

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET  
BOSTON, MA 02116

WN-0134

Town Newton (West Newton)Address 1600 Washington StreetHistoric Name Levi Warren Jr. High SchoolUse: Present vacant (since 1982)Original Junior High School

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

## DESCRIPTION

Date 1927Source Building permitStyle Georgian RevivalArchitect Ripley & LeBoutillierExterior Wall Fabric brickOutbuildings none

Major Alterations (with dates) \_\_\_\_\_

wing-1959Condition poorMoved no Date n/aAcreage 165,000 sq.ft. C 3.78ASetting major thoroughfare outside WestNewton village center and leading tothe western villagesUTM REFERENCE 19/315B20/4690080USGS QUADRANGLE NEWTONSCALE 1:25000Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Susan AbeleOrganization Newton Historical Comm.Date 1/87; rev. 3/88

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

## NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

The Levi F. Warren Junior High School possesses integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association. As Newton's second Junior High School (F. A. Day Junior High School, Newtonville, 1922, was first) it reflects the city's rapid development in the early 20th century and the need to house a growing school population. Designed by the noted firm of Ripley & LeBoutillier in a masterful interpretation of the Georgian Revival style, it is Newton's most architecturally outstanding school with significance in this area enhanced by the integrity of original features. The Levi F. Warren Junior High School meets criteria A & C of the NRHP.

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

The Warren School is the earliest, and by far the most interesting architecturally, of Newton's several Georgian Revival style public schools. It is a large, two story building with high basement which breaks up its long rectangular mass with imagination (compare with Carr School in Nonantum). The brick structure consists of a five-bay central section with pedimented frontispiece, cupola and bridged chimneys defining it above the roofline. Quoins offer further definition. This large central section, almost a school in its own right, is flanked by eight bay bryphens that are in turn terminated by pedimented end pavilions. These end pavilions have blank windowless walls and rich stone carving in the gable fields. They project beyond the front and rear elevations and contain secondary entries in brick porches on their flanks (N & S). Quoins define these elements as do rusticated basements. A two story wing that appears to be original extends from the center of the rear (E) elevation. A two story flat roofed brick wing was added to the right rear elevation in 1959 by the Architects Collaborative. The integrity of the school is affected only by its vacant status and generally poor condition. Playing fields surround the building.

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

School construction in Newton was at a standstill between 1908 and 1919. Housing sales however, were brisk and new building was up, particularly in the mid-teens. Although World War I slowed housing construction for several years, between 1909 and 1919 school enrollment began to rise considerably - from 7,236 to 8,623 in ten years. New building hit a record high in 1925 and in the following decade the school population increased 27%. By 1939, enrollment in the Newton School System was just over 12,000 and the city had constructed a total of 14 new schools.

Although the need for locating a Junior High School in the West Newton area had been under discussion since 1922 the Levi F. Warren Junior High School was not built until 1926-7. At completion Warren was said to be "one of the most modernly equipped and constructed buildings, and was praised for its ease of operation and low maintenance needs. Architects for Warren Junior High were Ripley and LeBoutillier, whose offices were at 45 Bromfield Street, Boston. Hubert Ripley, who began his career in the offices of Daniel Burnham, and Peabody and Stearns, was a Newton resident. Houses at 36 Birch Hill Road (his own, NV-6) and 271 Chestnut Street (WN-0116) were designed by him. Addison LeBoutillier, a native of Utica, New York, began his career in the offices of S. S. Beman of Chicago. He came to Boston in 1893 and became associated with Ripley about 1913.

The school, which was named for Levi F. Warren, headmaster of the Peirce School in West Newton until his death in 1897, celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary in 1952 and in 1959, a three story addition, designed by The Architects Collaborative of Cambridge, was constructed. However, in recent years, budget constraints and reduced enrollment city-wide, forced the closing of this and several other Junior High Schools in Newton. Since the closing of Warren in 1982, a variety of re-use plans have been considered, including proposals to make it the site of a new library. At this time a plan for mixed residential use is under consideration, but it has not yet been finalized.

