

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

RECEIVED

JAN 25 1988

NATIONAL  
REGISTER

National Register of Historic Places  
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines for Completing National Register Forms* (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property

historic name Israel Whitney House  
other names/site number same

2. Location

street & number 963 Central Avenue N/A not for publication  
city, town Needham N/A vicinity  
state MA code 025 county Norfolk code 21 zip code 02192

3. Classification

Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of Resources within Property	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> public-local	<input type="checkbox"/> district	<u>2</u>	<u>      </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> public-State	<input type="checkbox"/> site	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> public-Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u> structures
	<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>2</u>	<u>      </u> objects
			<u>      </u> Total

Name of related multiple property listing: N/A Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register N/A

4. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, I hereby certify that this  nomination  request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Valerie Ann Talmage Jan. 15, 1988  
Signature of certifying official Date

Executive Director, Massachusetts Historical Commission;  
State or Federal agency and bureau State Historic Preservation Officer

In my opinion, the property  meets  does not meet the National Register criteria.  See continuation sheet.

Signature of commenting or other official \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

State or Federal agency and bureau \_\_\_\_\_

5. National Park Service Certification

I, hereby, certify that this property is:

entered in the National Register.  
 See continuation sheet.

determined eligible for the National Register.  See continuation sheet.

determined not eligible for the National Register.

removed from the National Register.

other, (explain:) \_\_\_\_\_

Alanus Byrne Entered in the National Register 2-25-88  
Signature of the Keeper Date of Action

**6. Function or Use** Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Current Functions (enter categories from instructions)

Domestic/single dwelling

Domestic/single dwelling

Commerce/Trade-specialty store

**7. Description**

Architectural Classification  
(enter categories from instructions)

Materials (enter categories from instructions)

Federal

foundation Stone/field stone

Greek Revival

walls wood: clapboard

shingle

roof vinyl siding

other N/A

**Describe present and historic physical appearance.**

The Israel Whitney House, Needham, located at 963 Central Avenue, is a central element of Needham's original rural town center, which maintains much of this rural character in the midst of a twentieth century residential area.

The Whitney House is situated on one of the two acres bought by Whitney in 1829 from the First Parish Church (no longer extant) which was across the way. Occupying one of the three corners of the original town center and centered on a one-acre lot, the house stands facing east on a slope above Central Avenue, set back from the street approximately fifty feet. To the north adjacent to the Whitney lot is the Davis Mills House (NR 04/01/82), which was built in 1834 with the imposed condition "that he (Davis Mills) will build a house within three years on the premises as large as the one built by Israel Whitney in that neighborhood." To the south lies a defunct public grammar school. The house sits on a sloping lawn with many mature trees maintaining the lot's rural setting.

The Whitney house is a fine example of a wood-frame clapboard late-Federal farmhouse with a Greek Revival doorway. The house is roofed with black asphalt shingles. While the main facade now bears vinyl siding, the rest of the building is sheathed in clapboard on all sides except the rear wall of the main block and of the northern ell. These rear walls are covered with wood shingles. The present house was constructed in two phases: the 2 1/2-story main block and a 1 1/2-story (north) ell were constructed around 1830, and a 2 1/2-story rear (west) addition was added in 1953. The original barn is also intact in the rear and has been attached to the 1953 addition by a screened-in breezeway.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 1 Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

---

The foundation of the main block is supported by the house's original fieldstone, with a basement under only the southeast parlor. The main block is side-gabled, single pile in plan, and five bays wide with a central Greek Revival-style entrance. The entrance is ornamented with a simple entablature and rectangular side lights. Fenestration on the second story maintains the same symmetrical organization as the first with a central window situated directly over the first floor entrance. Windows are set within a slightly molded frame, and 6/6 sash is used throughout the complete structure. The northern gabled end of the main structure, which is covered in painted clapboard, has both a second story 6/6 window and an attic level 6/3 window.

The rear (west) wall of the main house, sided in wooden shingles, bears the two chimneys placed at either end of this wall accomodating the two original fireplaces. A 1953 addition (see below) interrupts the rear wall by extending from the northern half of this wall.

The first floor of the southern gabled end of the building has two windows, while two upper levels each have one central light. Shutters frame on all windows except for the attic lights.

To the north is an attached one-room, 1 1/2-story ell, contemporary with the main house. Two 6/6 windows flank the first floor of the eastern side. The northern gabled end has one window on the first level assymmetrically placed toward the northeastern end. The upper level has symmetrical shuttered paired 6/6 sash. The west wall is covered in wooden shingles and has an entrance into what is now the kitchen.

