north and south wings and three in the central wing. The walls of the corridors, the boys and girls toilets, the cafeteria and basement classrooms are built of glazed tile. The remaining classroom walls are plaster. Windows are recessed in the wall with no surround on the face of the wall.

(end)

Old East Boston HS

Name of Property

Suffolk, 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): HPCA #13030

- ☐ 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

Education

Social History

Period of Significance

1901-1955

Significant Dates

1901 1933

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

Cultural Affiliation

Architect/Builder

John Lyman Faxon

Charles Reggio Greco (1933 addition)

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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Statement of Significance

Old East Boston High School (known as the Joseph H. Barnes Intermediate School after 1926) stands as testament to the educational reforms of the Progressive Era as well as to Boston's growth during the last quarter of the 19th century. An intact example of secondary school architecture from the turn of the 20th century, Old East Boston High retains integrity of design, location, setting, materials, feeling, workmanship, and association; and fulfills National Register criteria A and C at the local level. The period of significance is from the building's date of construction in 1901 to 1955. The end date represents the standard fifty-year cut off established to allow for historical perspective.

Although physically separated from the rest of the city of Boston by Boston Harbor, East Boston has long been a part of the municipality. Old East Boston High School is located on the south slope of Eagle Hill, an East Boston neighborhood roughly bounded by Meridian, Eagle, and Bennington Streets. The building's history is bound up with the aspirations of this traditionally middle-class residential district. Originally the site of imposing wood-frame homes built by wealthy sea captains and local merchants, the area's 1842 subdivision into forty-eight residential lots by the East Boston Company spurred a wave of development that would continue through the latter half of the 19th century. The East Boston Company was founded in 1833 to gather the necessary capital for development of what was then a series of islands and tidal flats stretching south from Revere to the Shawmut peninsula. The East Boston Company was responsible for the street plans and lot divisions of most of East Boston proper as well as the narrow strip of land that would eventually connect it to Orient Heights. The company's initial investment was concentrated on the Maverick and Central Square areas located at the southern and western extremities of the present-day peninsula occupied by East Boston. These squares, joined by the north-south axis of Meridian Street, grew into East Boston's primary commercial and industrial districts. In addition to subdividing these areas for development, the East Boston Company provided for public buildings including schools, houses of worship, and commercial structures. In 1848, Gridley J. Fox Bryant was commissioned to erect a red brick primary school on Paris Street as well as an engine house on Meridian Street. As East Boston's initial neighborhoods prospered, construction spread north and east to Eagle Hill.

Given its desirable hilltop location, the Eagle Hill neighborhood attracted East Boston's most prominent residents. Starting in the 1840s, entrepreneurs associated with the shipbuilding industry built single-family homes reminiscent of suburban villas along the streets laid out by the East Boston Company. At mid-century East Boston's industrial

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economy diversified. Ship repair works, foundries, and machine shops required skilled labor and absorbed a growing population of Yankee emigrants from the hinterland, as well as Canadian and Irish workers. A class of professionals and merchants, as well as clerical and managerial workers developed to service local community and industry. These professions offered entrepreneurs and artisanal workers the means of entering the middle class. With East Boston's physical expansion and ethnic diversification, Eagle Hill developed into a middle-class enclave of the "native-born." The area developed rapidly, with new residents favoring housing types that occupied the entirety of the average 1,000 square foot lots. Given the district's increased popularity, the typical lot was further subdivided into parcels that measured 25 feet across, leading to the dense settlement pattern and urban housing types that currently characterize the neighborhood. Eagle Hill's greatest period of expansion was between 1860 and 1900, with increased residential development requiring new institutions. New schools, houses of worship, civic buildings, meeting halls, and commercial buildings were erected on the fringes of the district, including Old East Boston High School.

Attracted by work in local factories and shipping industries, immigrants flocked to East Boston from the late 19th century through the 1920s. Between 1885 and 1915, Russian Jewish and Italian immigrants doubled the population of East Boston. By 1905, East Boston was the largest Jewish community in New England, supporting three synagogues and New England's first Jewish cemetery. While most immigrants did not settle on Eagle Hill, the children of these newly arrived families would also become the students of Old East Boston High.

