

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA	FORM NO.
189	N-4A

Town Newton, Mass. MRA
Newton (Newton Corner)

Address 770 Centre Street

Historic Name Prescott Estate

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

Use: Present residential condominiums

Original dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date ca.1885

Source stylistic analysis

Style Medieval Revival

Architect unknown

Exterior Wall Fabric granite, brown-stone

Outbuildings carriagehouse, 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) _____

Condition Excellent

(SEE ATTACHED MAP)

Moved no Date _____

Acreage 96700⁺ sq. (2.2 acres)

Setting suburban estate set on expansive grounds along major thoroughfare.

UTM REFERENCE 19.319620.4690280

USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTON, MASS.

SCALE 1:25,000

Recorded by Arch. Pres. Assoc.

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date 5/83; rev. by H. White 3/86

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Prescott residence is a rare example of a domestic structure articulated in masonry, of the quasi-Medieval manner of early Queen Anne architecture, and therefore meets Criterion C of the National Register of Historic Places.

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

The Prescott estate is located in an area of large estates. It is an example of the quasi-Medieval manner (influenced by John Ruskin) of early Queen Anne architecture. This style is most often found in buildings of masonry construction, although it was rarely used for domestic structures. The Prescott residence is a two and one-half rectangular plan house with a steeply-pitched hip roof. The entrance is set within a triple portal and a polygonal full-height bay with a half-timbered gable is offset to the right. The walls are of random dressed fieldstone with window and door trim and belt courses of red sandstone and terra cotta. The Romanesque influence of H.H. Richardson is seen in the colonnettes with carved capitals and Syrian arched openings. Queen Anne characteristics include the soaring, panelled chimneys and overall asymmetry. The polychromatic masonry is a Ruskinian Gothic overtone.

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

By the 1880s Newton Corner had grown, with a population numbering over 4,000. This represented over one-fourth of the entire population of the city. Newton Corner enjoyed a reputation as a prosperous, fashionable suburb, renowned for its attractive homes, gardens and millionaire residents.

The Prescott residence was built circa 1874 on land that was formerly part of the vast estate of John Wiley Edmands. The Edmands mansion has been demolished. John Wiley Edmands came to Newton in 1847 and amassed a fortune in mills. He was a representative to Congress, and died in 1877.

The current house was probably built by Henry Pazolt, a Boston cigar merchant. Beginning ca. 1886 the house was owned by the Prescott family and came to be known locally as the Prescott estate.

For a number of years beginning in 1954 the Prescott residence was part of the Carroll Center for The Blind, which owned a number of additional buildings on the adjacent lot at the corner of Sargent and Centre Streets which comprised the Day estate. The Day estate buildings include a carriage house, stables and a gardener's cottage with attached greenhouse.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Atlases: 1907-Lucy Prescott; 1895- Lucy Prescott; 1886-J.B. Prescott; 1874-Henry Pazolt.

City Directories: 1875-Henry Pazolt, cigars, Boston.
1886-Calvin B. Prescott, bus. address, Boston.

M.F. Sweetseer. King's Handbook of Newton, Boston, 1889, p.90-91.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

Continuation sheet

Item number

Page

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Newton MRA
State Middlesex County, MA

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

91. Needham Street Bridge

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

92. Newton Street Railway
CarbarnEntered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

93. Nichols House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

94. Old Shepard Farm

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

95. Page, H.P., House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

96. Parsons, Edward, House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

97. Peabody--Williams House

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

98. Potter Estate

Entered in the
National Register

Keeper

Delores Byers 12/23/86

Attest

99. Prescott Estate

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

100. Railroad Hotel

Entered in the
National Register

for Keeper

Delores Byers 9/4/86

Attest

86001866

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Prescott Estate (Newton MRA)
Middlesex County
MASSACHUSETTS

JUL 23 1986

Working No. _____
Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/37
Date Due: 8/21/86 - 9/6/86
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	Status	Present Use
	Public Acquisition	Accessible	

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 | ☐ deteriorated |
| ☐ good | ☐ ruins |
| ☐ fair | ☐ 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: _____