During the 1950s, a 2 1/2 rear ell was constructed. Sheathed in white wood clapboard, the addition runs to the west of the original block and is a single bay wide and three bays in length. Throughout the house has 6/6 sash. Fenestration on the north wall consists of three windows on both stories and on the south, three on the first story and two on the second. The entrance is on the addition's western wall with an attached screened porch leading to the original barn in the rear.

The interior of the main block of the Whitney House retains much of its original woodwork. As well as its fireplace and original mantle surviving on the first floor, the second story bedrooms, one on each side of the central staircase, retain their original details--fireplace surrounds, chair rail, paneled doors, and the original wide pine floors.

continued

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 7 Page 2 Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

---

ARCHAEOLOGY

While no prehistoric archaeological sites are currently recorded on the property, it is possible that sites are present. Located on the southeast-facing slope of North Hill and in close proximity to the Charles River and its adjacent wetlands, the location would have been attractive to native people. Any surviving sites would be significant since the patterns of prehistoric occupation in Needham are poorly documented.

There is potential for historical archaeological sites. Controlled testing can document the presence of outbuildings no longer extant, the date and extent of landscaping around the house, and the location of occupation-related features (privies, wells, trash pits). Analysis of these data could help to clarify and document the changing functions which occurred within the house (cobbler shop and post office as well as residence) as well as detail the social, cultural, and economic characteristics of this prominent Needham family during the first half of the 19th century.

**8. Statement of Significance** Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

Certifying official has considered the significance of this property in relation to other properties:

nationally  statewide  locally

Applicable National Register Criteria  A  B  C  D

Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)  A  B  C  D  E  F  G

Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)

Architecture  
Commerce  
Settlement

Period of Significance

1830-1847  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Dates

1830  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Cultural Affiliation

N/A  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Significant Person

Whitney, Israel

Architect/Builder

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

The Israel Whitney House, Needham, possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials and workmanship as well as significant historical associations with Needham's development during the early 19th century. This well-preserved example of a late Federal farmhouse derives its importance from its architecture, prominent location and from its association with its first owner, Israel Whitney. Whitney played a long and active role in the early civic development of Needham. Thus, the Israel Whitney House meets criteria B and C of the National Register on the local level.

The Whitney House is associated with important activities of Needham's early 19th century development. It was the first non-ecclesiastical house to have been built on parish land, and was used as the town's post office. Furthermore, the architecture of this house provided a standard of size and quality for later residential construction in the 19th century town center when the town was still predominantly an agricultural community. The houses of the first minister, Jonathan Townsend (NR 04/01/82), built in 1720, and the Davis Mills House, built in 1834, still stand on Central Avenue while buildings that once stood on Central Avenue and Nehoiden Street, the first schoolhouse, the post office, and the First Parish Church no longer survive.

Israel Whitney (1774-1846) came to Needham from Watertown, Massachusetts in 1795. He was married in 1799 to Mary Fuller (1781-1859), a descendant of one of the founding families of Needham. Whitney quickly became involved in the civic events of Needham, taking on many prominent roles and positions. Between the time of their marriage and the construction of their home, the couple lived with the Fuller family. Also during this time Israel was securing his reputation as a community leader.

See continuation sheet

**9. Major Bibliographical References** Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

**MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES**

Clark, George Kuhn. History of Needham. Cambridge, 1912.  
Jones, Frederic A., Old Houses in Needham. priv. printed, 1953.  
Files of Needham Historical Society.  
Archives, Needham Public Library.

See continuation sheet

**Previous documentation on file (NPS):**

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # \_\_\_\_\_
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # \_\_\_\_\_

**Primary location of additional data:**

- State historic preservation office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Specify repository:  
Massachusetts Historical Commission  
Inventory of Historic Assets #19

**10. Geographical Data**

Acreage of property 1.13 acres

**UTM References**

A 19 | 314320 | 4683970  
 Zone Easting Northing

C \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_

B \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zone Easting Northing

D \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_ | \_\_\_\_\_

See continuation sheet

**Verbal Boundary Description**

See continuation sheet

**Boundary Justification**

See continuation sheet

**11. Form Prepared By**

name/title Elizabeth Rich, Needham Historical Commission w/Anne Tait & Betsy Friedberg, Director  
 organization Massachusetts Historical Commission date September 1987 (NR programs)  
 street & number 80 Boylston Street telephone (617) 727-8470  
 city or town Boston state MA zip code 02116

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places  
Continuation SheetSection number 8 Page 1

Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

George Clarke, Needham historian, described Whitney as "sexton, cobbler, and town official." Before purchase of this prime land of the First Parish on which he built his Federal-style house, Whitney established himself as town official, selectman, church sexton (1814-1839), and teacher (1807-1816). Later, he used the northern 1 1/2 story ell of his home as a cobbler shop and a post office (1839-1846). Also during this time he continued on as town selectman (1835-1837), justice of the peace (beginning 1833), warden of the poor farm (1820-1833), and was also instrumental in deterring the early attempts to divide the East and West Parishes of Needham into separate towns.

