

APR 2 1992

FORM A - AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

	A - 07
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Town NEWTON

Name of Area (if any) Walker Home for
Missionary Children - 144 Hancock Street

Present Use missionary use

General Date or Period ca. 1850-1940

General Condition good

Acreage 63,467 sq. ft / 1.45 acres

Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Susan Abele

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date 1/87; rev. 5/88; rev. 11/90

Photos (3"x3" or 3"x5" black & white) Indicate on back of each photo street addresses for buildings shown. Staple to left side of form.

Sketch Map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. Indicate north. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient).

See Attached Assessor's Map.

Judith B. McDonough/sgs
SHPD

UTM REFERENCE 19/314540/4689920

USGS QUADRANGLE Natick

SCALE 1:25000

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Walker Missionary Home complex possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant primarily for its associations with the Walker Home for Missionary Children founded in 1868. The Walker Home is important both as an institution serving missionaries and for its role in the development of Auburndale. The complex also includes two buildings of individual architectural merit (Walker and Harding), and as a whole, illustrates the development of an institution to serve missionaries. It meets criteria A & C of the NRHP.

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

The Walker Missionary Home complex, at the corner of Grove and Hancock Streets, consists of eight buildings constructed between 1850 and 1957. The most conspicuous component is Walker House (1913), a massive brick structure whose design reflects the Colonial Revival style. Although blown-up to the scale of an institutional building, it retains a domestic character in keeping with the surrounding residential neighborhood. Dominated by a slate gambrel roof, it has bridged chimneys, shed roof dormers on the lower slope, hip roof dormers on the upper slope, and central gable. The main body of the building is only one story. The symmetrical facade is organized around a double-leaf

(see continuation sheet)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain historical importance of area and how the area relates to the development of other areas of the community.

Mrs. Eliza Walker, widow of an American missionary to Turkey founded the Walker Home for Missionary Children in 1868. Returning to Auburndale after her husband's death, Mrs. Walker moved into a house at 103-107 Hancock Street, built for her by her father the Reverend Sewell Harding. In order to support herself, Mrs. Walker, under the aegis of the American Board of Missionaries, began to take in children of missionaries stationed around the world, providing a safe, supervised home and educational opportunities in the Newton school system. Missionaries on furlough and retired missionary families also found refuge in Mrs. Walker's home. After Mrs. Walker's death, dedicated staff and community members continued to support the organization which reached a peak of operation in the nineteen twenties and thirties. Incorporated in 1929 as a separate entity under the American Board of Missionaries, it became known as it is today, as The Walker Missionary Home, Inc. Together with neighboring Lasell Junior College, the Walker Home has been an integral part of the growth and development of Auburndale and after more than 120 years of continuous operation, the Home continues to support its educational and religious mission.

(see continuation sheet)

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Building Department Records 144 Hancock Street, VF - Jackson Homestead, Newton Times 10/22/15, A History of the Walker Missionary Home, Field, Biographical Dictionary of American Architects, Withy.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

JAN 2 1990

Community: Newton (Auburndale)	Form No: A-07
Property Name: Walker Missionary Home	

APR 21 1992

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

entry flanked by side lights and protected by a Tuscan porch. Single windows with 6/6 sash directly flank the entry, while three part bowed windows are located in the outer bays. Most other windows contain 6/6 sash.

Scattered behind the main building are two metal clad garages and five dwellings, all but one of which are wood-frame, and some of which are interconnected. Directly behind the main building to the north is the two story **Barton House** (c1925, renovated 1935). It consists of a wood frame section facing Hancock Street and a brick rear section extending back toward Grove Street. The front section is clapboard clad and faces a three-bay gable end to the street. Colonial Revival style details include a paneled entry with massive arched hood and 6/6 sash. A one story sunporch stretches along the south elevation. The brick section displays a bracketed entry adjacent to the frame section, and twin facade gables on the east elevation. **Howard House** (1927) stands north of Barton on Hancock Street, and is a typical Colonial Revival style dwelling of the period. Rising 2 1/2 stories to a gable roof, it is clapboard clad and it displays a three bay facade centered on an entry with Tuscan porch. To the east are the attached **Hume House** (1926) and **Harding East and West** (1850, NR: 9-4-86) both of which are two-story clapboard-clad structures enclosed by gable roofs. Hume, a converted barn, is a simple Colonial Revival style residence facing a three bay facade southward toward the interior of the lot. A sunporch connects it to Harding East and West which is the oldest structure in the complex. Designed in the Italianate style, Harding is a 2 1/2 story clapboard clad structure enclosed by a gable roof with paired brackets. Entries, framed by side lights and transoms and fronted by porches with paneled posts, are located on the southwest and southeast elevations. Other features include a two story bay window (SW), a cross gable (SE), and windows with 6/6 sash and label moldings. **Eddy House** (1954-7), which stands to the southwest and faces Grove Street, is a standard five bay Cape. The two garages are three-bay structures with aluminum siding and corrugated metal roofs.