Prescott Estate

Newton, Mass. MRA

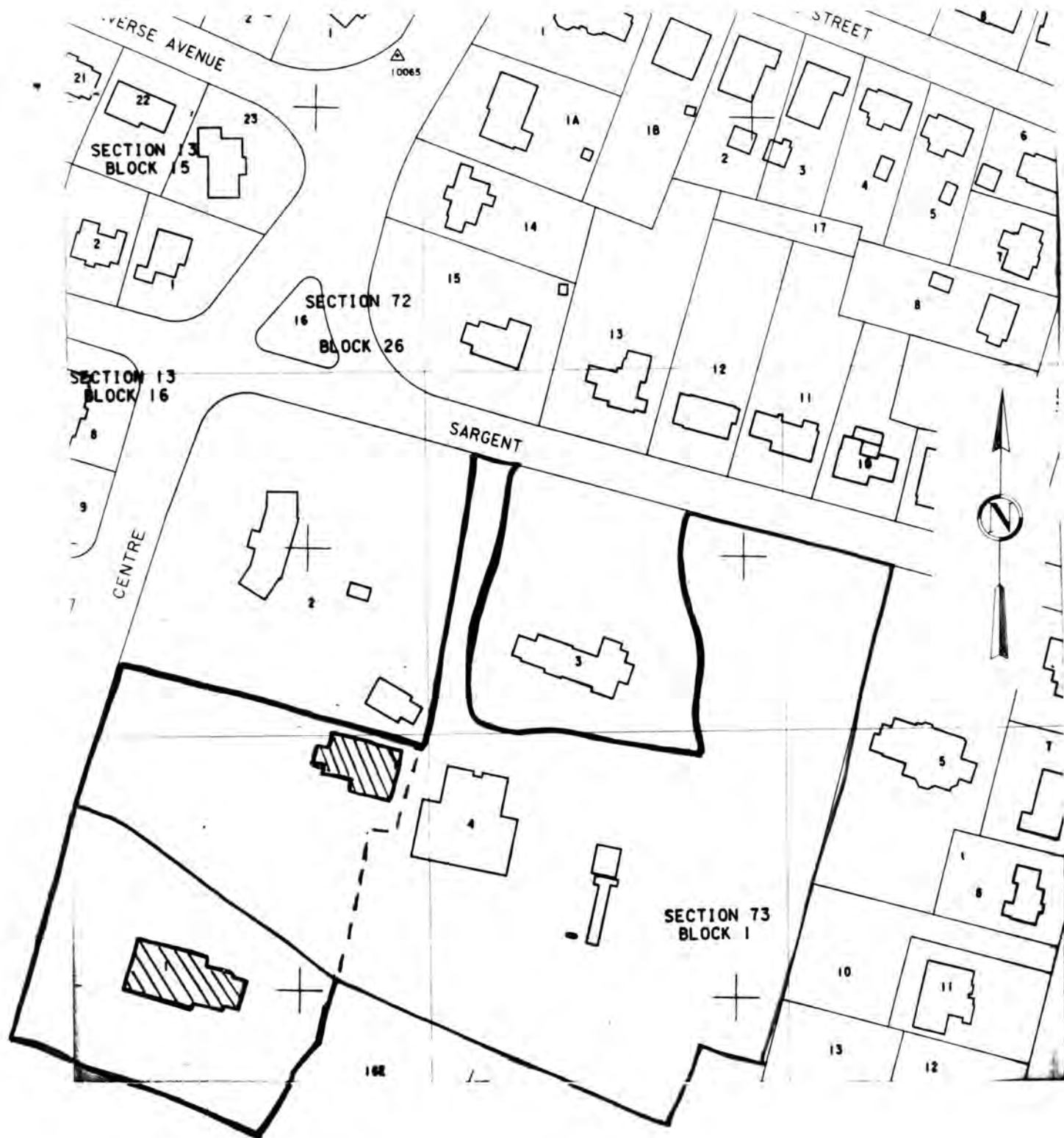
770 Centre St, Newton Corner
- K-6 (10) -



Prescott Estate

Newton, Mass. MRA

- 154 Sargent St, Newton Corner
(carr. house of 770 Centre St) -
K-6 (11)



City of Newton Assessor's Maps. Sheet **47**
 Metric Series. 1979
 Scale: UTM grid line interval = 100 meters (328 feet)

Newton, Mass. M.R.A.
 770 Centre Street, Newton Corner
 154 Sargent Street, Newton Corner
 73-1-1, 73-1-4