As early as 1842, East Boston's growing population had required new schools. From this date until construction of Old East Boston High, ten primary and grammar schools were built in the local community. The earliest of these graded primary schools reflect the influence of educational reformer Horace Mann and include early examples of the work of such notable 19th century Boston architects as Gridley J. Fox Bryant and Edmund Wheelwright. At this time, a high school education that focused on preparation for university was limited to elite "Classical Academies" that serviced a minority of the American population. Limited access persisted well into the latter half of the 19th century. For example, the City of Boston's *Annual School Report* of 1871 notes that student enrollment in Boston Latin and the city's five other high schools (Boston English School, the Girls High School and Normal School, Roxbury Latin, as well as high schools in West Roxbury and Dorchester) accounted for only 1,355 -- or four percent -- of the city's 46,301 children between the ages of 5 and 15. It also laments, "many pupils are deprived of a high school education." ¹ However, liberalization of the standard high school curriculum is already apparent in the same report's definition of a high school education as preparation for liberal education or, significantly, as a supplement to elementary education in preparation for an occupation that did not require higher education.² Towards the end of the 19th century,

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¹ *Annual School Report*, 1871, p. 157.

² *Annual School Report*, 1871, p. 206.

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generalized access to such a high school education became increasingly desirable as more families affected the transition from artisanal labor to white-collar professional.

Established in the late 1870s, East Boston's first high school similarly reflected the aspirations of Eagle Hill's newly emergent middle class. The children of Jewish immigrant families also numbered among the first local students to access a public high school education. East Boston's first high school was housed with the Police Court and branch library in a building on Paris Street that had been enlarged to accommodate the students. Local desire to make a high school education available to all East Boston youth had forced acceptance of such "unpropitious surroundings." By the 1890s the creation of a high school for each neighborhood of the city became a priority of the Boston School Department.

Considered an experiment at first, growing enrollment at East Boston's first high school had, to Superintendent of Boston Schools Edwin P. Seaver's mind, underscored the right of the local community to "all the benefits of that policy, which now seems to be fully established, whereby all the suburban high schools are to be enlarged, strengthened, and developed in function and efficiency up to the full measure of high schools in this city and elsewhere."³

Thus, construction of Old East Boston High illustrates the Superintendent's commitment to educational parity between established areas of Boston and the city's outlying and newly annexed, wealthier suburban neighborhoods. Certain of these surrounding communities had in fact negotiated maintenance of existing high schools as a requirement for annexation to the City of Boston.

Awarded an appropriation by the state legislature in 1895 for the construction of schoolhouses, the City of Boston found that the funds barely met the need for neighborhood primary schools. In 1897 Superintendent Seaver reported that the crisis of accommodation in the city's high schools had led the city to petition for additional funding in 1896. The legislature granted \$500,000 per annum to construct high schools in East Boston, South Boston, Dorchester, and West Roxbury by 1899. In 1896, the Boston Common Council convened a committee to search for an appropriate building site in East Boston. The Committee selected four possible sites, which were all located in the vicinity of Eagle Hill. In 1897 27,500 square feet of land were taken by the City of Boston for East Boston High for the sum of \$58,000. The future high school would eliminate two streets, two service alleys, and some twenty dwellings. An 1888 insurance map shows the future building site as densely populated with a mix of single-family homes, attached rowhouse tenements, and back-lot workshops and sheds. Two crowded tenement complexes on Louisiana Place and

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Hunnewell Place were owned by Central Associates of East Boston and Charles U. Cotting et. al., respectively. As the owner of two additional lots taken at the corner of Marion and Saratoga Streets, Cotting was the principal landowner of the building site. Cotting was an active investor in Boston real estate from 1852 through the early part of the Twentieth Century. Central Associates was a real estate interest focused on East Boston and is listed in the Suffolk County Registry of Deeds from 1890.

By November 28, 1897 John Lyman Faxon was selected as architect for the high school. By 1899, the Annual Report of the Boston School Committee reports that work on the school is "progressing satisfactorily." The year 1897 also witnessed passage of a state mandate that all school construction be fireproof. This was a point of pride noted by the architect during opening ceremonies in 1901.⁴ First occupied on May 13, 1901, and officially dedicated in November 1901, the High School also provided space for neighborhood clubs and evening classes.

The novelty of high school education at the turn of the century is highlighted by a special section of the Superintendent's 1897 report entitled "New Buildings for High Schools." In it Superintendent Seaver presents the case for high school education supplanting the Classical Academy as the traditional prerequisite to a college education. He catalogues recent trends towards transforming high school curricula from a practical education intended for those students who desired to proceed beyond primary schooling but who were not preparing for college to a generalized education, based on electives, that would prepare the student either for admission to university or active life or professional studies. Superintendent Seaver points to liberalizing standards for university admission as well as the growing requirement of a high school education in working life as support for making a high school education widely available to city residents. The curriculum at Old East Boston High reflected these ideals as well as contemporary theories of hygiene and health. Classrooms were large and airy and physical education classes made use of Frederic Law Olmsted's nearby Wood Island Park, which was completed in 1898 and later incorporated into Logan Airport.

