

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
148	NJ-120

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

Address 983 Centre Street

Historic Name Jos. Gunderson house

Use: Present dwelling

Original dwelling

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 c.1850

Source Water Records

Style Greek Revival, Regency

Architect _____

Exterior Wall Fabric clapboard, flush-board

Outbuildings garage

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

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

1-story rear ell

Condition excellent

(SEE ATTACHED MAP)

Moved _____ Date _____

Acreage less than one acre 25,000 sq. ft.

Setting ample set back, suburban residential along main thoroughfare

UTM REFERENCE 19.319250.4689460

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON, MASS.

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Archit. Pres. Assoc.

Organization Newton Hist. Comm.

Date 5/1/ 83, rev. 3/86 by H. White

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

983 Centre St meets Criterion C as a rare example of the broad-pilastered, Regency inspired variation of the Greek Revival style. Few examples were ever built outside of Boston (although some exist near Portland, Maine).

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

983 Centre St is a design of great academic clarity. Recessed panels alternate with projecting sections of wall that read as very wide pilasters lacking capitals. The original cube-like mass of the house was modified by the addition of an entrance porch. This idiom of the Greek Revival style was inspired by earlier Regency architecture in England, and was primarily an urban form. The use of lavish cast iron balconies is in keeping with the Regency mode.

A second example of this type in Newton is 488 Centre St (c.1846) in the Farlow & Kenrick Parks N.R.H.D.-listed 7/8/82.

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

Centre St was part of the early road leading from Watertown to Dedham, from the 1630s. During the 19th c. droves of cattle were herded down Centre St on their way to the Brighton markets.

The land on which the house stands was part of the Rev. Jonathan Homer farm.

Jos. Gunderson built this house, one of the first suburban dwellings in Newton Centre, at the time when the railroad connection from Brookline to the south side of Newton was completed.

Gunderson, of Boston married Susan Dapen in 1841. City Engineering Dept records suggest that this house was built in 1850. Gunderson was listed as a cashier in city directories, and was active in the Baptist Church.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Atlases 1907-Abbie Y. Burr, 1895-F.W. Harbach, 1886-J.G. Gunderson, 1874-Gunderson.

Directories: 1868-J.G. Gunderson
1895-renters Mathews, W.R. & Mrs H. Slate, Boston
Putnam, J.H., shoe mfr.

Smith, S.F. History of Newton, Boston, 1880, p.502.
Newton Vital Records to 1850, Boston, 1905.

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

**National 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 Group

Name Newton MRA
State Middlesex County, MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

51. Gunderson, Jos ., House

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

52. Harbach, John, House

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

53. Harding House--Walker
Missionary Home

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

54. Haskell, Charles, House

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

55. House at 1008 Beacon St.

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

56. House at 102 Staniford Street

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

57. House at 107 Waban Hill Road

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

58. House at 115--117 Jewett
Street

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

59. House at 15 Davis Avenue

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

60. House at 152 Suffolk Road

Entered in the *for* Keeper
National Register

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

86001808

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Gunderson, Jos., House (Newton MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

Working No. JUL 23 1986

Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/37

Date Due: 8/24/86 9/16/86

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 Public Acquisition	Status Accessible	Present Use

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

- excellent
- good
- fair
- deteriorated
- ruins
- unexposed

Check one

- unaltered
- altered

Check one

- original site
- moved date _____

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 _____

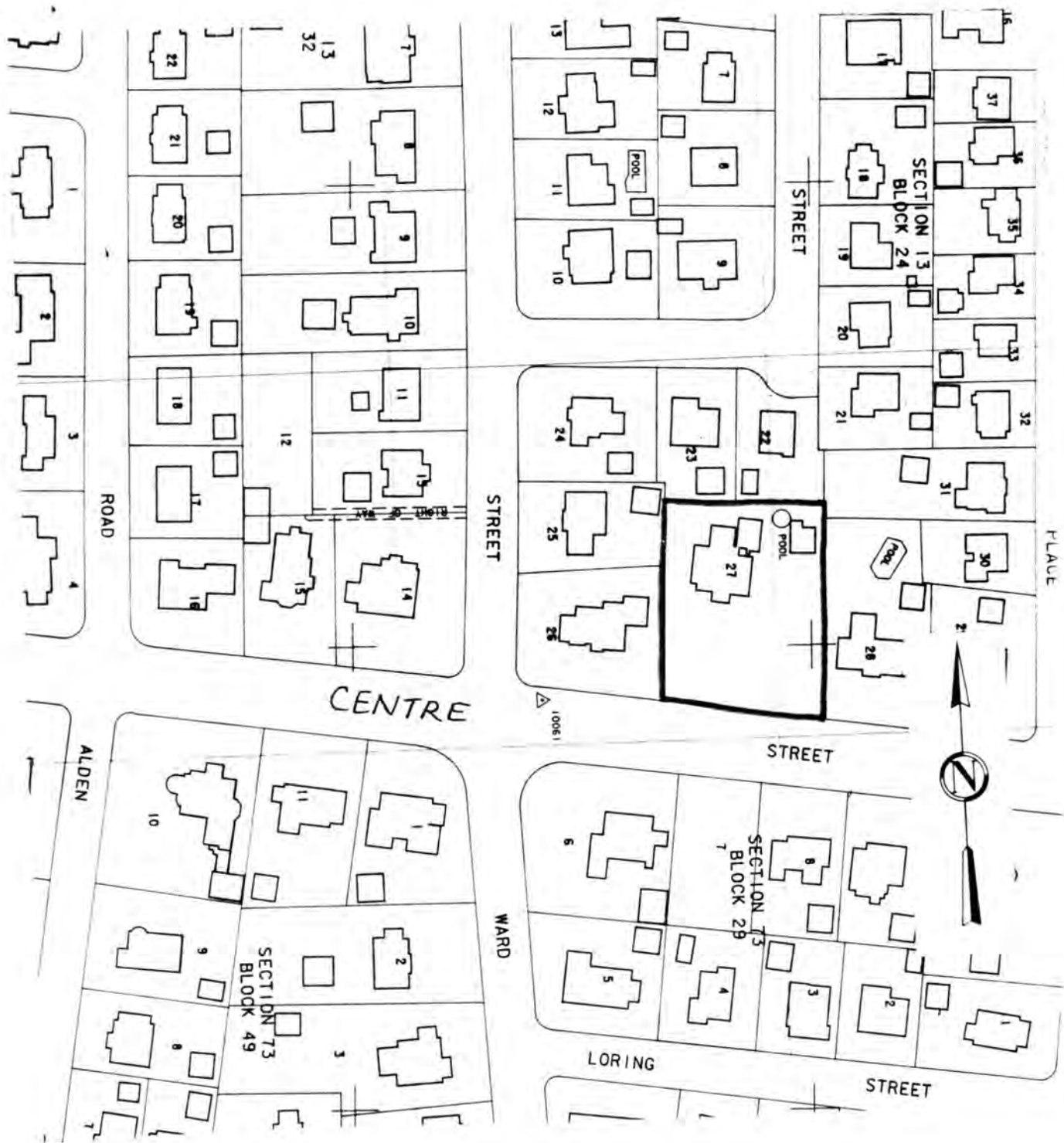
Signed _____ Date _____ Phone: _____



Gunderson, Jos., Hase

Newton, Mass. MRA

- 983 Centre St, Newton Centre -
K-6 (21)



City of Newton Assessor's Maps. Sheet 74
 Metric Series. 1979
 Scale: UTM grid line interval = 100 meters (328 feet)

Newton, Mass. M.R.A.
 983 Centre Street, Newton Centre
 Joseph Gunderson House
 13-24-27