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

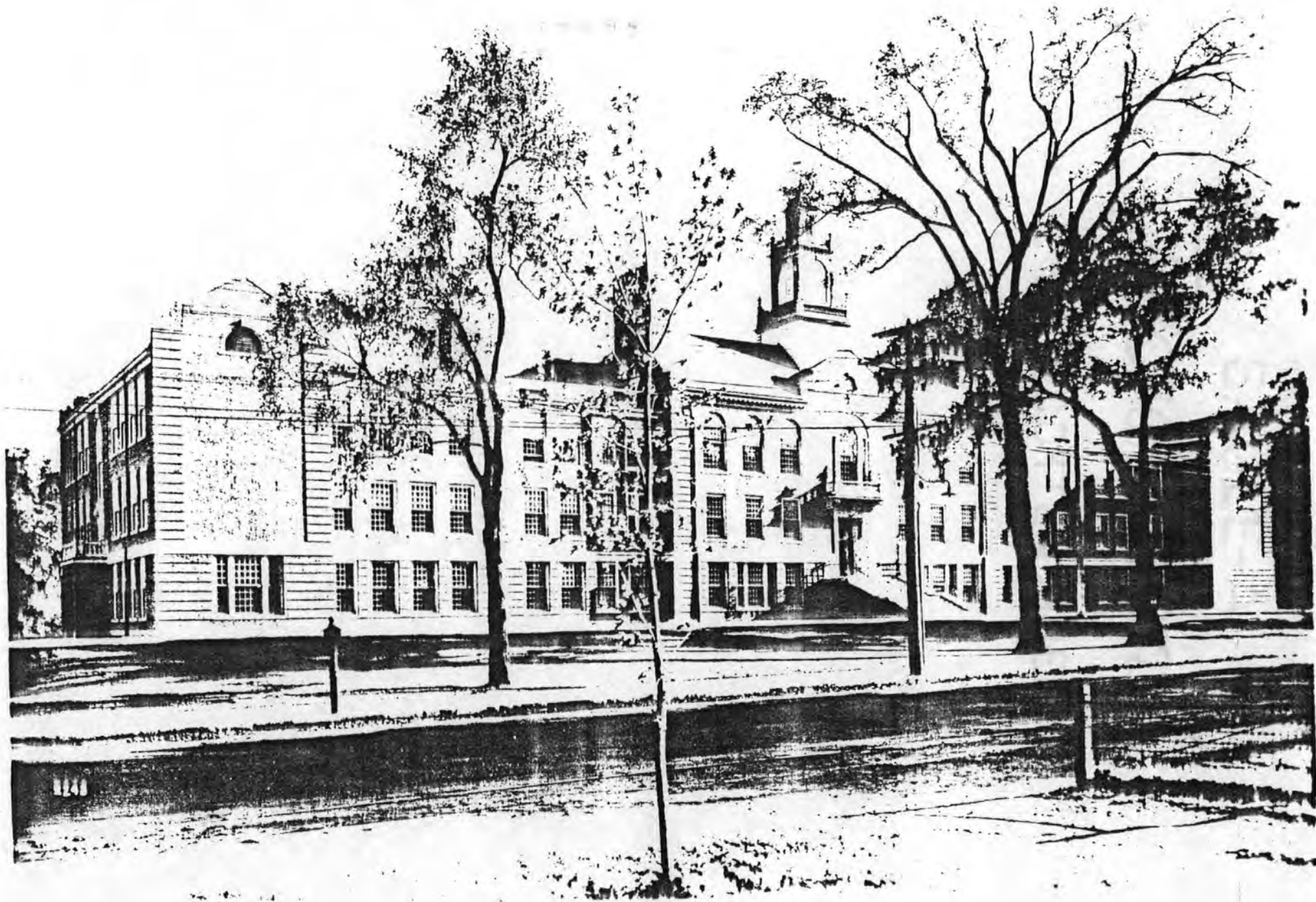
Building Records 1600 Washington Street  
School Committee Reports 1927, 1956  
*Newton Graphic* 9/9/27, 2/7/52, 3/3/82