Seaver's comments on high school education proved prophetic. By 1925 East Boston had reached its peak population of 64,000 and the increased demand for both primary and secondary education resulted in construction of 15 new schools in East Boston during the first three decades of the 20th century. Growing enrollment eventually required

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⁴ See the dedicatory address delivered by East Boston resident and senior member of the School Board, Willard S. Allen as published in the appendix to the 1901 *Annual Report of the School Committee of the City of Boston*.

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construction of a new East Boston High School on White Street in 1926. At this point, Old East Boston High became the Joseph H. Barnes Intermediate School. Land was acquired for a two-story, 14-classroom addition in 1932 and a building permit for the addition was filed in 1933 listing Charles Reggio Greco as architect.

Plans of the Barnes School filed with Inspectional Services in both 1933 and 1948 suggest that the use of certain spaces within the building may have changed before 1933; probably to accommodate curricular changes. The rooms in question include a significant number of shops at the basement level (two woodshops, a machine shop, a sheet metal shop, an electric shop, a drafting room, and printing room) and several sewing and cooking rooms at the third floor. The presence of these rooms suggests a shift in emphasis from the building's original academic course of study to vocational training. The third floor rooms represent a significant amount of space dedicated to a home economics course, reflecting contemporary educational ideals for young women. Original drawings for the building have not been found, so it is unclear to what extent the original program had been altered by 1933 and whether this had occurred while the building was used as a high school or intermediate school.

Joseph H. Barnes (1833 - 1906) was a Civil War veteran and East Boston resident who organized Company K of the 129th Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteers. He was born in Hingham, MA and attended Boston schools, graduating from the Theodore Lyman School in East Boston. His father, also named Joseph Barnes, was a shipwright, who was presumably attracted to East Boston by work in the ship building industry. In 1861, Joseph H. Barnes entered the military with the rank of Captain. In December of that year he was made a Lieutenant Colonel and was mustered out on October 9, 1864. The city directory of 1865 shows Joseph H. Barnes living in his father's home on Liverpool Street, located between Maverick Square and Boston Harbor. In 1866, the young veteran was appointed an inspector at the Boston Custom House; a position he would hold until his death in 1906. The fortunes of both the elder and junior Barnes appear to have paralleled East Boston's booming post-Civil War economy. Both were soon able to forsake Liverpool Street for the more desirable Eagle Hill neighborhood. By 1870, Joseph H. Barnes occupies a Trenton Street home that would remain his residence for the rest of his life. As the son of an artisanal laborer who became a federal clerical worker, Barnes typified the middle-class resident of Eagle Hill. His son, Joseph H. Barnes Jr., would complete the family's trend of upward mobility by becoming a lawyer. A resident of Eagle Hill until his death, Joseph H. Barnes was quite probably one of the oldest living and most prominent local Civil War veterans when Old East Boston High School was erected. This may account for the decision to name the Intermediate School in his memory, some twenty years after his death.

Immigration reform in 1924 slowed the growth of East Boston's population and, subsequently, the pace of school construction. Concurrently, as Jewish immigrant families prospered, they left the neighborhood for more spacious

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA**

Section number 8 Page 6

circumstances in Dorchester, Roxbury and Chelsea. Displacement due to construction of the Sumner Tunnel during the early 1930s and expansion of Logan Airport from the same period to the present, further impacted enrollment in the neighborhood's schools. Finally, court-ordered desegregation efforts of the 1970s led Boston Public Schools to undertake a district-wide assessment of educational facilities that led to numerous school closings through the late 1970s and early 1980s. The City of Boston does not maintain a publicly accessible record of school closure dates. Consequently the exact date of the Barnes School's closure is unknown, although student graffiti and dated material left scattered in the building suggest it was open through the 1980s. Having stood vacant since its closure, Old East Boston High School was offered for development by the City of Boston in 2001. East Boston Community Development Corporation, Inc. was named the designated developer and the school is currently undergoing rehabilitation into 74 units of affordable housing for the elderly and supportive services.

The Architects

John Lyman Faxon (1851 - 1918) was born in Quincy, MA to Elizabeth and Francis Gray Faxon. He attended Boston's Chauncy Hall School followed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was a special student in building and architecture from 1873 to 1874. Faxon formed a partnership with his uncle, businessman James Warren, after the Great Boston Fire of 1872. The two sought to capitalize on the opportunities for real estate development provided by rebuilding the commercial district. It appears that James Warren functioned as the administrative head of J.W. and J.L. Faxon, while John Lyman was the designer.

