

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

OMB No. 1024-0018



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 HOUGHTON GARDEN (1999 ADDITION TO OLD CHESTNUT HILL HD)

other names/site number _____

2. Location

street & number SUFFOLK ROAD not for publication

city or town NEWTON (Chestnut Hill) vicinity

state MASSACHUSETTS code MA county MIDDLESEX code 017 zip code 02167

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination
☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of
Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property
☐ meets ☒ does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant
☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

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

5/12/99
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): _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Edson H. Beall

7-8-99

Houghton Garden (Old Chestnut Hill HD)
Name of Property

Middlesex, 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	
		building
3	1	sites
4	2	structures
		objects
7	3	Total

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

Name of related multiple property listing

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

Newton, MA MRA

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATION and CULTURE: outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE: park

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

RECREATON and CULTURE: outdoor recreation

LANDSCAPE: park

7. Description

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation _____
walls _____
roof _____
other _____

Narrative Description

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

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Continuation Sheet**Section number 7 Page 1**Houghton Garden boundary extension
Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts**

The Houghton Garden is situated off Suffolk Road adjacent to the Old Chestnut Hill Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is a local historic district also. Houghton Garden is a greater than nine-acre parcel within the Webster Conservation Area and was purchased by the City of Newton in 1968 as part of the 103 acre conservation land. The nine +-acre parcel extends to the MBTA tracks on the south, is bordered on the north by a chain link fence along Suffolk Road, on the east by private property and on the west by the other acreage of the Webster Conservation Area. The Garden clearly is an extension of a wealthy residential neighborhood that boasts a rich history.

The Houghton Garden, a designed landscape, is the only former private garden in Newton that is open to the public and is representative of the landscape design that was common to many of the early twentieth century estates of Chestnut Hill. Although at the end of a residential road in Chestnut Hill, the Garden is a short walk from the Chestnut Hill MBTA Station on Hammond Street.

Two entrances to Houghton Garden, known as West Gate and East Gate are located off Suffolk Road and each leads to a trail that meanders through the Rock Garden and around the main feature; Houghton Pond. The water is carried into the Garden by way of Hammond Brook which is connected to Hammond Pond, south of the Garden. Within the Garden, Houghton Pond takes the form of a U rotated ninety degrees to the right. There are two outlets on the upper/northern edge and one on the southern part of the Pond. Hammond Brook flows into Houghton Pond from the south and flows out the northwest corner where the dam is located. Also flowing from the northeast edge of the Pond is Woodman Stream which does not enjoy a continuous flow.

Bridges have been constructed to cross Hammond Brook near the southeastern lot line and just north of the dam. Also a bridge crosses Woodman Stream by a trail through the Rock Garden connecting with the bridge on the northern part of Hammond Brook. The bridges crossing Woodman Stream and the southern branch of Hammond Brook are made of wood planks. The bridge crossing the northern branch of Hammond Brook, just north of the Dam, is of stone.

The water feature, Houghton Pond, is man made and is part of the overall garden design around which other features and plant material were planned. Presently there is substantial secondary unwanted growth in the Pond, inhibiting the overall flow of water. Much of the plant material on the edge also suffers from overgrowth.

The Rock Garden along the northern edge of the Pond was designed around the natural ledge of the site. Evidence of the outcroppings of Roxbury puddingstone and the remains of plant material such as birch trees

(continued)

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and overgrown conifers are visible today. In addition to the two areas of ledge around which plant material is placed, there is a set of low stone steps leading to the Stone Bridge, forming another landscape feature. Plant material that still is discernible in the Rock Garden includes azaleas, rhododendron, climbing hydrangea, Alberta spruce, Full Moon maple, Huss Twiggy Hemlock, katsura, magnolia Virginiana, black oak, pithic pine, red maple, Sawara False cypress, Silver Bell, Sourwood, and Umbrella pine.

The trail leading through the Garden has evidence of the rich plant material that made up the Garden at its peak in the 1930s. Remaining are trees, shrubs, and perennials and ground cover. A full plant list of what remains has been prepared by the Chestnut Hill Garden Club and is attached to this nomination. The overall design and placement of plant material is evident, however, most specimen have exceeded their proper size, thus the scale of the garden is altered. Photographs of 1928 to 1934 show design and plant material for comparison.