Whitney's role as postmaster is significant not only for being the second postmaster in Needham, but for being the originator of the town's first postal system, using his home on Central Avenue as the town post office.

In addition to his town activities, Whitney found time to join the Needham Lyceum, the Lodge of Masons, and the church choir of the First Parish church. His very active role in the affairs of Needham, especially his position as assessor (1826, 1827 and 1831), may explain why he was the second person since the 1711 establishment of these lands to be able to acquire two of the 144 highly prized acres for one hundred dollars. The first person to purchase a parcel of First Parish land had been Jeremiah Kingsbury thirty five years earlier (1795), and he too had been influential in town affairs.

The land on which the Whitney House was constructed was originally intended to be solely for use by the First Parish ministers for farming, haying, and cutting firewood. The interest in this land became more intense as Needham began to grow in the 18th century, and as the parish lost control of Needham's fiscal affairs the town took control of these acres. For example, payment for leases of these lands had begun to be paid to the town treasurer during the last decade of the 18th century, rather than to the parish. Furthermore, in 1774 the Town Clerk recorded a list of people called Antipedobaptists "who regularly gathered together for worship on the Sabbath." This group contained some of the town's most respected citizens, and before long voiced their objection to being taxed for the support of the ministry of the First Parish. There were other problems over control of the lands, including a later suit which the First Parish, nevertheless, won; and with new sects arriving in Needham, the lands seem to have gradually been assumed by the town.

\* see continuation sheet

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 8 Page 2 Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

---

Historically, the First Parish Church owned all the land that constitutes the old town center. Since the leaders of the church and the leaders of the town were one and the same during the early development of Needham, the church controlled many of the town's fiscal affairs, owning 144 acres of this highly attractive area. During the time of the gradual weakening of the parish's town-control, few people were able to gain access to this land. However, Whitney, being the sexton of the First Parish, the town selectman, and town assessor, was in a powerful decision-making position when the land became available. Soon after, more land in the town center was taken from the parish, and sold by the town for residential and public use. For example, four years after Whitney built his home, the Davis Mills House (NR 04/01/82) was constructed on First Parish land, with the stipulation "that he (Davis Mills) will build a house within three years on the premises as large as the one built by Israel Whitney in that neighborhood." By being one of the first to build in the area, Whitney had set a standard on which the town center could base further residential development.

Although the Whitneys had four daughters, none of them lived in the house after their parents' death. After the house and the two-acre lot were sold in 1847, the house changed hands several times during the nineteenth and early-twentieth century. In 1947 the house was conveyed to Elizabeth D. Revere and Paul Revere, a great-great-grandson of the patriot. The Reveres constructed the 2 1/2-story rear addition in 1953. The present owner is Viola Balzer, who owns the property and one of the two original acres.

The Israel Whitney house is architecturally significant as one of a handful of Federal houses surviving in Needham. It stands a well-preserved rectangular center-hall plan, Late Federal country house with Greek Revival details and twin rear wall chimneys. Interior details surviving in the main block are the original woodwork and mantle. Along with the Davis Mills House, the Whitney House remains a largely intact survivor of Needham's early-19th-century architecture and development.

United States Department of the Interior  
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places  
Continuation Sheet