The Church Green Buildings (NRDIS, 12/30/99) in downtown Boston are among the earliest known buildings by Faxon. Influenced by the Beaux-Arts education he received at MIT, Faxon designed the complex in the Second Empire style with French Neo-Grec ornament. Another early building is the Faxon Building located at 62 - 72 Summer Street (ca. 1873 - 1877). Neo-Grec stylistic influences, which were fashionable in Boston from the early 1870s to about 1877, are exemplified by incised abstractions of Classical details typically arranged in a geometric framework. Such decoration was strictly rational and often appeared in moldings and other details.

During the years 1874 - 1876, John Lyman and James Warren Faxon practiced architecture from an office they designed in the Church Green Building at 105 Summer Street. From 1877 to 1908, John Lyman Faxon maintained an independent practice from offices at 7 Exchange Place. He was elected to the Boston Society of Architects in 1900.

In addition to office buildings, Faxon designed schools (no others are located in the City of Boston), churches,

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number 8 Page 7

**Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA**

apartment buildings, houses and civic buildings in Boston, Quincy, and elsewhere in Massachusetts, as well as in Connecticut, New Hampshire, and Michigan. Faxon's published designs included the Kensington Apartment/Hotel (291 Boylston Street, Boston; ca. 1899), The First Baptist Church (848 Beacon Street, Newton; ca. 1889; NRIND, 4/15/82), the Knights of Columbus Building (Chapel St., New Haven CT; 1904), and the First Congregational Church (Detroit, MI; ca. 1893). Also published were his competitive designs for New York City's Cathedral of Saint John the Divine (1902), and Pittsburgh's Carnegie Library. Other notable commissions include the Hotel Victoria (275 Dartmouth Street, Boston; ca. 1886) Rollins Chapel at Dartmouth College (Hanover, NH), Ferdinand's Blue Store (226 Washington Street, Roxbury, MA) as well as numerous private residences along Beacon and Marlborough Streets in Boston.

A student of art as well as architecture, Faxon authored "A Treatise on the Ancient Theaters of Greece and Rome" (in preparation in 1914) and "Byzantine Art and the New Old First Illustrated" (published ca. 1891 by the First Congregational Church, Detroit MI). When he died in 1918, Faxon was a widower survived by his daughter Mary Frederick of Brookline.

Architect Charles Reggio Greco (1874 - 1963), designer of the 1933 addition, was a Cambridge native who graduated from the local English High School in 1892. He took engineering courses at Harvard and established an independent practice in 1894 at the age of twenty. Working primarily in the Boston area and in the Colonial Revival, Arts and Crafts, and Modernist idioms, he quickly mastered a wide variety of building types including houses, schools, jails, hospitals, courthouses, fire stations, movie theaters, apartment and office buildings, convents, churches, and synagogues. His obituary particularly emphasizes the many schools and synagogues Greco designed in the Boston area. Greco was a long-time resident of Winchester MA, and also lived in Cambridge and Melrose, MA.

During his career, Greco was associated with Waite and Cutter of Boston, architects of several state armories and Middlesex County buildings. He also practiced with the local firm Peabody and Stearns. Greco chaired the Massachusetts State Art Commission for two decades, stepping down in 1941 after testifying that he had paid kickbacks to Cambridge city officials. Greco died in Trumbull CT leaving two daughters.

Greco's notable commissions include synagogues in Miami Beach and Cleveland. He also designed the City of Cambridge Tuberculosis Hospital (1908 and 1915; now demolished), Cambridge Home for the Aged and Infirm (NRIND 10/22/02), an arts and crafts style home for himself at 36 Fresh Pond Parkway (1910), numerous apartment buildings and private residences in the Boston area, as well as churches in Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, North Weymouth, Middleborough, and Cambridge. Other schools include four for the City of Boston: Charles Bulfinch

(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

**Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA**

Section number 8 Page 8

(1911), Donald McKay (1926, located at Cottage and Grove Streets in East Boston), Horace Mann (1929, Roxbury), and Eliot (1932); as well as Maynard High School (published in *American Architect*, 1918) and Saint Gregory's School in Dorchester MA.

Old East Boston High School also registers the influence of a particularly visionary Superintendent of Construction for the short-lived Boston Department of School Buildings. William W. Drummey was selected for the post on March 31, 1935 from a field of sixty-two candidates. He trained as an architect at MIT and was the second architect since 1901 to hold the position. Drummey immediately introduced numerous administrative changes to reduce costs within the Department. Appointed in the midst of the Great Depression, he integrated nearly 1,500 Works Progress Administration (WPA) hires within his department, including both architects and unskilled laborers.