Verbal Boundary Descriptions & Justification:

The nomination is confined to the eight buildings which stand on the two lots owned by the Walker Missionary Home at Grove and Hancock Street. The boundaries, which follow these lot lines reflect the current holdings of the Home as well as its historical development. One other building, historically associated with the Home, stands north of the district at Hancock and Fern Streets, at too great a distance to be included in the nomination.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

~~JAN 2 1998~~

Community: Newton (Auburndale)	Form No: ^{APR 21 1992} A-07
Property Name: Walker Missionary Home	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (cont.)

The oldest building in the complex, 161-163 Grove Street (**Harding East and West NR-9-12-86**) was built c1850 as a family residence by Reverend Harding, one of several local ministers involved in speculative real estate. In the mid-1860s Harding built a new Mansard style house at the westerly end of the lot at the corner of Hancock and Grove Streets, moving there and selling 161-163 Grove Street. As Mrs. Walker's enterprise grew, she eventually expanded into the Harding's new house. Destroyed by fire in 1911, the Harding's house was replaced by the present main building of the complex, **Walker House** (144 Hancock Street), designed by Coolidge and Carlson and completed in 1913. Henry J. Carlson, a Newton resident, was associated with Joseph Coolidge from 1903 to 1922. Coolidge and Carlson were best known for their collegiate work at Harvard, Bates and Wellesley Colleges.

In the period of greatest expansion several separate residences were added to the complex and in the late thirties extensive landscaping was done under the care of a noted local landscape architect, Herbert Kellaway. Reverend Harding's original house (161-163 Grove Street), owned for many years by near-by Lasall Junior College was repurchased from Lasall in 1925. Renovated to create two apartments it is known as **Harding East and West**. Further residential space was created with the renovation of an adjacent nineteenth century barn which became **Hume House** (165 Grove Street) in 1926 and **Howard House** (132 Grove Street), built in 1927. **Barton House** (138 Hancock Street), which is attached to 144 Grove Street, was enlarged in 1937 with the addition of a brick wing. Two, three-car garages, added in 1927 and 1937 respectively, and another residential building known as **Eddy House** (169 Grove Street), designed by Newton architect Albert Kreider in 1954, complete the inventory of structures belonging to the Walker Missionary Home, Inc. Mrs. Walker's house at 103-107 Hancock St. was sold by the Corporation in this century and is no longer a part of the Walker Home complex.



BARTON HOUSE (named after Dr. and Mrs. James L. Barton) accommodates 20 adult missionaries.



HUME HOUSE (a gift in honor of Rev. Dr. Robert A. Hume of India), HARDING EAST and HARDING WEST provide furnished homes for families.



WALKER HOUSE (named in honor of the founder, Mrs. Eliza Harding Walker) is for children; also for transients. It accommodates thirty-five.



HOWARD HOUSE (a gift by her daughters, in memory of Mrs. Ruth L. Howard of Worcester, Mass.), is for the use of a missionary family on furlough.