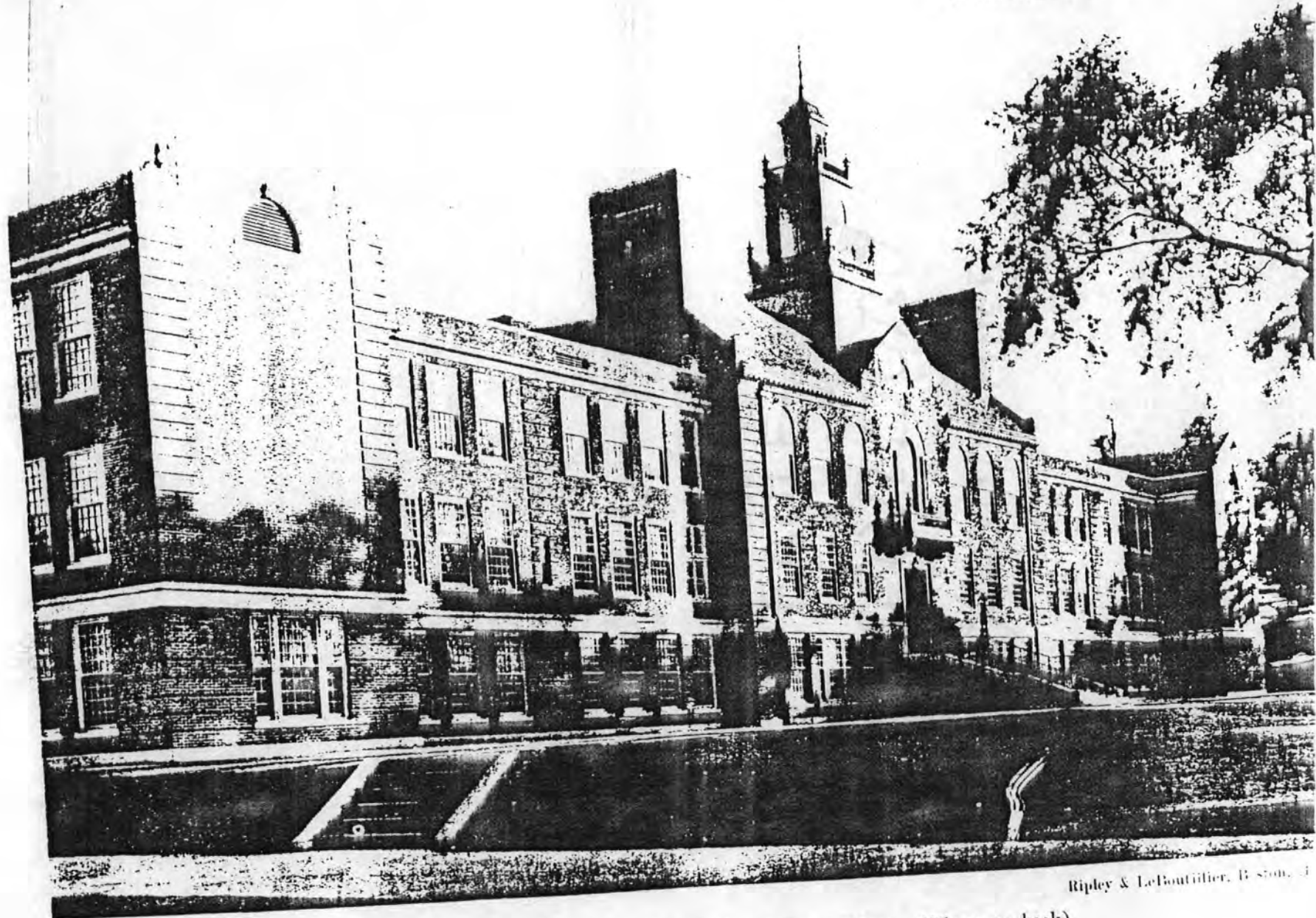
January 1928

THE ARCHITECT

Warren Jr. High School

Newton, MA-MRA





Haskell, Photo

Levi F. Warren Junior High School, West Newton, Mass. (Plans on back)

Ripley & LeBoutillier, Boston, Mass.