Significantly, Drummey introduced a number of his own inventions into Boston school buildings to increase the safety of students. These include: the "Drummey" Fire Escape, an enclosed spiral ramp that was coated with a non-slip surface; a new type of portable classroom; a new type of playground shelter; and three new types of schoolhouse furniture. The latter include a lunchroom seat and table that was installed in the 1933 addition of the Barnes School in 1936. The "Drummey" lunchroom table replaced the table and bench configuration typical of previous cafeteria furniture. It consisted of a central steel frame with arms that extend to support an individual, circular seat for each student. The steel supports alternate in color to create a lively, pleasing composition. The seats are attached on a moveable arm that can swing the seats under the table. Presumably, the merit of the "Drummey" lunch table was the ease with which students -- particularly female students in skirts -- could seat themselves. Eliminating the awkward movement of straddling a bench, the individual seats reduced the risk of falls. The original tables were most probably constructed by WPA laborers. Those installed at the Barnes School have survived and are still on site.

end

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA

Section number 9 Page 1

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(continued)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA

Section number 9 Page 2

Deed, Suffolk County Registry of Deeds, Charles U. Cotting Trs. et. al. to City of Boston, *Grantors 1800-1899, Book 2492*, Dec. 18, 1897.

McDonald, Timothea, Head Librarian, East Boston Branch Library, personal communication with author, January 7 & 8, 2004.

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National Register of Historic Places Nomination, Church Green Buildings, Boston, MA.

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Drawings

Boston City Department of School Buildings, "Alterations to Joseph H. Barnes School, June 2, 1948." 5 drawings, Collection Massachusetts Archives, B 2 43 #73892.

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(end)

Old East Boston HS
Name of Property

Suffolk, MA
County, State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property less than one acre

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

1. 19 332220 4693540
Zone Easting Northing

2. Zone Easting Northing

3. Zone Easting Northing

4. Zone Easting Northing

See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Leslie Donovan, Bernard Zirnheld, Tremont Preservation Services with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date January 2006

street & number 220 Morrissey Boulevard telephone 617-727-8470

city or town Boston state MA zip code 02125

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name Barnes School LLP

street & number 72 Marginal Street telephone

city or town East Boston state MA zip code 02128

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1

Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA

Boundary Description and Justification

Legal Description

Beginning at a point at the intersection of the northerly street line of Saratoga Street and the westerly street line of Marion Street, thence;

N 25°31'20" W by the westerly street line of Marion Street, a distance of two hundred and no hundredths (200.00) feet to a point, thence;

S 64°28'40" W by the southerly street line of Princeton Street, a distance of two hundred and no hundredths (200.00) feet to a point, thence;

S 25°31'20" E by land now or formerly of Comenzo and land now or formerly of Noe, a distance of two hundred and no hundredths (200.00) feet to a point, thence;

N 64°28'40" E by the northerly street line of Saratoga Street, a distance of two hundred and no hundredths (200.00) feet to the beginning."

The current boundaries represent the lot consistently associated with the Old East Boston High School since its construction in 1901.

(end)

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Old East Boston High School
Boston [East Boston], (Suffolk), MA

Section number photo Page 1

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photographer: Katherine Matison

Date: October 2005

Location of negatives: Tremont Preservation Services, 123 South Street, 4th floor, Boston, MA 02111

1. Original Building: South (Saratoga St.) and East (Marion St.) elevations
2. Original Building: East (Marion St.) and North (Princeton St.) elevations
3. Original Building: East elevation
4. Original Building and 1933 Addition: North elevation
5. Original Building: East elevation, detail at cornice of entry porch
6. Original Building: Looking south on Marion Street, main entrance gate
7. Original Building: detail main entrance gate
8. Original Building: looking south at entry porch. Original doors and floor with glass squares
9. Original Building: looking south at entry porch, showing vaulted ceilings, columns, original openwork railing
10. Original Building: looking south at entry stair and enclosure of boiler room
11. Original Building: detail of Princeton Street balcony
12. 1933 Addition: North and West elevations
13. 1933 Addition: NW corner and West elevation, looking south. Site view showing granite piers and original fence intact
14. 1933 Addition: West elevation looking North
15. 1933 Addition: SW corner and South elevation; Original Building at right
16. Original Building: detail, Saratoga Street (south) balcony
17. Original Building: detail, original fence along Saratoga Street

(end)

Princeton St.