Archaeological Description

Despite its intense development during the 19th and 20th centuries, Newton retains the potential for significant prehistoric sites. At present, thirteen sites are recorded in the city. The majority of these are located along the Charles River and its tributaries with some sites in interior areas. Current evidence indicates that Native Americans occupied sites along the Charles River from Middle Archaic times (ca. 8,000 B.P.) until European contact early in the 17th century. Find spots or sites containing isolated or small numbers of projectile points have also been recognized in the Charles River locale for the Paleo-Indian (ca. 12,000-9,000 B.P.) and Early Archaic periods. A temporary resettlement of Praying Indians also occurred on the south shore of the Charles River just below Lemon Brook in 1676. Known prehistoric sites in the Newton locale indicate a wide range of site types, including larger habitation type sites and smaller special purpose sites such as rockshelters, workshops and burials. Site potential still exists in several areas of the town along the Charles River. Site potential also exists in several interior areas of town where fewer sites are characteristic. One interior area where site potential remains is the land around Hammond Pond which includes Houghton Garden. Four prehistoric sites are recorded in the general area (within one mile) of the Garden including one site, 19-MD-179, which includes the entire nominated area. Little information is known for that site beyond its locational characteristics. The Houghton Garden physical environment includes several attributes which are favorable indicators for many types of prehistoric sites. The rugged upland conservation lands which surround much of Hammond Pond include several well drained level to moderately sloping terraces in close proximity to wetlands which are sensitive areas for prehistoric sites. Houghton Garden is located within the Charles River drainage. Locally, the Garden is drained by Hammond Brook which originates south of the Garden at Hammond Pond. Houghton Pond, located in the nominated area, is man-made, a dammed portion

(continued)

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Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts**

of Hammond Brook and part of the overall garden design. Smaller type sites may be characteristic of these areas including potential rockshelters and wind breaks, indicated by the presence rock ledges which are common on the property. Given the above information and the size of the garden(approximately 9 acres), the presence of prehistoric sites in the nominated area is both documented with a high potential for locating additional sites.

There is a low potential for locating historic archaeological resources within the Houghton Garden locale. Historic land use associated with specific activities or sites have yet to be identified for the Garden area prior to development of the designed landscape in the 20th century. Structural remains and occupational related features(trash pits, privies, wells) may be present which were related to farmsteads reported in the area prior to establishment of the Garden, however, these sites and activities, if they exist, have yet to be identified.

(end)

Houghton Garden
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

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

9. Major Bibliographical References

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

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

Period of Significance

1906-1949

Significant Dates

1906, 1918

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Warren Manning (landscape architect)

Primary location of additional data:

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

Name of repository:

Newton Garden Club

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Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts**

The Houghton Garden retains much of its early plan and form and some of its plant material. It is reflective of the early twentieth century development of gardens as part of fashionable estates with commodious architect- designed houses set in landscapes that reflected the interest in garden theory of the time. Also the design of the Houghton Garden is demonstrative of evolving landscape design for the use of a water source and for the maintenance of an overall natural setting as well as for the evolution of rock gardens in American garden history.

The Garden meets Criteria A and C of the National Register of Historic Places and is significant at the local level. It retains integrity of location, design, setting, association and feeling. The Garden is at the edge of the local and National Register Historic District. It maintains its proximity to the estates of Chestnut Hill and retains its setting in the neighborhood adjacent to the former Webster Estate and near the Clement Houghton House with which it originally was associated. A sense of original design and feeling of the site are evident by comparing historic photographs with present day locations. The importance of the association with Martha Houghton, prominent horticultural figure in America's garden history and with Warren Manning, noted landscape architect, is evident in the various historic references available. The amendment of this parcel to the Old Chestnut Hill Historic District enhances the district by adding a parcel that once was part of a house lot already included in the district and by providing a more complete picture of the fashionable suburb of Chestnut Hill. Its omission previously appears to have been a matter of parcel ownership at the time.

The Garden reflects the influence of Warren Manning well known landscape architect who probably designed the water source and who promoted a naturalistic design. Further it represents an early rock garden in American landscape history planned by owner, Martha Houghton, founder of the American Rock Garden Society who laid out the Rock Garden here after studying similar works in England.

Chestnut Hill as a fashionable neighborhood developed slowly from the 1850s to the 1890s with a couple of farms owned by affluent and prominent Boston families. The development into the next century was influenced by the 1886 opening of the Circuit Railroad over the old Charles River Railroad tracks and with the opening of Commonwealth Avenue 1895. Finally the farms and estates that had been established could be used as year around properties rather than as summer and weekend retreats which had been the case. In 1896 Edwin S. Webster (1867-1950) of the internationally known engineering firm, Stone Webster, assembled a large estate extending from the main house at 307 Hammond Street west to Hammond Pond Parkway. Webster who had architects and landscape architects design his houses and surrounding gardens set a standard for the fashionable community. Within a few years Clement S. Houghton (1863-1949) built the unique Spanish Colonial Revival dwelling (152 Suffolk Road) and companion stables/carriage house,

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Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
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now 100 Suffolk Road. Chapman and Frazer was the architectural firm to design this unusual complex with stucco walls, red tile roofs, and a first-story arcade with projecting mission entry on the house. The Houghtons began work on the house in 1904 and by 1906 started to develop the landscape of the twenty-six acre estate.

Warren Manning (1860-1938) was hired to work with the Houghtons to create the wild garden away from the house. Manning, who began his career in the Olmsted Office in Brookline, developed a reputation for his theory of naturalistic gardening and for developing natural looking water courses in gardens. Although no Manning plans have been found to date, there are diary entries and bills of sale that indicate that Manning was working on developing the water feature in a naturalistic garden setting. Hence the Houghton Pond was formed from Hammond Brook and Woodman Stream. Formal gardens were planned near the house and the more naturalistic approach or a natural wild garden was chosen for the area that sloped down to the water sources behind and to the west side of the main house.