☪

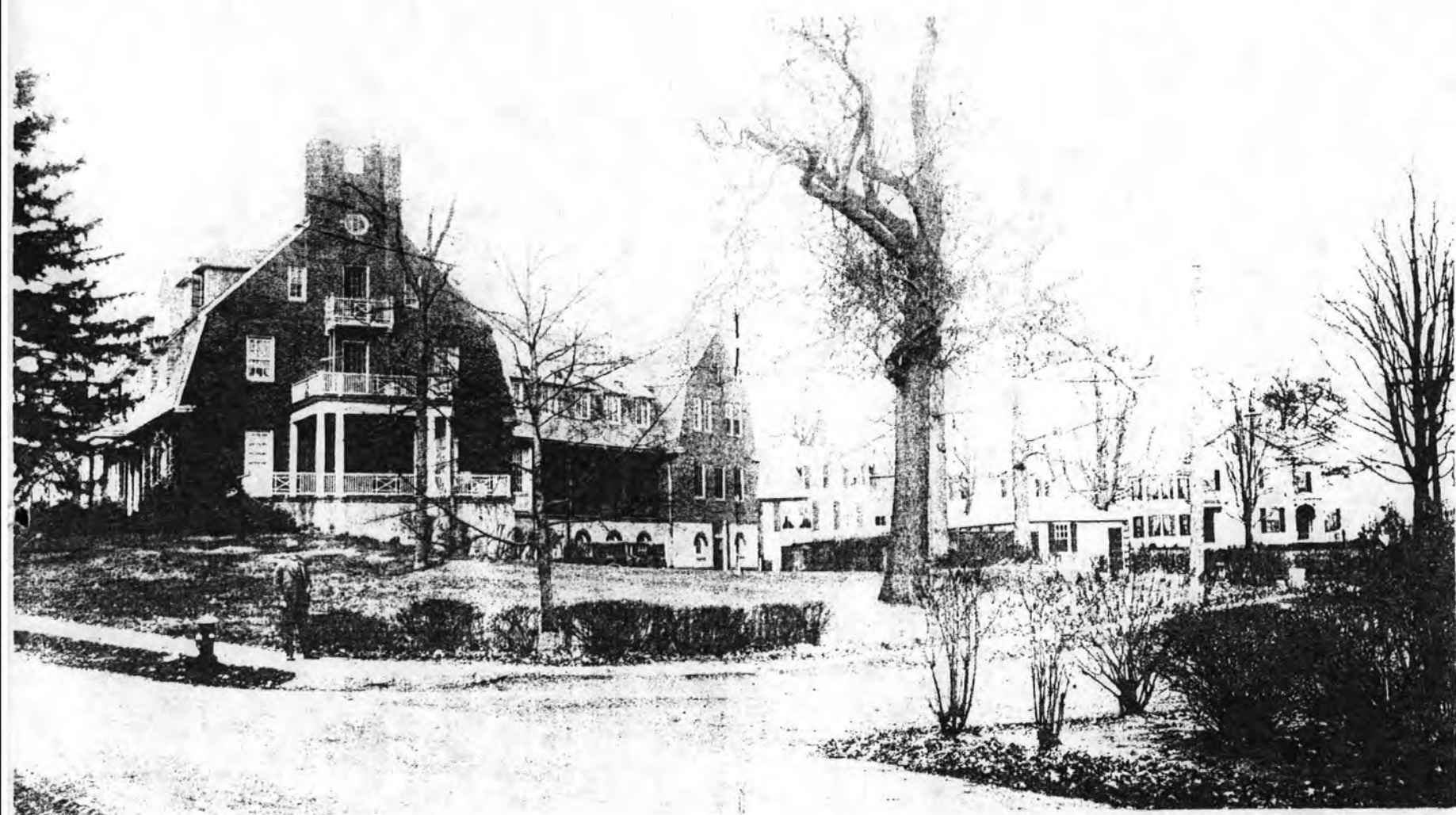
Why not name Walker Missionary Homes, Incorporated, of Auburndale, Mass., in your will?

☪

☪

Gifts for Endowment are a constant and rewarding means of helping the missionary when he needs it most.

☪



The Grove Street corner of the Walker House, with Superintendent LeRoy

Into this Home are gathered missionaries from Africa, China, Japan, India, Turkey and the Islands of the Pacific who are on furlough with

The Lodge, described elsewhere

their families; also children whose parents are on the mission fields, and single missionaries on furlough. A veritable refuge and resting place for all.

The Harding duplex apartments for two families, completed in 1926. A tennis court and playgrounds beyond

Newton, Mass. MRA - 1988 - Walker Missionary Home, Inc.

Street Address	Historic Name	Date	Style	Status
161-63 Grove Street	Harding East & West	c1850	Italianate	C
165 Grove Street	Hume House	1926	CR	C
167 Grove Street	Eddy House	1957	Cape	NC
136 Hancock Street	Howard House	1927	CR	C
138 Hancock Street	Barton House	1925/1937	CR	C
144 Hancock Street	Walker House	1913	CR	C
Hancock Street	Garages	1927/1937	Utilitarian	NC

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY Walker Home for Missionary Children
NAME:

MULTIPLE Newton MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/02/90 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/17/90
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/02/90 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/16/90
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000047

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: Y NATIONAL: N

COMMENT WAIVER: N

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 2/16/90 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

See attached comments.