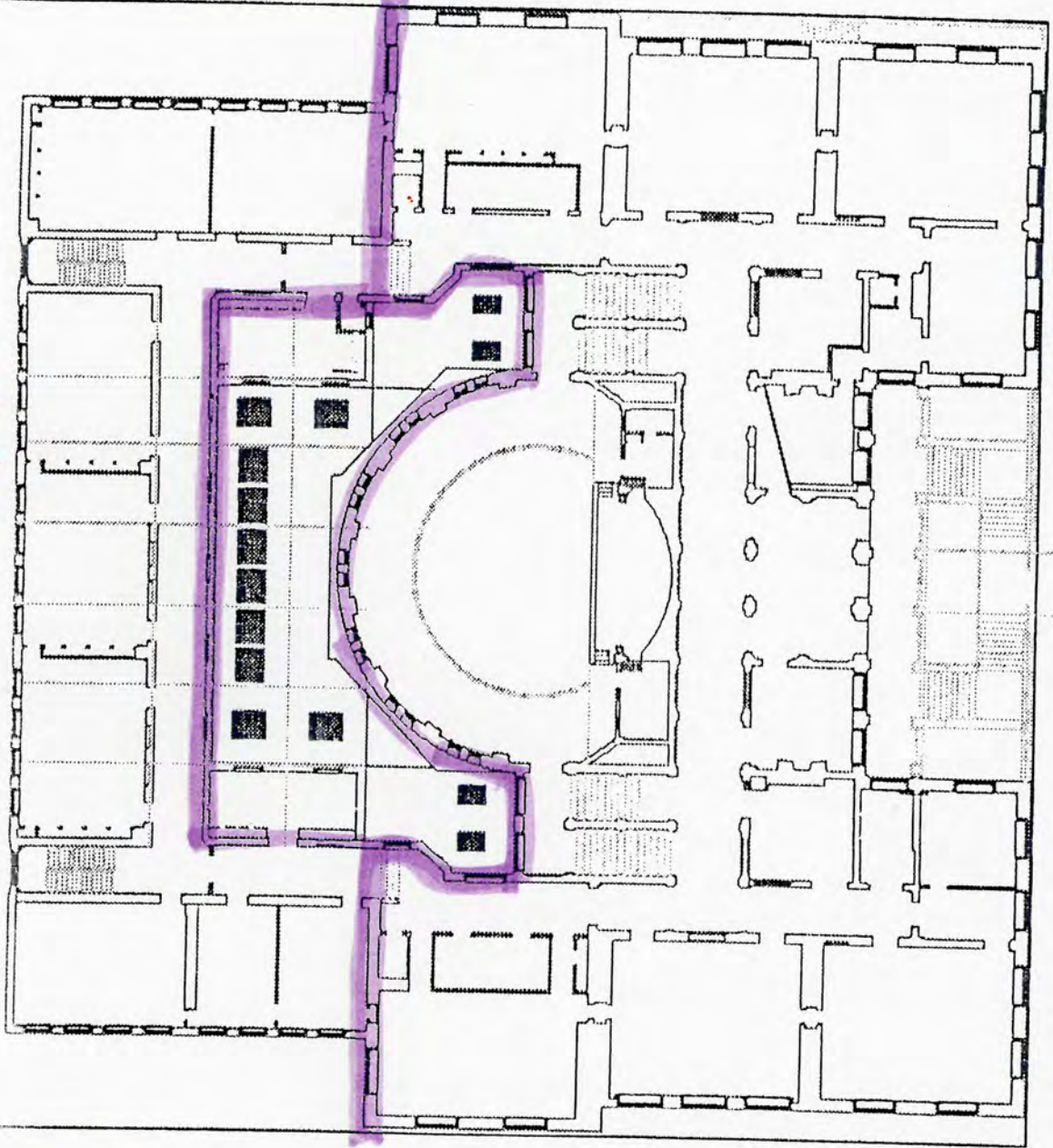
1933
Addition
→

1901
Building
←

Marion St.

Saratoga St.

Old East Boston High School
127 Marion Street, East Boston



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY East Boston High School, Old
NAME:

MULTIPLE
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Suffolk

DATE RECEIVED: 1/31/06 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 2/17/06
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 3/04/06 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 3/16/06
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 06000127

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 3-15-06 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

If a nomination is returned to the nominating authority, the
nomination is no longer under consideration by the NPS.