The property was well endowed by nature with ledges, Roxbury puddingstone rock formation, and with the water source such that the garden that evolved was enhanced by those natural features. A slow flowing brook, fed by Hammond Pond, meandered through the woods and around a venture-clad peninsula. As the property was developed, Manning and the Houghtons took advantage of natural contours of the landscape; a protected slope that received afternoon sun, outcrops of Roxbury puddingstone, and at the bottom of the slope, a run-off from nearby Hammond Pond that provided a natural brook. Part of the garden design was the construction of the stone dam and of bridges crossing the brook in several locations. The water course was U-shaped and along the edges were planted Carolina rhododendrons, azaleas, mountain laurel, and black and silver birches. Outlooks with benches were added so that the flowering shrubs' reflections in the water could be viewed.

In 1918 after visiting English woodland gardens and becoming an admirer of the English plantsman and author, Reginald Farrer, and his book The English Rock Garden, Martha Houghton (1870-1956) began work on creating an alpine rock garden on the ledge overlooking Houghton Pond. The Houghtons experimented with the naturalization of primulas from seeds sent from England and interplanting them with luxuriant native ferns. Also the Houghtons from the early 1900s corresponded with Professor Charles Sprague Sargent, Director of Harvard's Arnold Arboretum and exchanged ideas and plant material with him. In the 1920s Mrs. Houghton made several trips to Japan searching for dwarf conifers for the Rock Garden.

The garden that evolved over years won awards in the 1930s and was described by garden writer, Herbert Durand who noted, in the April 1937 issue of Gardener's Chronicle, that scores of garden lovers describe Mrs. Houghton's Rock Garden as "the best example in this country of becoming design, proper construction,

(continued)

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and desirable arrangement of flower and foliage... a wonderful pageant of Naturalistic beauty...". In 1928 the Houghtons won a silver medal for the collection of Alpine plants at the Chestnut Hill Estate. And in 1934 when the garden was at its height, Martha Houghton was one of the founders of the American Rock Garden Society of which she served as President from 1936 to 1940.

Martha Houghton remained active in maintaining and enhancing the Houghton garden until her death in 1956 after which the garden was not maintained. Eventually the property was subdivided and in 1968 the City took by eminent domain nearly ten acres of the original garden as part of the Webster Conservation Area, part of the early twentieth century Webster Estate. An additional part of Houghton Garden, near the east gate and Woodman Stream, was added in 1979 at which time the Chestnut Hill Garden Club and the Newton Conservation Commission began work to preserve Houghton Pond and part of the original woodland garden of the Houghton Estate.

The original design is present and is the basis of preservation. The U-shaped water source remains with the stone dam at one end, two bridges, one stone and one plank, crossing the natural streams that feed the man-made Houghton Pond, and specified plant material lining the pond banks. The high promontory of Roxbury Puddingstone overlooking the Pond on the west side retains some of its plant material and its cleared space as well as bench location for viewing the Pond and the Rock Garden beyond. The nearly one-half mile trail around the Pond and through the Rock Garden is easily discerned as well as some of the rhododendrons and mountain laurel lining the paths. Finally the overall design of the Rock Garden remains, although much of the plant material is overgrown due to lack of pruning for a long period in the mid-1900s. The ledges and the types of plant material - tree, shrub, perennials and ground cover - are evident. A comparison of the existing conditions and the historic photographs confirms the overall intent and remaining integrity of design.

Today the Chestnut Hill Garden Club works closely with the City of Newton through the Conservation Commission to maintain what remains and to develop and implement a master plan of preservation and rehabilitation of Houghton Garden. The Garden Club has contributed to the MPPF matching grant, prepared a Trail Guide identifying remaining plant material and trail location, and routinely works on clean up and control of the ever-changing landscape. The preservation of Houghton Garden has been planned in four phases of which the first is the planing phases and the other three are construction phases. The City has requested a master plan for the rehabilitation of the Garden as well as a Preservation Maintenance Plan. This work will be the guide for the construction work necessary to preserve Houghton Garden as a fine example of an early twentieth century estate garden that now is open for the public's enjoyment.

(continued)

**United States Department of the Interior
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Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts****Archaeological Significance**

Since patterns of prehistoric occupation in Newton are poorly understood and relatively few sites survive, any remaining sites could be significant. Prehistoric sites in this area offer the potential for a study of inland versus estuary riverine settlement and subsistence and how this relationship changed as sea level rose. The intertidal zone at the estuary level, which has changed through time, has been suggested as a focus of human activity in the estuary region (Dincauze 1973:25). In Newton, the nominated area lies approximately 1.5 miles from the intertidal zone of the Charles River. Prehistoric sites in the Houghton Garden locale may contain information which identifies the role interior sites played with sites located along the intertidal zone of the Charles River. Smaller, special purpose type interior sites located in interior upland environments may have played an important functional or seasonal role with larger habitation sites located in intertidal areas. Prehistoric sites in the area might also contain information relating to Native American tool technologies and the extent to which locally available lithic materials, possibly present in ledge outcrops in the area, were used for tool manufacture.