Section number 10 Page 1 Israel Whitney House, Needham, Massachusetts

---

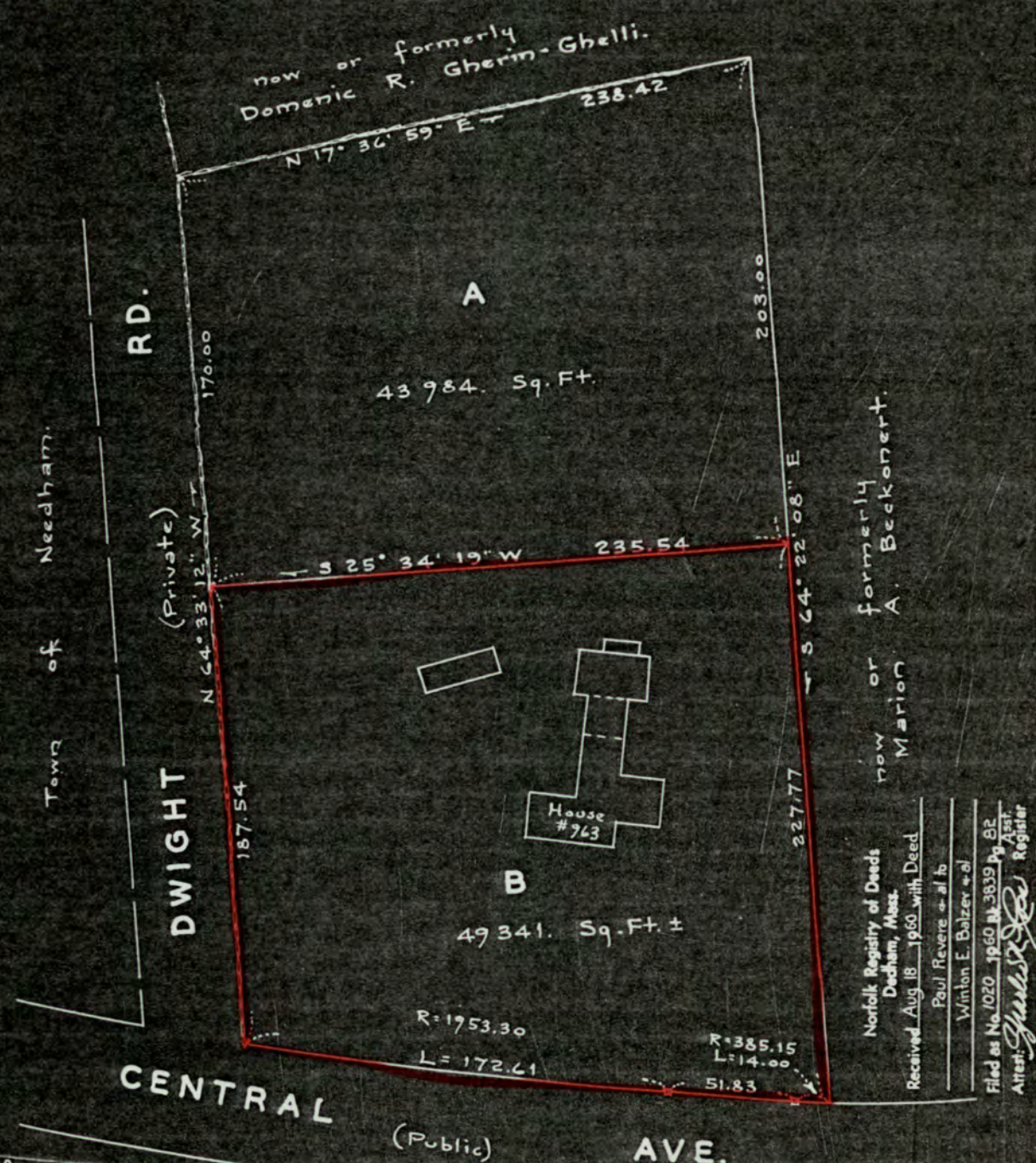
VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Lot B on enclosed plan from Norfolk Registry of Deeds; Southeasterly by Central Avenue on 3 courses, measuring 14 ft., 51.83 ft., and 172.61 ft., respectively; Southwesterly by Dwight Rd. as shown on said plan, 187.54 ft.; Northwesterly by Lot A as shown on said plan, 235.54 ft.; Northeasterly by land now or formerly of Marion A. Beckonert, 227.77 ft., containing 49341 sq. ft. more or less. Above premises subject to right of 20 ft. wide along SW boundary egress and ingress to Central Ave. of Lot A

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The boundaries of the Israel Whitney House includes one of the two acres originally owned by the Whitney family.

Israel Whitney House 963 Central Ave., Needham, MA



now or formerly  
A. Beckonert.

now or formerly  
Marion

Norfolk Registry of Deeds  
Dedham, Mass.  
Received Aug 18, 1960 with Deed  
Paul Revere & al to  
Winton E. Balzer & al  
Filed as No. 1020, 1960 Pl. 3839 by Asst. Register  
Attest: *[Signature]*



### Plan of Land in NEEDHAM, MASS.

Scale: 1 in. = 40 ft. Cheney Engineering Co.  
Needham, Mass.  
May 31, 1960.



Approval Under The Subdivision  
Control Law NOT Required:

*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
*[Signature]*  
 Planning Board  
 Date June 7, 1960

Subdivision of plan dated  
July 28, 1953 by Thomas R. Brundage, Jr.