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston, (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 1



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston, (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 2



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston) MA
Photo No. 3



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 4



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA

Photo No. 5



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston) MA
Photo No. 6



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 7



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA

Photo No. 8



Old East Boston High School/
Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 9



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA

Photo No. 10



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA

Photo No. 11



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 12



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 13



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 14



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street

Boston (East Boston), MA

Photo No. 15



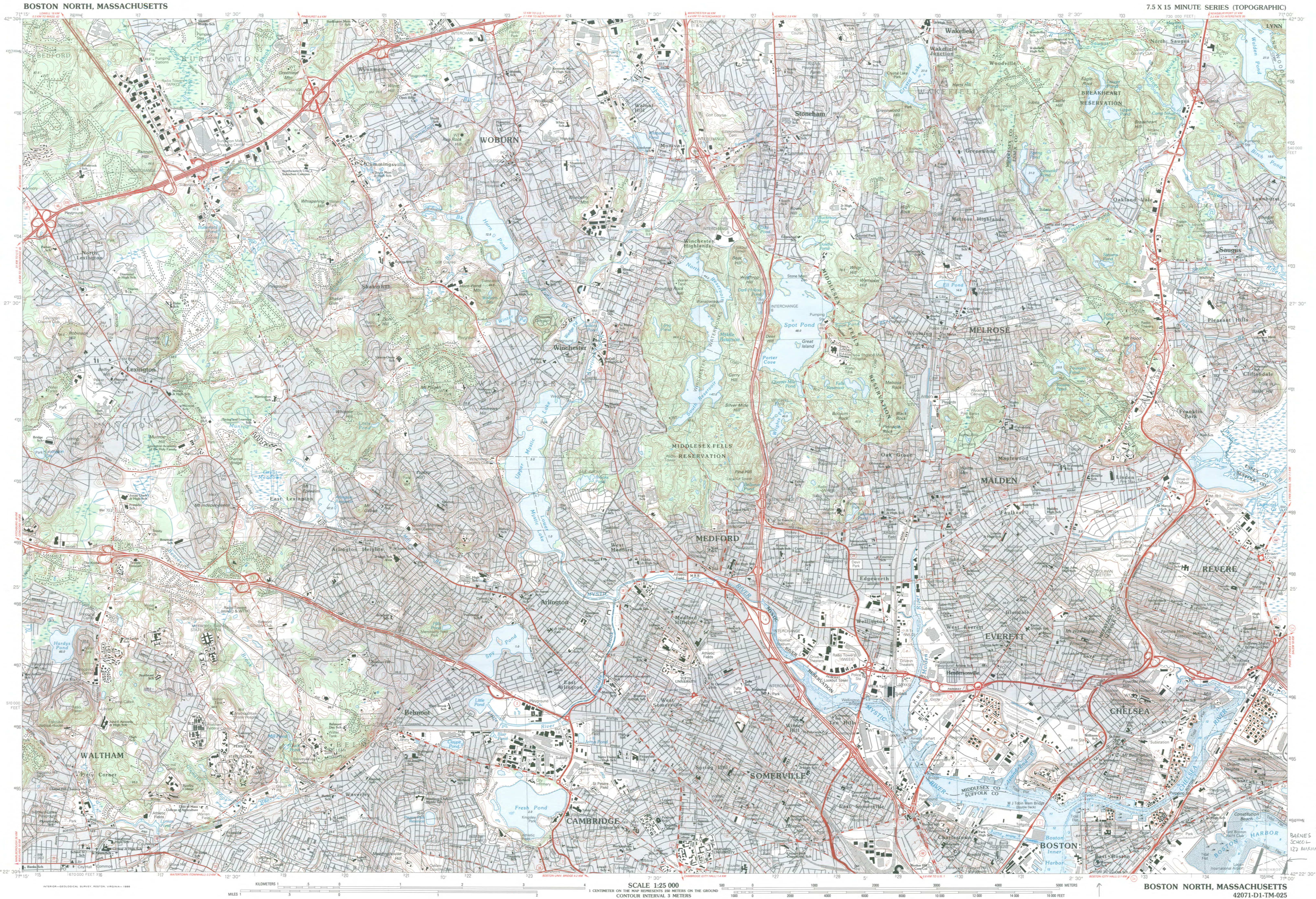
Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street

Boston (East Boston), MA

Photo No. 16



Old East Boston High School / Joseph H. Barnes School
127 Marion Street
Boston (East Boston), MA
Photo No. 17



Boston North

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

1985

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

Control by USGS, NOS-NOAA, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts agencies

Compiled by photogrammetric methods from aerial photographs taken 1978. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1985

Supersedes Boston North and Lexington 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1971

Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS chart 13272 (1982)