(end)

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National Park Service**

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

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Houghton Garden boundary extension
Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

Major Bibliographic References

Chestnut Hill Association, pub. "Gardens of Chestnut Hill" by Judith Leet, 1992
Chestnut Hill Garden Club, pub. "Trail Guide to Houghton Garden, 1997
Durand, Herbert. "An Ideal Rock Garden, Gardener's Chronicle, April 1937.
Gleason, Herbert. Photographs of Houghton Garden, 1928-1934.
National Register of Historic Places, Nomination for Old Chestnut Hill Historic District, 1988 and 1990.

(end)

Houghton Garden
Name of Property

Middlesex, MA
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property 9 acres

UTM References See continuation sheet.

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1. 19 320750 4688410
Zone Easting Northing

2. 19 320940 4688420
Zone Easting Northing

3. 19 320940 4688340
Zone Easting Northing

4. 19 321300 4688260
Zone Easting Northing

x 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 Gretchen Schuler, Consultant, with Betsy Friedberg, NR Director, MHC

organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date May 1999

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 City of Newton, MA

street & number 1000 Commonwealth Avenue telephone 617-552-7120

city or town Newton state MA zip code 02158

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 Reduction Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503. NPS Form 10-900 OMB No. 1024-0018

(Rev. 10-90)

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Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts

UTM References

Point	Zone	Easting	Northing
A	19	320750	4688410
B	19	320940	4688420
C	19	320940	4688340
D	19	321300	4688260
E	19	321290	4688170
F	19	320740	4688320

Verbal Boundary Description

The Houghton Garden is made up of two parcels within the Webster Conservation Area and is shown on Newton's Assessor's Map as Lots # 63-016-0008A and #63-016-0008B. The area that is Houghton Garden is bordered by the MBTA tracks on the south, by Lowell Path (within Webster Conservation Area) on the west, by Suffolk Road on the north, by the western lot line of 170 Suffolk Road, by the southern lot lines of 170, 152, 100, 96 and 90 Suffolk Road, and by the southern part of the western lot line of 70 Suffolk Road, all shown on the attached Custom Map Sheet made by Newton's Engineering Department and which cuts across four quadrants of Assessor's Maps.

Boundary Justification

The Houghton Garden once was part of the Clement C. Houghton Estate, the rest of which is included in the Old Chestnut Hill Historic District. The Garden was an integral part of the Estate and conveys a sense of life style important to the historical significance of the District. Further, the Garden is one of the only formal designed garden in City ownership, open to the public and for which there is much evidence of the Garden's appearance at the height of its importance. Therefore it is a strong addition to the National Register District.

(end)

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**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number photos Page

**Houghton Garden boundary extension
Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex Co.), Massachusetts**

Photographs

Taken by Gretchen Schuler

1998 - Houghton Garden

1. Dam at north edge of Houghton Pond
2. Rock Garden looking north, northeast towards ledge
3. Rock Garden looking north, northwest

1928-1932 (xerox copies of originals) - Houghton Garden.

- A. Looking west, north ledges in right center.
- B. Seat in Rock Garden
- C. Wood bridge
- D. Ledge and Garden Seat
- E. View southeast of dam and pond from bridge across basin above culvert.
- F. Rock Garden, Looking northeast toward ledges, pitch pines and gray birches.
- G. Houghton Pond with Japanese weeping cherry at right
- H. Houghton Pond, Lythrum, Purple native on left in August
- I. Path, northside of pond to west
- J. Houghton House from daffodil field at edge of Houghton Garden

(end)

Data Sheet
OLD CHESTNUT HILL HISTORIC DISTRICT: 1999 BOUNDARY EXTENSION
Houghton Garden

<u>Number</u>	<u>Resource</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Status</u>
1	Dam	1906-10	St	C
2	Houghton Pond	1906-10	Si	C
3	Stone bridge over Hammond Brook (north end)	1906-10	St	C
4	Steps: railroad ties	1970s	Si	NC
5	Rock seat	c. 1918	Si	C
6	Wood bridge over Woodman Stream (near north entrance)	1995	St	NC
7	Stepping stones	1906-1910	Si	C
8	New bench on ledge	1981	St	NC
9	Wood bridge over Hammond Brook (south end, near MBTA)	pre-1906/1990s	St	C
10	Stone bridge over tributary (south end, near MBTA)	c. 1906	St	C

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Old Chestnut Hill Historic District (Boundary Increase)
NAME:

MULTIPLE Newton MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 6/10/99 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/22/99
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 7/08/99 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/25/99
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 99000805

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 7.8.99 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Entered in the
National Register

RECOM./CRITERIA _____

REVIEWER _____ DISCIPLINE _____

TELEPHONE _____ DATE _____

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



Old Chestnut Hill Historic District Arrendment
Houghton Garden - off Suffolk Road
Newton, MA

Photographer: Gretchen Schuler

Negative: Jackson Homestead

January 1998

Dam at north edge of Houghton Pond

Photo #1



Old Chestnut Hill Historic District Amendment
Houghton Garden - off Suffolk Road
Newton, MA

Photographer: Gretchen Schuler

Negative: Jackson Hornestrad

January 1998

Rock Garden - looking north, northeast toward ledges

Photo #2



NEWTON. MA

Old Chestnut Hill Historic District Amendment

Houghton Garden - off Suffolk Road

Negative: Jackson Hornstead

January 1998

Rock Garden - looking north northwest

Photo # 3



Newton, MA

Old Chestnut Hill Historic District

Houghton Garden - off Suffolk Rd.