WESTON BOND  
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT  
75% COTTON FIBRE

NEEDHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
ROOM 20, TOWN HALL  
NEEDHAM, MA 02192

TOWN OF NEEDHAM, MASS.  
 Building Inspection Department

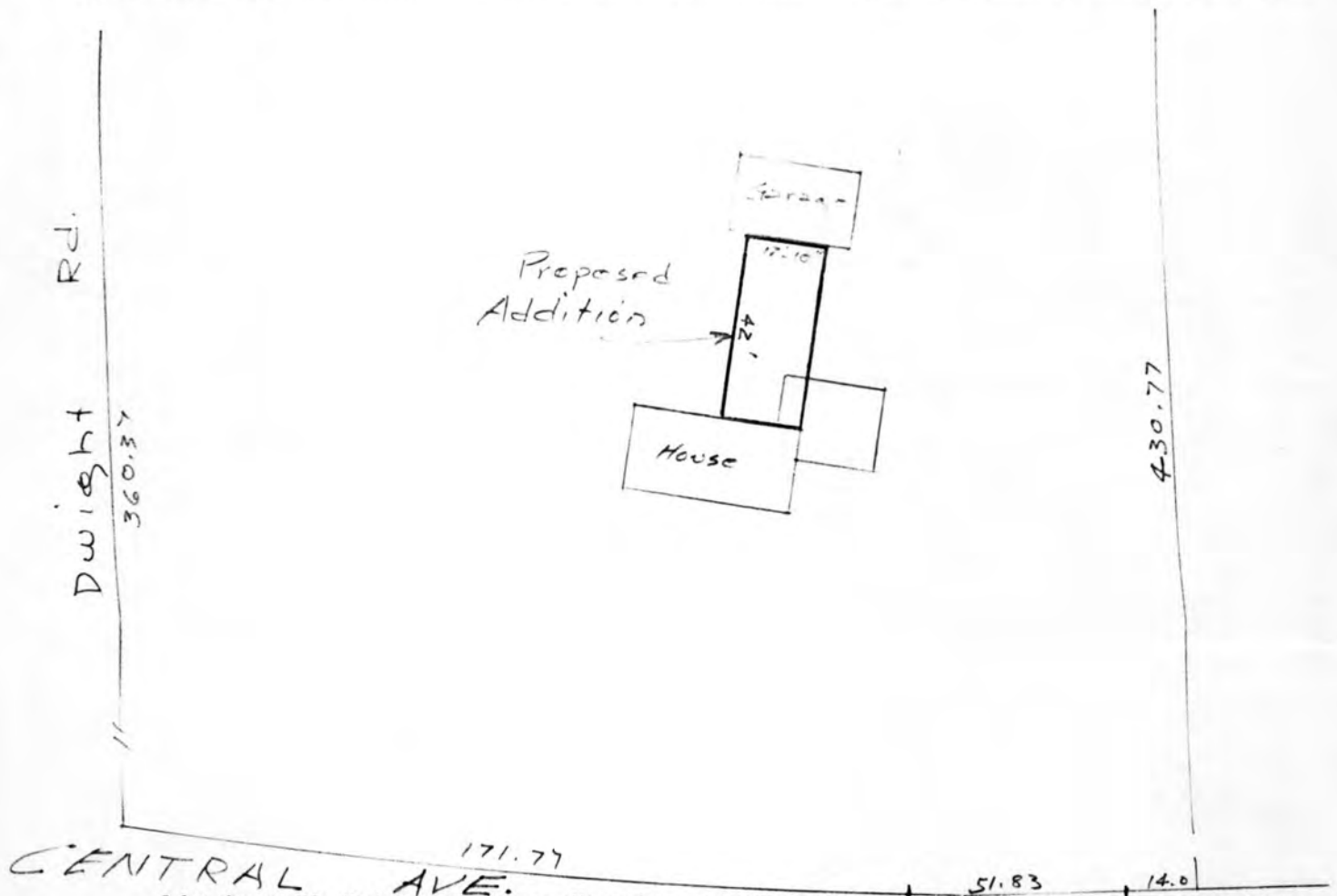
Building Permit No. 0921 No. 963 Central ~~Road~~  
~~Street~~  
~~Avenue~~

Area Addition Setback of adjacent buildings —

Owner Paul Revere Builder Carl Bezan son

Sewer — Water — Drain —

All plot plans to be drawn according to specifications set forth in Section 25, Zoning By-Laws of the Town of Needham.