This information is not intended for navigational purposes

Projection and 1000-meter grid: Universal Transverse Mercator, zone 19

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 41 meters west as shown by dashed corner ticks

There may be private buildings 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 61 METER

OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 6.1 METER

DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS

DATUM IS MEAN LOW WATER

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE

SOUNDING SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER

THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.9 METERS

THIS MAP COMPLES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

FOR SALE BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

DENVER, COLORADO 80225, OR RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092

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	29.5276				
10	32.8084				

To convert meters to feet multiply by 3.2808

UTM grid convergence (GN) and 1985 magnetic declination (MD) at center of map

To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

Diagram is approximate

1 Billerica
2 Reading
3 Salem
4 Maynard
5 Lynn
6 Framingham
7 Boston South
8 Hull

ISBN 0-607-23443-1

9 780607 234435

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 gauge, narrow gauge	
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	
Cemetery: grave	
Campground; picnic area; U. S. location monument	
Windmill; water well; spring	
Mine shaft; prospect; adit or tunnel	
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; wetland	
Scrub; mangrove	
Orchard; vineyard	

A pamphlet describing topographic maps is available on request

RECEIVED
MAY 12 2004
MASS. HIST. COMM

STREET

SEC 3
63 to 69 Marion St
8502
595-597
1-4-72

ASSESSORS PLAN
WARD 1096
SECTION 3
BLOCKS 2, 3, 4, 5

T.B. KENNEY CE

1096

40000
JOSEPH H BARNES SCHOOL
05

MARION

SEC. 3. DLE

SEC. 3 BLOCK 109 196755

cert. 2675
4-23-89

MERIDIAN ST.
333 335 337 339

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

ASSESSORS PLAN
WARD 1096
SECTION 3
BLOCKS 2, 3, 4, 5

T.B. KENNEY CE

1096

1096

S17#

SEC 3 BLOCK 13
1097

SEC. 3. DLE

SEC. 3 BLOCK 109 196755

cert. 2675
4-23-89

MERIDIAN ST.
333 335 337 339

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

ASSESSORS PLAN
WARD 1096
SECTION 3
BLOCKS 2, 3, 4, 5

T.B. KENNEY CE

1096

THE
BOSTONIAN
SOCIETY

RECEIVED

DEC 01 2005

MASS. HIST. COMM

Ms. Brona Simon
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer
Massachusetts Historical Commission
The Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, MA 02125

Re: Nomination for Joseph H. Barnes/Old East Boston High School to National Register status

Dear Ms. Simon:

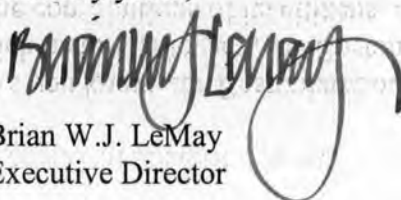
I am writing to you on behalf of the Bostonian Society in support of the nomination of the Joseph H. Barnes/Old East Boston High School at 127 Marion Street to the National Register of Historic Places.

As you know, the Bostonian Society is Boston's historical society. Serving a city with a rich historical legacy, the Bostonian Society illuminates all aspects of Boston's history, the contributions of its citizens, and the strength and continuity of its diverse neighborhoods. The Bostonian Society is a nonprofit organization, with membership open to all.

The Barnes school was constructed in 1901, designed by local architect John Lyman Faxon. It is a fine example of a Renaissance Revival style building. The Barnes School served as the East Boston High School from its construction until 1926. The city built the school to serve East Boston's rapidly expanding population, brought about by intensive immigration throughout the 1890s. It was later used as the Electrical/Shop School of East Boston High, and was then used as a middle school, until it was closed in the 1980s. Currently, it is being developed for senior housing and community use, and is listed in Historic Boston's Preservation Fund Revolving Casebook.

We urge your favorable consideration of this application on behalf of the Joseph H. Barnes/Old East Boston High School.

Sincerely yours,


Brian W.J. LeMay
Executive Director

The
Boston
Historical
Society
and
Museum





The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

January 27, 2006

Dr. John Roberts
National Register of Historic Places
Department of the Interior
National Park Service
1201 Eye Street, NW 8th floor
Washington, DC 20005



Dear Dr. Roberts:

Enclosed please find the following nomination form:

Old East Boston High School, 127 Marion Street, Boston/East Boston (Suffolk), 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 in the Certified Local Government community of Boston were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 60 to 90 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Leslie Donovan, consultant
Roysin B. Younkin, Boston CLG coordinator
Thomas Menino, Mayor, City of Boston
Barnes School LLP