

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
146	NC-696

Town Newton, Mass. M.R.A.
Newton (Newton Centre)

Address 303 Ward Street

Historic Name John Harbach House

Photo (3"x3" or 3"x5", black and white) Indicate address of property on back of photo.
Staple to left side of form.

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date circa 1800

Source stylistic analysis

Style Federal

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) entrance porch added; 2-story porch on west elevation added.

Condition Very good

Moved no Date

Acreage 26.886 sq. ft. *less than one acre*

Setting Suburban residential along early road.

Recorded by Archit. Pres. Assocs.

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date 5/83; rev. 3/86 by H. White

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 MAP)

UTM REFERENCE 19.3 19930 46 89510

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON, MASS.

SCALE 1:25,000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The John Harbach House is a rare surviving example of the Federal style in Newton Centre, and one of three remaining Federal period houses along Ward Street associated with the Ward Family, early area inhabitants. The house therefore meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

The John Harbach house is a 2½-story house with a hip roof of low pitch. There are few projections from the boxy rectangular mass of the house. The facade is organized a five-bay arrangement, with the outer windows paired, and the center window aligned with the entrance. The Colonial Revival entrance porch supports a deck balustrade and represents a later alteration.

Other Federal features include the corner pilasters and the window mouldings of mitred wood strips.

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

The John Harbach house is one of three Federal period houses on Ward Street, all of which pre-date 1835. The first Harbach to arrive in Newton was Thomas (b.1698). He came to Newton from Alcester, England in 1723. Thomas' son John (b. 1730) married Mary Durant of Newton. Their grandson, John Harbach (1803-1857) sold provisions in Newton and Brookline. His son, John Wilson Harbach (1838-1886) later owned the house and some adjacent land. In 1873 4½ acres and the house were sold to another provision dealer, Harvey James, who occupied the house from 1873 to 1907. Mr. James operated the James and Brackett Provisions Store in Newton Corner.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Newton's Older Houses: Newton Centre, Jackson Homestead Publication #14, p.61/
Atlases: 1907, 1895, 1874,
Directories: 1907
Maps: 1855, 1833
Biographical Review, volume XXVII, 1898.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received 7/23/86

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Newton MRA
State Middlesex County, MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Gunderson, Jos ., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

52. Harbach, John, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/8653. Harding House--Walker
Missionary HomeEntered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

54. Haskell, Charles, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

55. House at 1008 Beacon St.

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

56. House at 102 Staniford Street

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

57. House at 107 Waban Hill Road

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/8658. House at 115--117 Jewett
StreetEntered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

59. House at 15 Davis Avenue

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

60. House at 152 Suffolk Road

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Attest

Delores Byers 9/4/86

86001809

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Harbach, John, House (Newton MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: JUL 23 1986 / 213 B7
Date Due: 8/21/86 - 9/6/86
Action: ☒ ACCEPT 9-4-86
 ☐ RETURN
 ☐ REJECT
Federal Agency: _____

Entered in the
National Register

- ☐ resubmission
☐ nomination by person or local government
☐ owner objection
☐ appeal

Substantive Review: ☐ sample ☐ request ☐ appeal ☐ NR decision

Reviewer's comments:

Recom./Criteria _____
Reviewer _____
Discipline _____
Date _____
_____ see continuation sheet

Nomination returned for: _____ technical corrections cited below
 _____ substantive reasons discussed below

1. Name

2. Location

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

4. Owner of Property

5. Location of Legal Description

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

Has this property been determined eligible? ☐ yes ☐ no

7. Description

Condition	Check one	Check one
☐ excellent	☐ deteriorated	☐ original site
☐ good	☐ ruins	☐ moved date _____
☐ fair	☐ unexposed	
	☐ unaltered	
	☐ altered	

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

- ☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ alterations/integrity
☐ dates
☐ boundary selection

8. 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

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

UTM References _____

Verbal boundary description and justification _____

11. Form Prepared By

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title date

13. Other

- ☐ Maps
- ☐ Photographs
- ☐ Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Harbach, John, House

Newton, Mass. MRA

- 303 Ward St, Newton Centre
K-14 (25) -



City of Newton Assessor's Maps. Sheet **75**
 Metric Series. 1979
 Scale: UTM grid line interval = 100 meters (328 feet)

Newton, Mass. M.R.A.
 303 Ward Street, Newton Centre
 John Harbach House
 73-33-17A