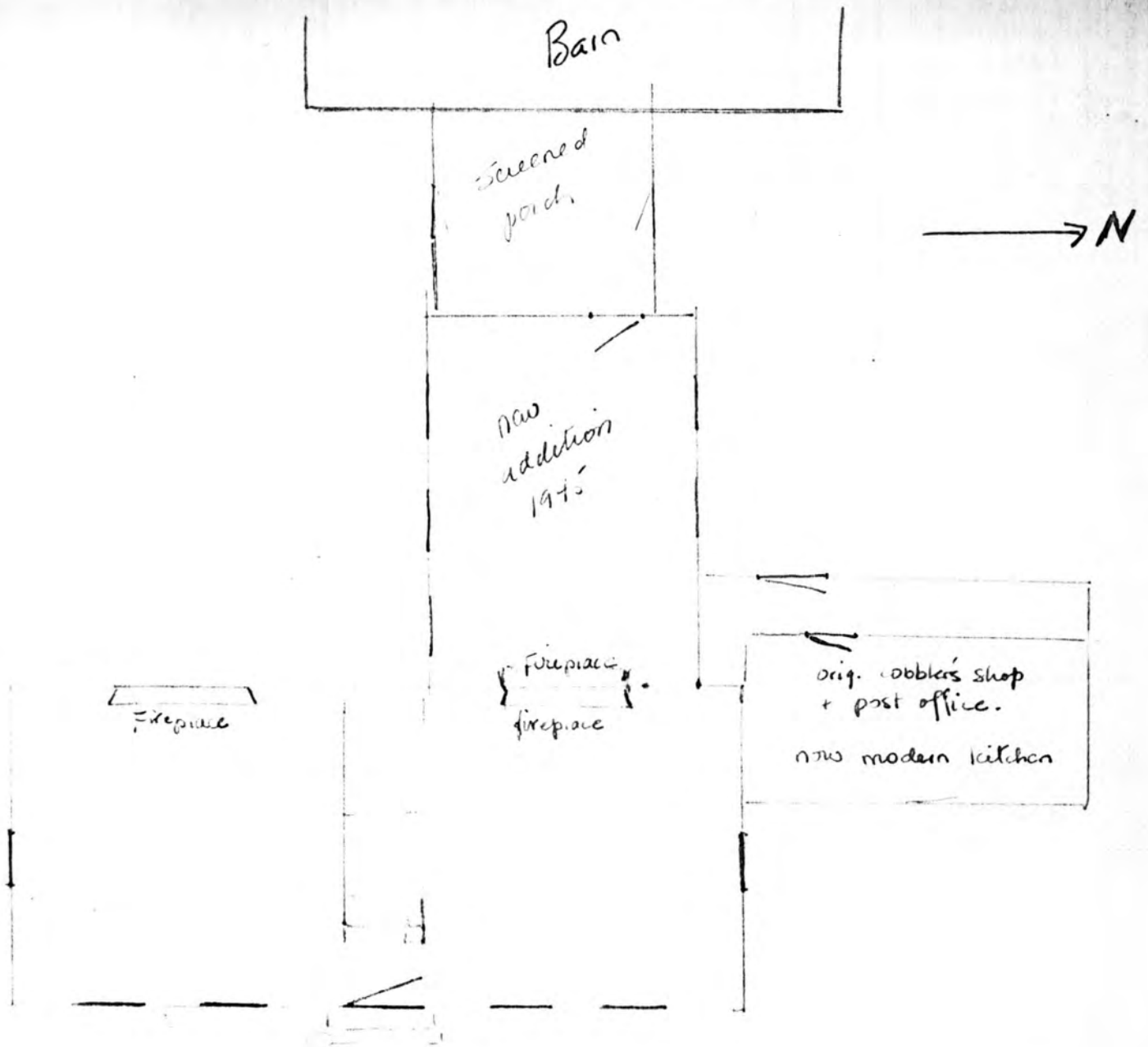


I hereby certify that the lot corners, dimensions and offsets to the proposed building are accurately shown on this plan and will conform with the completed construction.

