

MAY 23 1989

101

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
80 BOYLSTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02116

AREA

FORM NO.

B	177
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Town WakefieldAddress 26 Francis Ave.Historic Name NAUse: Present dwellingOriginal dwelling

DESCRIPTION

Date c. 1907-22Source Atlas 1906 & Visual AnalysisStyle Rational Revival/Neo ColonialArchitect NAExterior Wall Fabric shingleOutbuildings 2 car garage contributing
(c.1907-22)

Major Alterations (with dates) _____

NoneCondition GoodMoved NA Date NAAcreage Less than one acreSetting at corner, on hill in rocky,
hilly area

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

UTM REFERENCE 19/330450/4705300USGS QUADRANGLE Boston North, Mass.SCALE 1:25,000Recorded by Architectural Preservation AssociatesOrganization Wakefield Historical CommissionDate March 1985

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The property, an octagonal dwelling house unique in Wakefield, retains integrity of location, setting, design, materials, workmanship, feeling and association, and meets Criterion C of the NRHP on the local level.

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

This imaginatively designed house set into a hill on high fieldstone foundations makes interesting use of its corner site. The shingle clad house is octagonal in shape. The entry, recessed under a column supported porch, is placed at the corner of the lot on the diagonal. The corners of the house are further emphasized with shingled pilasters. A hip roof with flared eaves and exposed rafters is interrupted by the wide dormer with a similar roof and diamond planed sash centered over the porch. Two stories high at the rear but one and one half at the front, the house combines elements of the Rational Revival, Shingle Craftsman, and Bungalow styles. Its unique design suggests that it is the work of an architect or talented amateur, rather than a builder contractor, as are the majority of the houses in Greenwood.

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

Until the end of the 19th century, Greenwood consisted of only a few streets, which served as major arteries as well as residential areas. Main Street had been a Native American path, Oak Street, which extended but a short way east in 1819, was built to the early 17th century Nahant Street in 1847, and Green Street, which was not residential until this century, was built in 1860.

Francis Avenue is mentioned in lot plans of 1891 as part of Greenwood Park, a development of 1889-95 by the Wood-Harmon Company. A few houses appear on the streets to the east of Main Street in the atlas of 1889, but an earlier development scheme had failed to materialize.

Real growth did not occur in the area until the introduction of street-car lines on Main Street, which connected the community to Boston in 1892. Greenwood represented the last stop within the lowest fare zone to the city, and as such, property in the area became commercially viable.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Middlesex County Registry of Deed, plan books
Atlas, 1906
Wakefield Historical Society, vertical files

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Continuation Sheet

Section number _____ Page _____

Multiple Resource Area
Thematic GroupName Wakefield MRA
State Middlesex County, MASSACHUSETTS

Nomination/Type of Review

Date/Signature

41. House at 23 Avon Street Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
42. House at 23 Lawrence Street Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
43. House at 25 Avon Street Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
44. House at 26 Francis Avenue Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
45. House at 28 Cordis Street Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
46. House at 28 Wiley Street Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
47. House at 30 Sheffield Road Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
48. House at 32 Morrison Road Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
49. House at 38 Salem Street Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____
50. House at 380 Albion Street Entered in the ☒ Keeper Shelous Byers 7/6/89
National Register Attest _____

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY House at 26 Francis Avenue
NAME:

MULTIPLE Wakefield MRA
NAME:

STATE & COUNTY: MASSACHUSETTS, Middlesex

DATE RECEIVED: 5/23/89 DATE OF PENDING LIST: 6/06/89
DATE OF 16TH DAY: 6/22/89 DATE OF 45TH DAY: 7/07/89
DATE OF WEEKLY LIST:

REFERENCE NUMBER: 89000701

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 7/6/89 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 _____



B 177

26 Francis Ave

House at

Wakefield MRA, Ma

26 FRANCIS AVE

SCALE: $1'' = 80'$



NOTES: Lot numbers with prefix letter "G",
" " " " " " G

42

Please refer to the map in the
Multiple Property Cover Sheet
for this property

Multiple Property Cover Sheet Reference Number: 64000300