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AREA

FORM NO.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

NV-077

NEWTON, MA MRA

Town Newton (Newtonville)

Address 211 Highland Street

Historic Name William F. Kessler House

Use: Present residential

Original residential

DESCRIPTION

Date 1913

Source Building Dept. records

Style Craftsman

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric shingle

Outbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) none

Condition good

Moved no Date n/a

Acreage 12,167 sq.ft. C .28A

Setting residential

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

see attached map

Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Susan Abele

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date 6/1987; rev. 3/1988

UTM REFERENCE 19/317400/4690550

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON

SCALE 1:25000

#### **NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)**

The William F. Keesler House possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. It is significant as a well-detailed and little altered early example of the rustic Craftsman style. It is also representative of Newton's suburban expansion in the major growth decade of the 1920s which resulted in infill of established areas as well as in development of new subdivisions. The Keesler House thus meets criteria A & C of the NRHP.

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

The Keesler House is a fine example of the rustic Craftsman style. It is a 1 and 1/2 story shingle clad house enclosed by a gable roof with exposed rafter ends. The front slope of the roof is pierced by a large complex dormer with varied rooflines. As is the case with other houses of this type, the roof projects forward to form a verandah supported on heavy brick and fieldstone piers. The entry is framed by sidelights and flanked by a multi-pane three part window to the left and by a bow window to the right. A brick and fieldstone chimney rises along the left elevation. The well planted site enhances the rustic qualities of the house.

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

The original owners of the house at 211 Highland Avenue were Mr. and Mrs. William F. Keesler. Little is known about the Keesler family, but Newton Directories of the period indicate that Mr. Keesler was a salesman. The house was built in 1913 by local builder Frank E. Kneeland of Newton Centre, on the north side of West Newton hill, in an area already well developed with pre-1907 homes.

#### **BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES**

Building Department Records: 221 Highland Street  
City Directories and Atlases

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
141. Crimmins, Thomas A., House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
142. Eddy, George W., House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
143. Goodbar, Lafayette, House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
144. Hammond, E. C., House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
145. Harriman, Henry I., House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
146. Harrison, C. Lewis, House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
147. Hayward, Fred R., House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
148. Hopewell, Frank B., House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
149. Howes, C. G., Dry Cleaning--Carley Real Estate Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____
150. Kessler, William F., House Entered in the National Register	✓ Keeper <u>Shelores Byers</u> <u>2/16/90</u> Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Kessler, William F., House

MULTIPLE NAME: Newton MRA

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 1/02/90      DATE OF PENDING LIST: 1/16/90  
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 2/01/90      DATE OF 45TH DAY: 2/16/90  
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 90000048

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    2/16/90 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  
\_\_\_ UTMs \_\_\_ boundary justification

ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

\_\_\_ sketch maps \_\_\_ USGS maps \_\_\_ photographs \_\_\_ presentation

OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



William F. Keeler House  
221 Highland Ave.  
Newton, MA

Newton, MA-MRA

C. Jenkins

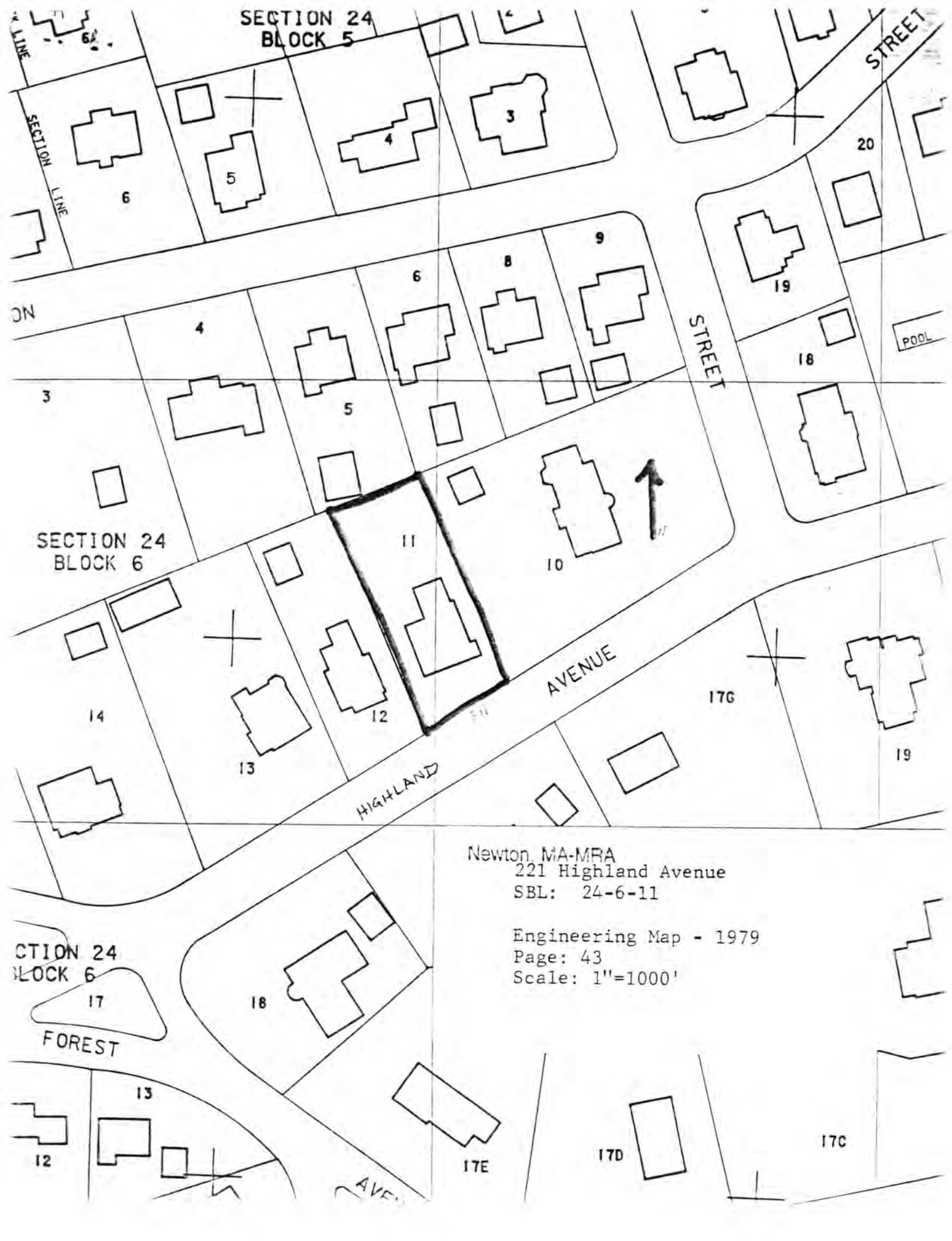
4/87

req. @ Jackson Homestead

new - north

NV-077

87/9 - 36



SECTION 24  
BLOCK 5

SECTION 24  
BLOCK 6

Newton, MA-MRA  
221 Highland Avenue  
SBL: 24-6-11

Engineering Map - 1979  
Page: 43  
Scale: 1"=1000'

SECTION 24  
BLOCK 6

FOREST

STREET

STREET

HIGHLAND  
AVENUE

HIGHLAND

AVE

POOL

ON

LINE

SECTION  
LINE

12

13

18

13

12

14

3

4

5

6

8

9

3

4

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20

19

18

10

11

17G

19

17D

17E

17C