Signed: C. Frayetto  
 Civil Engineer  
 Approved in accordance with Art. 37 of 1940

Approval Date 4/29/53

J. Phenev  
 Town Engineer  
R. P. Hallis  
 Supt. of Public Works



NEEDHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
 ROOM 20, TOWN HALL  
 NEEDHAM, MA 02192

Israel Whitney  
 house. 1830

88000160

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

Whitney, Israel, House  
Norfolk County  
MASSACHUSETTS

JAN 25 1988

Working No. \_\_\_\_\_  
Fed. Reg. Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date Due: 2/25/88 - 3/10/88  
Action:  ACCEPT 2-25-88  
 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	Check one	Check one
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> original site
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> moved date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed	
	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	
	<input type="checkbox"/> altered	

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

Whitney, Israel, House  
Norfolk County  
MASSACHUSETTS

---

**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: \_\_\_\_\_



Israel Whitney House  
963 Central Ave., Needham MA  
Kenneth Watson, 1984  
142 Hillcrest Ave., Needham  
No. 1 of 4  
View from East

#1

NEEDHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Town Hall  
Needham, MA 02192

ISRAEL-WHITNEY HOUSE  
CENTRAL AVE

KENNETH E. WATSON  
142 HILLCREST RD.  
NEEDHAM, MA 02192

RS-7-82



Israel Whitney House  
963 Central Ave., Needham MA  
Kenneth Watson, 1984  
142 Hillcrest Rd., Needham  
No. 2 of 4, view from south

NEEDHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Town Hall  
Needham, MA 02192

ISRAEL WHITNEY HOUSE  
CENTRAL AVE

KENNETH E. WATSON  
142 HILLCREST RD.  
NEEDHAM, MA 02192

Rt-11-82



P3-4-87

963 CENTRAL AVE  
NEEDHAM MASS

Isreal Whitney House  
963 Central Avenue  
Needham, MA

Photographer: Kenneth Watson  
Negative in photograper's files

Rear of house, facing East towards  
Central Avenue

No. 3 of 4

KENNETH E. WATSON  
142 HILLCREST RD.  
NEEDHAM, MA 02192



R4-12-52

963 CENTRAL AVE  
NEEDHAM MASS

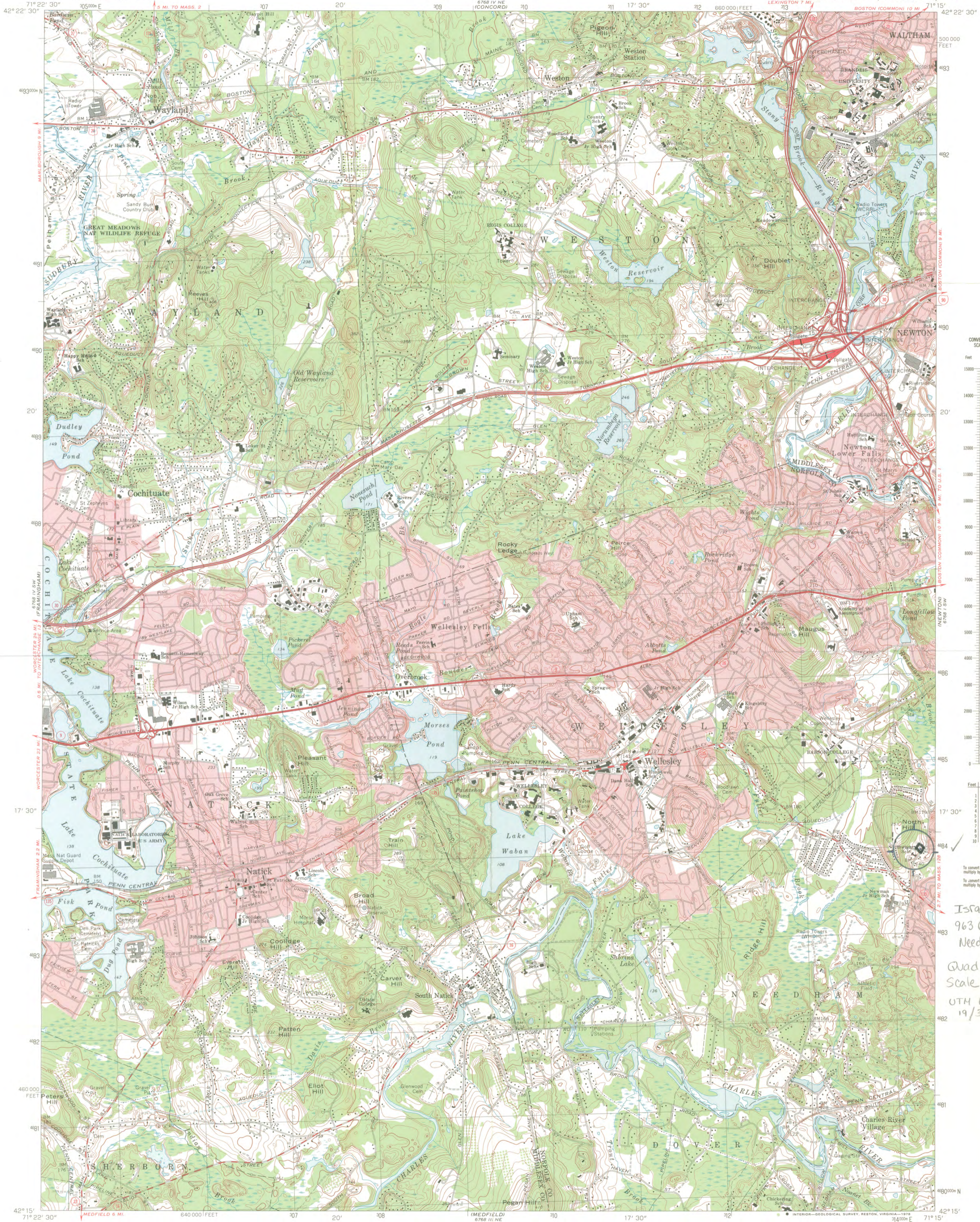
Isreal Whitney House  
963 Central Avenue  
Needham, MA

