

FORM B - BUILDING

JAN 09 1990

AREA

FORM NO.

NC-049

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

NEWTON, MA MRA

Town Newton (Newton Centre)

Address 41 Montvale Road

Historic Name Frank H. Stewart House

Use: Present residential

Original same

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

DESCRIPTION

Date 1909

Source Building permit

Style Classical Revival

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric stucco

Outbuildings garage-NC

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage 38,148 sq.ft. C .87A

Setting residential neighborhood land-
scaped by the Olmsted Bros. firm

Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Susan Abele

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date 6/87; rev. 5/88

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 19/320030/4689110

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON

SCALE 1:25000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Stewart House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as one of the finest and most intact of Newton's large, early 20th century Classical Revival style houses. It is also representative of Newton's early 20th century suburban expansion which resulted in infill of established areas as well as in development of new subdivisions. It meets criteria A & C of the NRHP.

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

The Frank H. Stewart House is one of several well designed Classical Revival style estates in Newton. It is a large two story stucco clad house enclosed by a green tile hip roof with exposed rafter ends and three hipped dormers across the front slope. The facade features a long one story porch which also has a green tile roof. Incorporated at the ends of the porch are glazed polygonal bays. Centered beneath the porch is an entry framed by sidelights. Two story wings fronted by one story porches extend from both side elevations. The house is now almost entirely screened from the street by vegetation, thus a copy of the photo from *Beautiful Newton* has been attached.

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

The house at 41 Montvale Road, just off Commonwealth Avenue, was built for Lawyer, Frank H. Stewart in about 1909. Little is known about the Stewart family, although they lived on Montvale Road until the early forties. Few building permits are available before 1915 and therefore the architect of the house is unknown; however an original picture can be found in *Beautiful Newton* (p.260). The Stewart house was built in a subdivision commissioned by the Newton Boulevard Syndicate and designed by Olmsted, Olmsted, and Eliot and local engineer, and Newton resident, Charles S. Rice. Carved out of the nineteenth century estate of Robert Bishop, the subdivision takes full advantage irregular topography and natural features of the land, providing attractive settings for the many fine residences like the Stewart house, which were built there. The Syndicate was able to influence the route of Commonwealth Avenue (1895) between the Brighton line and Centre Street and Bishop and other syndicate members, clearly stood to profit handsomely from the construction of Commonwealth Avenue (or the Newton Boulevard as it was first known.) Continued development of the Bishop estate included a number of fine properties found in the Gray Cliff Expanded Historic District (CH-H).

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Building Department Records: 41 Montvale Road
City Directories and Atlases, *Beautiful Newton*, *Newton's Nineteenth Century Architecture: Newton Centre, Oak Hill, Chestnut Hill, Commonwealth Avenue*

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic Group

Name Newton MRA

State Middlesex County, MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

171. Stewart, Frank H., House
*Entered in the
National Register*

f Keeper *Arlene Byers 2/21/90*
Attest _____

Keeper _____

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Stewart, Frank H., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Newton MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/09/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/24/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/09/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/23/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000111

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 2/21/90 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 _____

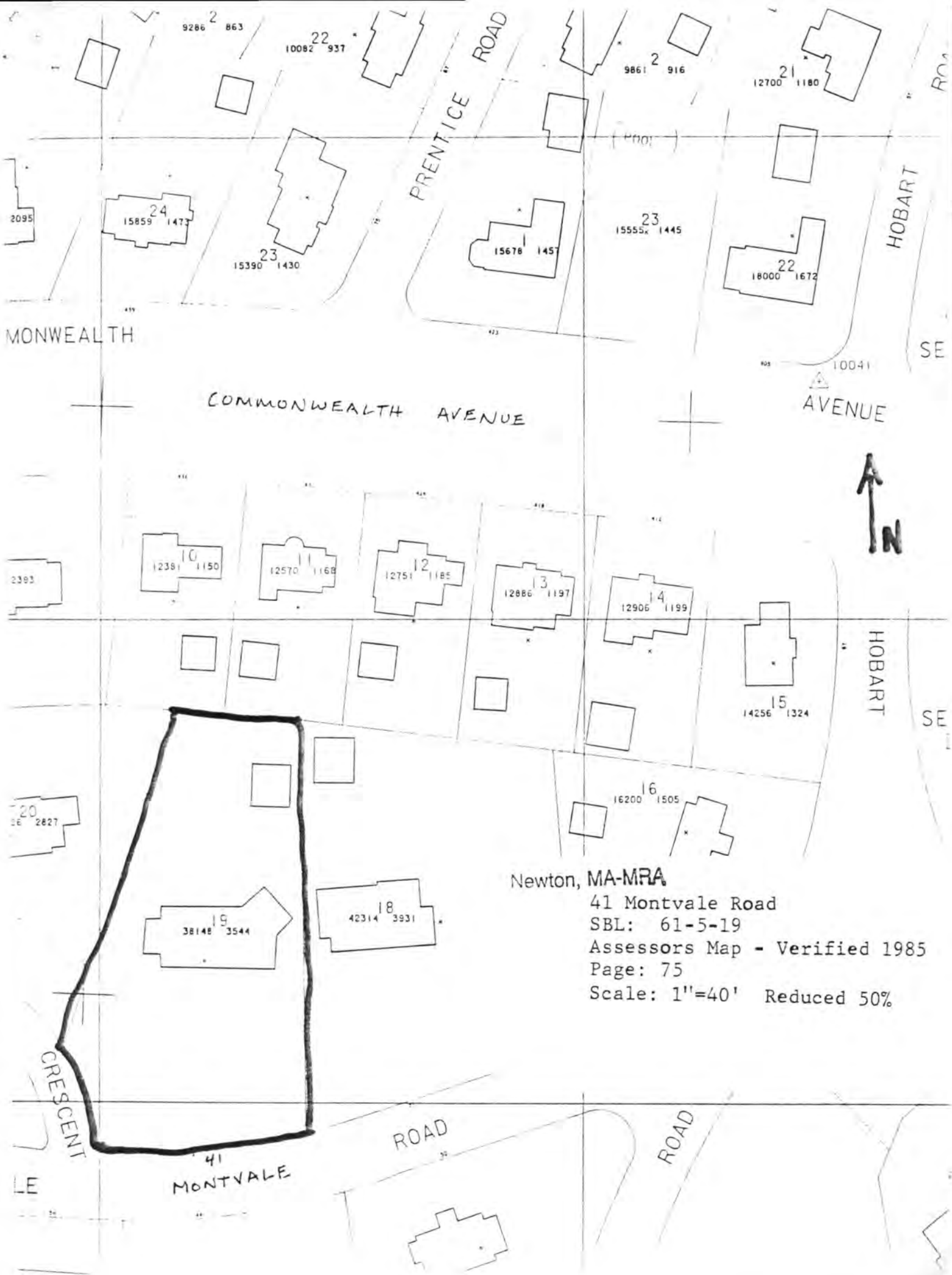


Stewart, Frank A., Base

Newton MRA, Ma



41 Montvale Road



Newton, MA-MRA

41 Montvale Road

SBL: 61-5-19

Assessors Map - Verified 1985

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Scale: 1"=40' Reduced 50%