Looking west. North Ledges in right
center. Central oak (and stone seat)
on left. ca 1928-1932

Negative: Newton Conservation Comm.



Newton, MA

Old Chestnut Hill Historic District

Houghton Garden - off Suffolk Rd

Peck Garden. Looking n.e. toward
north ledge. Pitch pine + birches
ca 1928-1932

Negative: Newton Conservation Comm.



Newton, MA

Houghton Garden - off Suffolk Road

Old Chestnut Hill Historic District

View S.E. of Dam + Pond

from bridge across basin above

culvert - Aldens ca 1928-1932

Negative: Newton Conservation Comm.



Newton, MA

Old Chestnut Hill Historic District

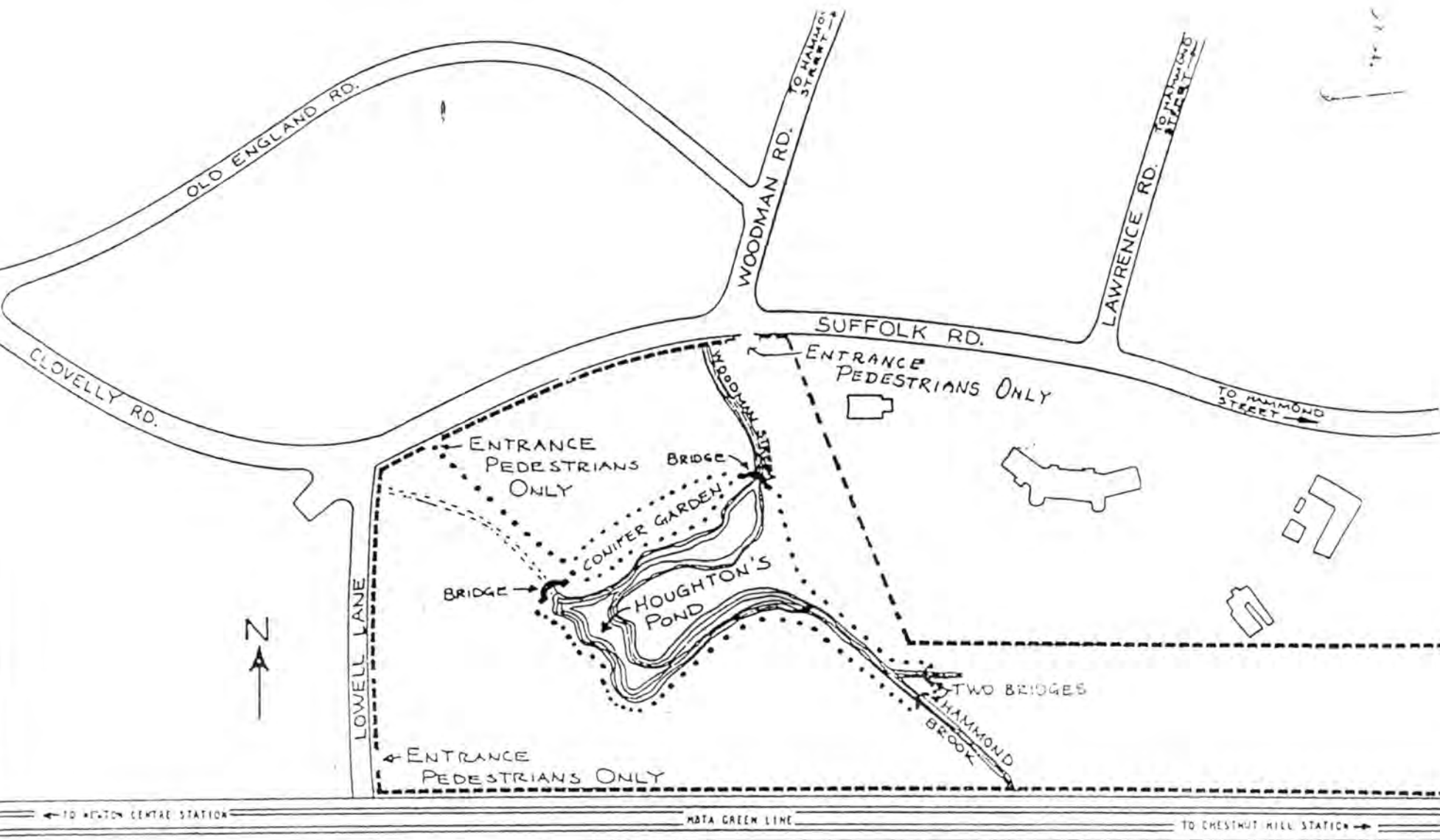
Houghton Garden - off Suffolk Rd.