Photographer: Kenneth Watson  
Negative in photographer's files

South Elevation

No. 4 of 4

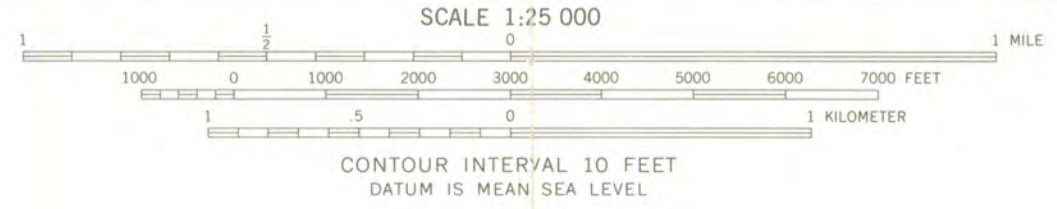
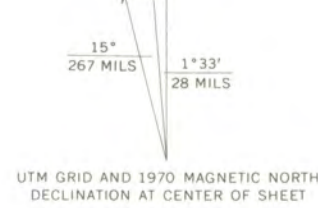
KENNETH E. WATSON  
142 HILLCREST RD.  
NEEDHAM, MA 02192



To convert feet to meters  
multiply by 3.048  
To convert meters to feet  
multiply by 3.2808

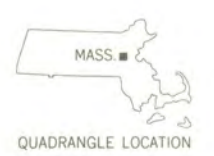
Israel Whitney House  
963 Central Avenue  
Needham, MA  
Quad: Natick  
Scale 1:25000  
UTM References:  
19/314320/4683970

Mapped, edited, and published by the Geological Survey  
Control by USGS, USC&GS and Massachusetts Geodetic Survey  
Topography by planetabe surveys 1940-1941  
Revised from aerial photographs taken 1969. Field checked 1970  
Polyconic projection. 1927 North American datum  
10,000-foot grid based on Massachusetts coordinate system,  
mainland zone  
1000-meter Universal Transverse Mercator grid,  
zone 19  
Red tint indicates areas in which only landmark buildings are shown



CONTOUR INTERVAL 10 FEET  
DATUM IS MEAN SEA LEVEL

ROAD CLASSIFICATION  
Primary highway, hard surface  
Secondary highway, hard surface  
Unimproved road  
Interstate Route  
U. S. Route  
State Route



THIS MAP COMPLIES WITH NATIONAL MAP ACCURACY STANDARDS  
FOR SALE BY U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY, RESTON, VIRGINIA 22092  
A FOLDER DESCRIBING TOPOGRAPHIC MAPS AND SYMBOLS IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

NATICK, MASS.  
N4215-W7115/7.5  
1970  
AMS 6768 IV SE-SERIES V814

U.S.G.S. Map

Israel Whitney House  
963 Central Ave

NEEDHAM HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
Town Hall  
Needham, MA 02192



P 977 920 171

## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Secretary of State  
Michael Joseph Connolly, Secretary

### Massachusetts Historical Commission

**Valerie A. Talmage**

*Executive Director*

*State Historic Preservation Officer*

January 19, 1988

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

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed you will find the nomination forms for the following properties:

Chester, Chester Center Historic District, Skyline Trail

Needham, Israel Whitney House, 963 Central Avenue

Shirley, James Parker House, R.R. 1, Box 39 Center Road

They have been voted eligible by the State Review Board and have been signed by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. No comments have been received to date.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Betsy Friedberg".

Betsy Friedberg  
National Register Director  
Massachusetts Historical Commission

BF/es

Enclosure

JAN 25 1988