

709

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREAFORM NO.

C

218

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

Sketch Map: Draw map showing property's location in relation to nearest cross streets and/or geographical features. Indicate all buildings between inventoried property and nearest intersection(s).
Indicate north

Town WakefieldAddress 38-48 Richardson Avenue

Historic Name _____

NA

Use: Present dwellingOriginal dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1912Source visual analysis, dated photosStyle EclecticArchitect NAExterior Wall Fabric fabricated shingles

Outbuildings _____

None

Major Alterations (with dates) porch
glassed in 1944Condition FairMoved NA Date NAAcreage Under one acreSetting faces north on long corner lotUTM REFERENCE 19/329510/4707310USGS QUADRANGLE Reading, Mass.SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Architectural Preservation
Associates
Organization Wakefield Historical
Commission
Date March 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

An interesting combination of Colonial Revival, Tudor Revival and Rational Revival styles, this is probably Wakefield's earliest example of a row style multifamily apartment block. It retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and meets criterion C of the NRHP at the local level.

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

This is probably Wakefield's earliest example of a row style, multifamily apartment block. It is an interesting stylistic mixture with Colonial Revival porches, Tudor Revival gables with strapwork, and Rational Revival hipped roof with exposed prulins. Banks of windows on the second floor with multiple panes were made famous decades earlier by H. H. Richardson on his Shingle Style Stoughton House in Cambridge. The building is 2½ stories in height and manages by its eclectic approach to individualize the six units.

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

Richardson Avenue was laid out in plans between 1890 and 1899 when Solon O. Richardson broke up the family land and developed it in the town center. His property ran from Main Street to North Avenue (then called Railroad Avenue). It is probably the gift of land granted his grandfather Dr. Nathan Richardson, by the town in the early decades of the century to entice him to come practice in the town. Dr. Nathan and his son Dr. Solon O. Richardson manufactured Sherry Wine Bitters, a business which was continued by Solon O. Richardson the second until 1891 when it was sold. He then moved the family homestead back from Main Street, opened up Richardson Avenue and built in 1901 the Richardson Block on the former site of the homestead. This apartment row seems to have been built at approximately the same time. Richardson Avenue has the greatest concentration of apartment rows in the town center.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Eaton, Chester. Proceedings of the 250th Anniversary, Reading, 1896.
Middlesex County Registry of Deeds. Plan Book 13 page 46; Plan Book 68 page 32; Plan book 75 page 46; Plan Book 65 page 40.

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

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Wakefield MRA
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

Cover

Substantive Review

1. Beacon Street Tomb

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Beth L. Savage 7/6/89Keeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

2. Beebe Homestead

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

3. Boardman, E., House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

4. Boit, Elizabeth, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

5. Building at 35--37 Richardson Avenue

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/86

Attest _____

6. Building at 38--48 Richardson Avenue

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

7. Center Depot

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

8. Church--Lafayette Streets
Historic DistrictEntered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

9. Common District

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Beth L. Savage 3/2/90

Attest _____

10. Cowdry, Jonas, House

Entered in the
National RegisterKeeper Shelene Byers 7/6/89

Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Building at 38--48 Richardson Avenue
NAME:

MULTIPLE Wakefield MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/23/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/06/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/22/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/07/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000709

NOMINATOR: STATE

REASONS FOR REVIEW:

APPEAL: N DATA PROBLEM: N LANDSCAPE: N LESS THAN 50 YEARS: N
OTHER: N PDIL: N PERIOD: N PROGRAM UNAPPROVED: N
REQUEST: N SAMPLE: N SLR DRAFT: N NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

☒ ACCEPT ☐ RETURN ☐ REJECT 7/6/89 DATE

Entered in the
National Register

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

RECOM./CRITERIA _____
REVIEWER _____
DISCIPLINE _____
DATE _____

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

CLASSIFICATION

☐ count ☐ resource type

STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

FUNCTION

☐ historic ☐ current

DESCRIPTION

☐ architectural classification
☐ materials
☐ descriptive text

SIGNIFICANCE

Period Areas of Significance--Check and justify below

Specific dates Builder/Architect
Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

☐ summary paragraph
☐ completeness
☐ clarity
☐ applicable criteria
☐ justification of areas checked
☐ relating significance to the resource
☐ context
☐ relationship of integrity to significance
☐ justification of exception
☐ other

BIBLIOGRAPHY

GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

☐ acreage ☐ verbal boundary description
☐ UTM's ☐ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

☐ sketch maps ☐ USGS maps ☐ photographs ☐ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

_____ Phone _____

Signed _____ Date _____



38-48 RICHARDSON AVE
C 218

Buildings at 38-48 Richardson Ave
Wakefield MRA, Ma

C 218

38-48 RICHARDSON AVE



SCALE: 1" = 80'



REVISED 1987

Scale: 1 inch equals 80 feet

STREET

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

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000300