Path along no. side of no. arm
of brook, looking E. Stone seat at
S. limit of Rock Garden, with ledge
behind. Phlox on ledge

Oxydendron Tree right foreground

ca 1928-1932

Negative: Newton Conservation Comm.



HOUGHTON GARDEN

A SECTION OF THE WEBSTER CONSERVATION AREA, CHESTNUT HILL

..... YELLOW TRAIL

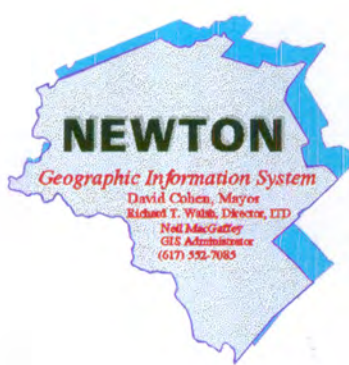
MAP 3



Custom Map Sheet

DATA SOURCES (Not all necessarily applies to this map):
 Property boundaries compiled from city maps at various scales on 1979 1"=1,000' orthophoto maps. They have been updated through 1995. Building footprints (from Boston Edison) are based on 1991 aerial photography (1"=100' scale). Newton staff have updated the buildings through 1993. Topographic features compiled from aerial photography flown in April 1994. Different accuracies and scales in the source materials mean that there may be inconsistencies between different map features at specific locations. These inconsistencies can only be resolved with further research of the specific situations.

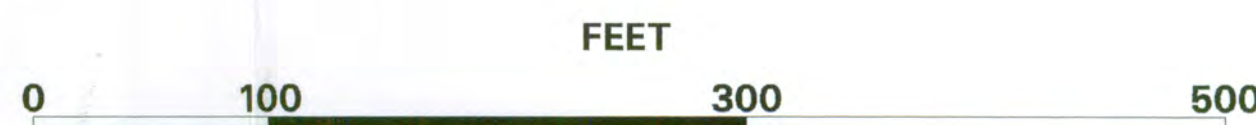
The information on this map is from a digital data base accessed using the Newton Geographic Information System (GIS). Newton cannot guarantee the accuracy of the information contained on this map. Each user of this map is responsible for determining its suitability for his or her intended use or purpose. City departments will not necessarily approve applications based solely on GIS data. Applicants for city permits and licenses must inquire of the relevant city department for applicable requirements. City staff correct errors in these data as they are identified. Newton's GIS Administrator maintains records regarding the source materials and methods used to create the digital data and will disclose this information upon request.



CITY OF
 NEWTON
 MASSACHUSETTS

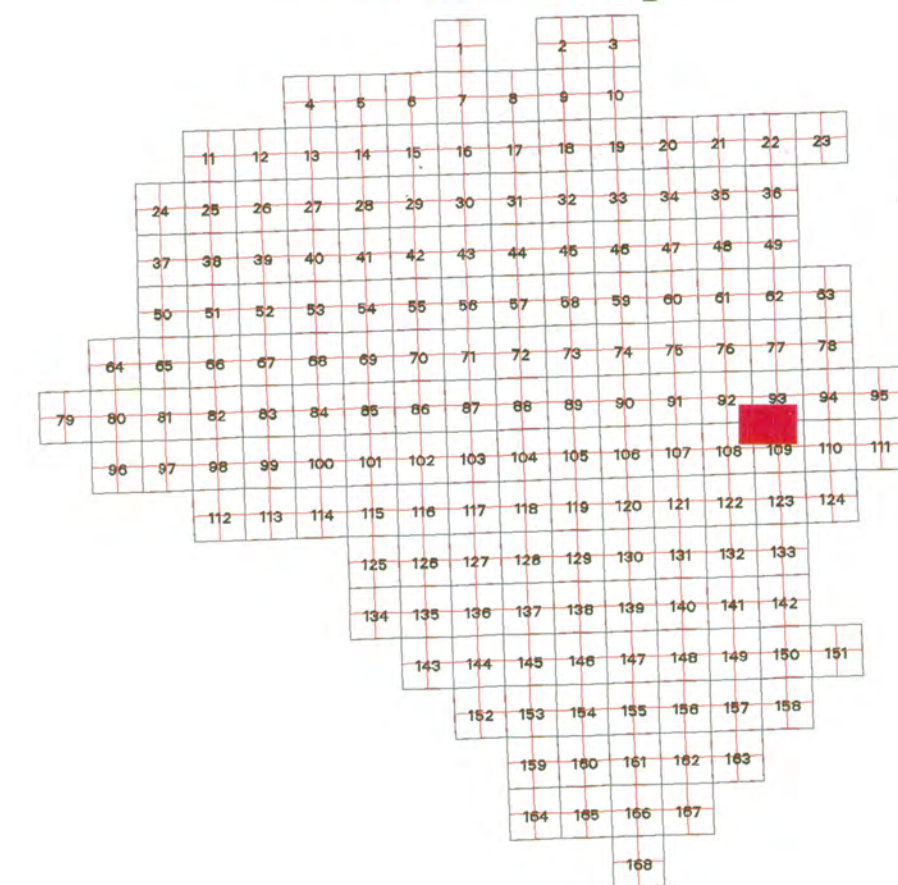
ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
 1000 COMMONWEALTH AVE.
 NEWTON CENTRE, MA 02159
 PHONE: 617-552-7065

Numbers on parcels are:
 Top # = House Number
 Middle # = Parcel Lot Number
 Bottom # = Area in Sq. Ft.