RECOM./CRITERIA Return
REVIEWER Savall
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 2/16/90

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 (202) 343-9540

Signed Beth J. Savage

Date 2/16/90

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
REVIEW COMMENTS**

**Walker Home for Missionary Children (Newton MRA)
Middlesex County, MA**

This documentation is confusing and it does not include a cogent, justified statement of significance. Please reevaluate the information provided which is primarily descriptive and general and develop a compelling, substantiated statement concerning the property's importance. Please back this up with sufficient photos (one photo of one building is not enough) and a sketch map labelled with building names and their contributing or noncontributing classifications to convey a clear understanding of the property's historic character.

Please specify an appropriate period of significance for the property. The property is not justified for exceptional importance through 1954 (as indicated on page #1 and the construction date attributed to the Eddy House at the end of the arch. sig. statement) nor through 1957 (as indicated in the beginning of the arch. sig. statement).

Please specify and justify applicable area(s) of significance for eligibility under criterion A. What particular, integral role did the institution play in Auburndale's historical growth and development?

Architecturally what exactly does this property represent? Is its importance under criterion C merely for the individual importance of the Walker and Harding buildings? When was Walker House constructed?--post-1911 is the only clue provided. Why is the Walker House unusual for retaining domestic character at an institutional scale? Many early 20th-century institutional buildings were rendered in primarily domestic modes; for this reason it seems representative rather than unusual.

It is confusing that the property located at 161-163 Grove Street is first referred to by its street address in the hist. sig. statement, and then by its historic name (Harding East and West) without cross references. In addition, 2 different dates are indicated for this property's previous individual listing in the National Register, 9-4-86 is correct. Please revise the incorrect reference to 9-12-86.

*Bob F. Savage
2-16-90*

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

**National Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet**

Section number _____ Page _____

NEWTON MRA Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Walker Home for Missionary Children
90000047

10/4/92

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: RESUBMISSION

PROPERTY NAME: Walker Home for Missionary Children

MULTIPLE NAME: Newton MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 4/21/92

DATE OF PENDING LIST:

DATE OF 16TH DAY:

DATE OF 45TH DAY:

6/05/92

DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000047

NOMINATOR: STATE

DETAILED EVALUATION: Y

ACCEPT RETURN REJECT 6/4/92 DATE

ABSTRACT/SUMMARY COMMENTS:

Small district locally notable for historic associations with missionary work and for representative examples of Colonial Revival design.

Initial return comments have been addressed, corrections made, issues clarified.

RECOM./CRITERIA Accept a+c
REVIEWER Savas
DISCIPLINE Architectural History
DATE 6/4/92

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 _____



Newton, MA
Walker Home for Transitory Children
144 Hancock St
October 1991

DCT-91 00793 NHRR



Newton, VA
Barton House
138 Hancock St
October 1991

AGFA
QUALITY PAPER
MADE IN GERMANY

AGFA
QUALITY PAPER
MADE IN GERMANY

AGFA
QUALITY PAPER
MADE IN GERMANY

AGFA
OCT-91 88799 HHHNR



Newton, MA
Hardy East + West
161-163 Grove Street
October 1991

OCT-91 88739



Newton, MA
Howard House
136 Hancock St
October 1991

OCT-91 00799 NHHK



NEWTON, MA
Horne House
165 Grove St
October 1991

OCT-91 00259 HHHH



Newton, Mass; MRA

- 169 Grove St, Auburndale
Walker Missionary Home
77-D-17 (2)

Newton, MA-MRA

144 Hancock Street

SBL: 43-31-1, 43-31-16

Engineering Map - 1979

Page: 51

Scale: 1"=1000" Reduced 74%





RECEIVED

APR 21 1992

NATIONAL REGISTER

April 6, 1992

Carol Shull
National Register of Historic Places
National Park Service
P.O. Box 37127
Washington, DC 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the following resubmitted nomination:

Walker Home for the Missionary Children, Newton MRA, 144 Hancock Street,
Newton (Middlesex County), Massachusetts.

The enclosed information addresses all the concerns raised in Beth Savage's
National Register Return Sheet, dated February 16, 1990. If you have any
questions regarding the enclosed information please do not hesitate to contact
me at this office.

Sincerely,

Betsy Friedberg
National Register Director
Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure

cc: Gretchen Schuler, Newton Historical Commission