Scale: 1" = 80 ft.

Location Map





Houghton Garden

42071-C1-TM-025

Boston South

MASSACHUSETTS

EXTENSION TO OLD CHESTNUT HILL HD

1:25 000-scale metric
topographic map

NEWTON (MIDDLESEX) MA

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

1987

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 1976. Field checked 1979. Map edited 1987
Supersedes Newton and Boston South 1:25,000-scale maps dated 1970
Selected hydrographic data compiled from NOS charts 13270 (1962) and 13272 (1962). 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, modified zone 1927 North American Datum
To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983, move the projection lines 4 meters south and 42 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
CONTAINING ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 61 METER
OTHER ELEVATIONS SHOWN TO THE NEAREST 3 METER
DEPTH CURVES AND SOUNDINGS IN METERS
DATING IS MEAN LOW WATER
THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE TWO DATUMS IS VARIABLE
SHORELINE SHOWN REPRESENTS THE APPROXIMATE LINE OF MEAN HIGH WATER
THE MEAN RANGE OF TIDE IS APPROXIMATELY 2.9 METERS
THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS

CONVERSION TABLE	
Meters	Feet
1	3.2808
2	6.5617
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
To convert feet to meters multiply by 0.3048

DECLINATION DIAGRAM

UTM grid convergence (0°N and 18°W) at center of map
Diagram is approximate

ADJOINING MAPS

1	2	3
4	5	
6	7	8

- 1 Maynard
- 2 Boston North
- 3 Lynn
- 4 Framingham
- 5 Hull
- 6 Medford
- 7 Norwood
- 8 Weymouth

Topographic Map Symbols	
Primary highway, hard surface	.....
Secondary highway, hard surface	.....
Light-duty road, hard or improved surface	.....
Unimproved road, trail	.....
Road marker: Interstate, U. S., State	.....
Railroad: standard gage, narrow gage	.....
Bridge: drawbridge	.....
Footbridge: overpass, underpass	.....
Build-up area: only selected landmark buildings shown	.....
House: barn; church; school; large structure	.....
Boundary:	.....
Natural, with monument	.....
State	.....
County, parish	.....
Old 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 cave	.....
Control: horizontal station; vertical station; spot elevation	.....
Contours: index; intermediate; supplementary; depression	.....
Distorted surface: strip mine, lava, sand	.....
Soundings: depth curve	.....
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	.....
Struck: mangrove	.....
Orchard; vineyard	.....

Chestnut Hill Historic District 242/2aue

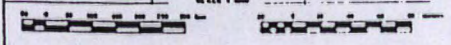
APPENDIX B

LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT —
NR DISTRICT +
+ Expansions

--- = potential
addition to
NRHD

CHESTNUT HILL
LOCAL HISTORIC DISTRICT
Newton, Massachusetts 02167

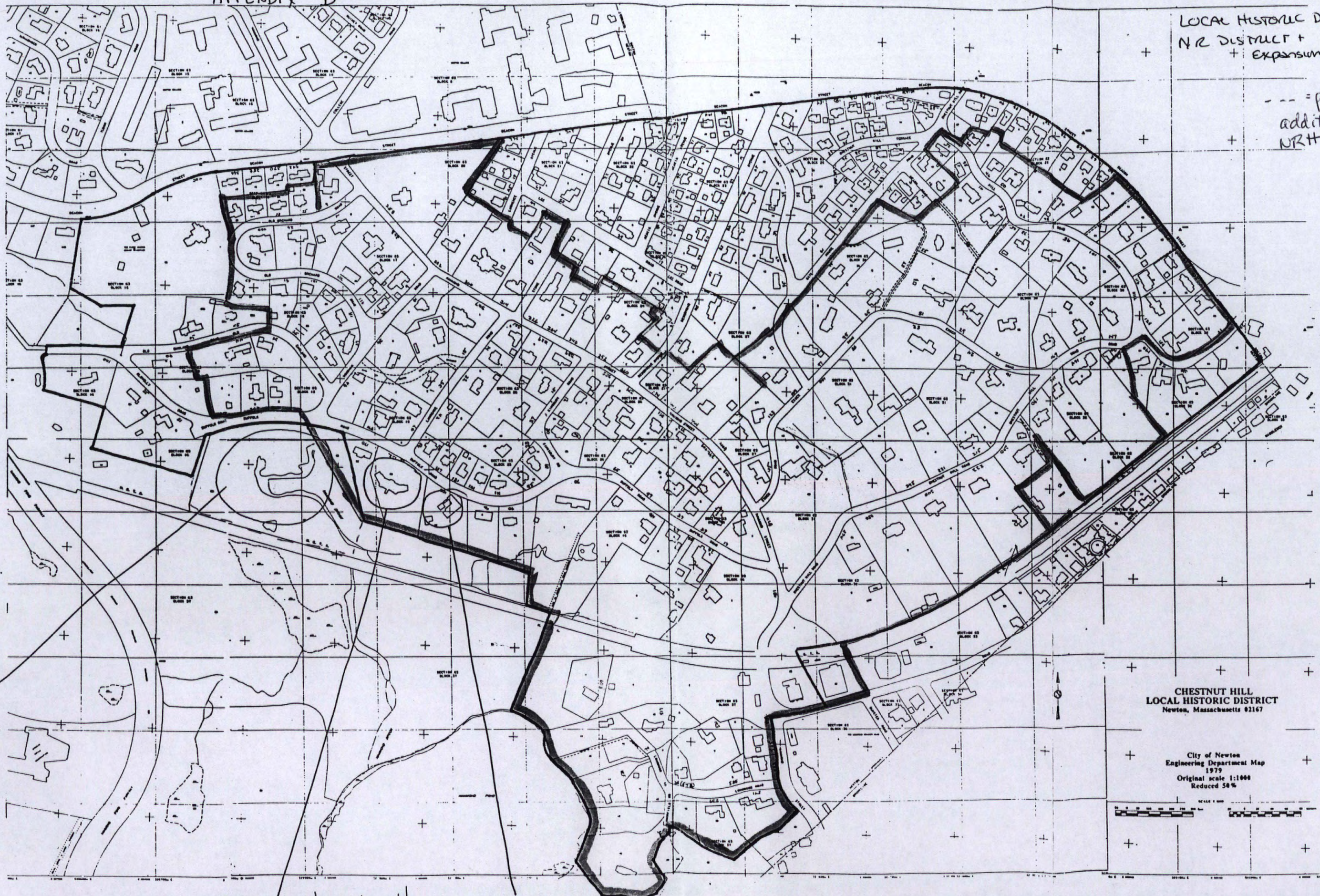
City of Newton
Engineering Department Map
1979
Original scale 1:1000
Reduced 50%



Haytman
Garden
with
water
course

Clement Haytman House

Haytman
Carriage
House } subdivided
now residence





David B. Cohen
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor

Telephone
(617) 552-7100
Telefax
(617) 965-6885
E-mail

Dcohen@ci.newton.ma.us

August 20, 1998

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Mail Stop 280, Suite 400
1849 C. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

RECEIVED

AUG 24 1998

MASS. HIST. COMM

Dear Ms. Shull,

I understand that the following property will be considered by the National Park Service for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places, after being approved by the Massachusetts State Review Board on September 9, 1998.

**Houghton Garden as part of Old Chestnut Hill Historic District
Newton (Middlesex County), Massachusetts**

I am aware of both the incentives and disincentives of the Economic Recovery Tax Act of 1981 and the Tax Reform Act of 1986 and other consequences of National Register listing and hereby waive the right to a 60-day comment period for responding to the Massachusetts Historical Commission of the National Park Service. Furthermore the nomination was prepared by the City's Planning Department, therefore I have been aware of the process and the intentions on behalf of the City of Newton.

Should I wish to respond to the nomination after consideration by the Massachusetts State Review Board and prior to its listing in the National Register of Historic Places, I will forward my comments directly to your attention.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David B. Cohen".

David B. Cohen, Mayor

Cc: Philip Bergen, National Register Assistant, Massachusetts Historical Commission
John Rodman, Chairman, Newton Historical Commission

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02159

www.ci.newton.ma.us



David B. Cohen
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor



Telephone
(617) 552-7100
Telefax
(617) 965-6885
E-mail
Dcohen@ci.newton.ma.us

August 20, 1998

Ms. Carol Shull, Keeper, National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
Mail Stop 280, Suite 400
1849 C. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

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Yours truly,

David B. Cohen, Mayor

Cc: Philip Bergen, National Register Assistant, Massachusetts Historical Commission
John Rodman, Chairman, Newton Historical Commission

1000 Commonwealth Avenue Newton, Massachusetts 02159



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

May 12, 1999

William Francis Galvin, Secretary of the Commonwealth
Massachusetts Historical Commission

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find the following nomination for:

Houghton Garden, boundary extension of Old Chestnut Hill Historic District,
Newton (Middlesex Co.), MA

The nomination has been voted eligible by the State Review Board and has been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. The owners of property in the Certified Local Government community of Newton were notified of pending State Review Board consideration less than 60-120 days before the meeting but have agreed to waive the CLG commenting period.

Sincerely,

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

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: John Rodman, Chair, Newton Historical Commission
David Cohen, Mayor, City of Newton
Gretchen Schuler, Preservation Consultant
Susan Kearny, Chestnut Hill Garden Club