Page No.

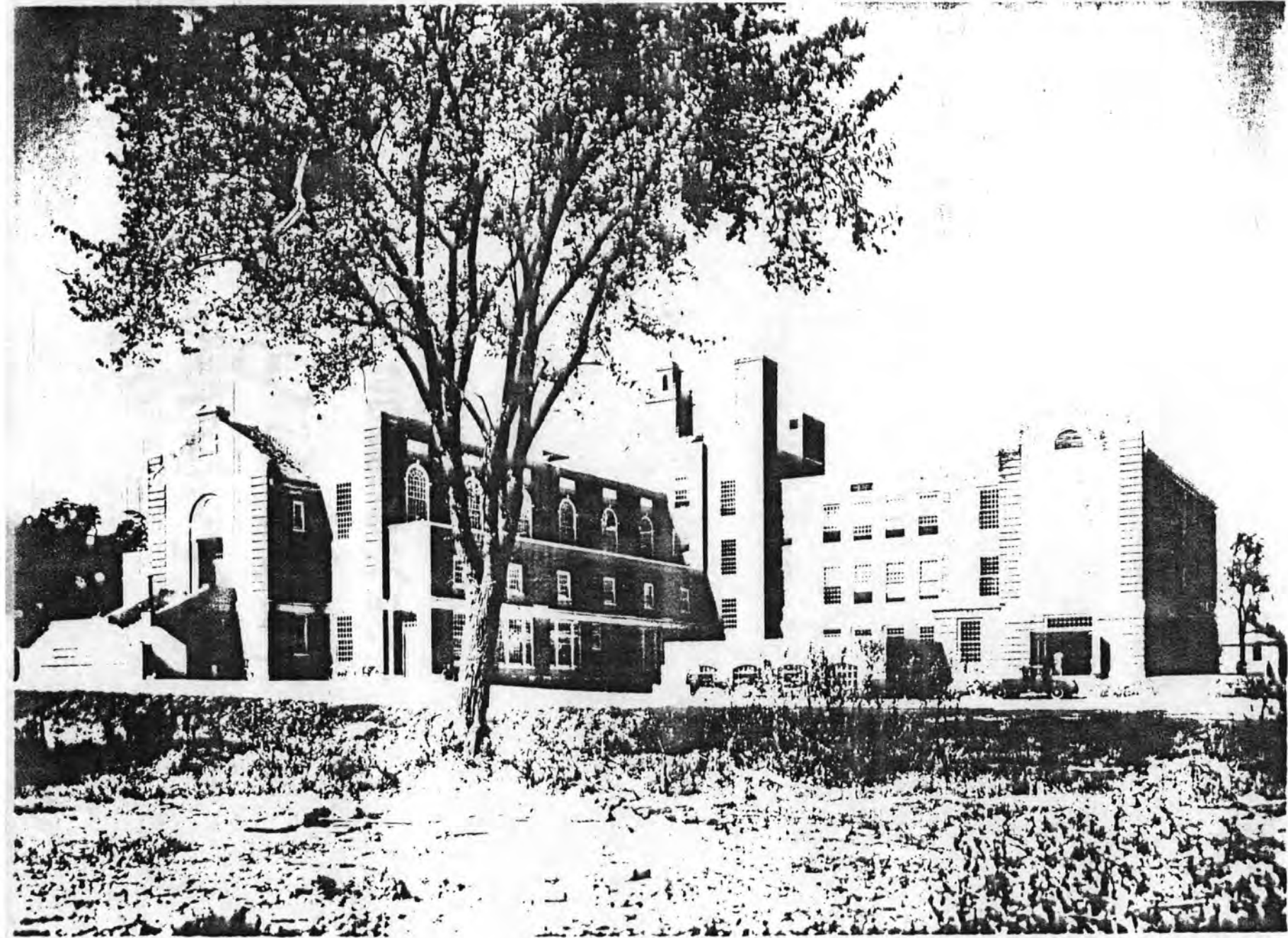
Date

Office

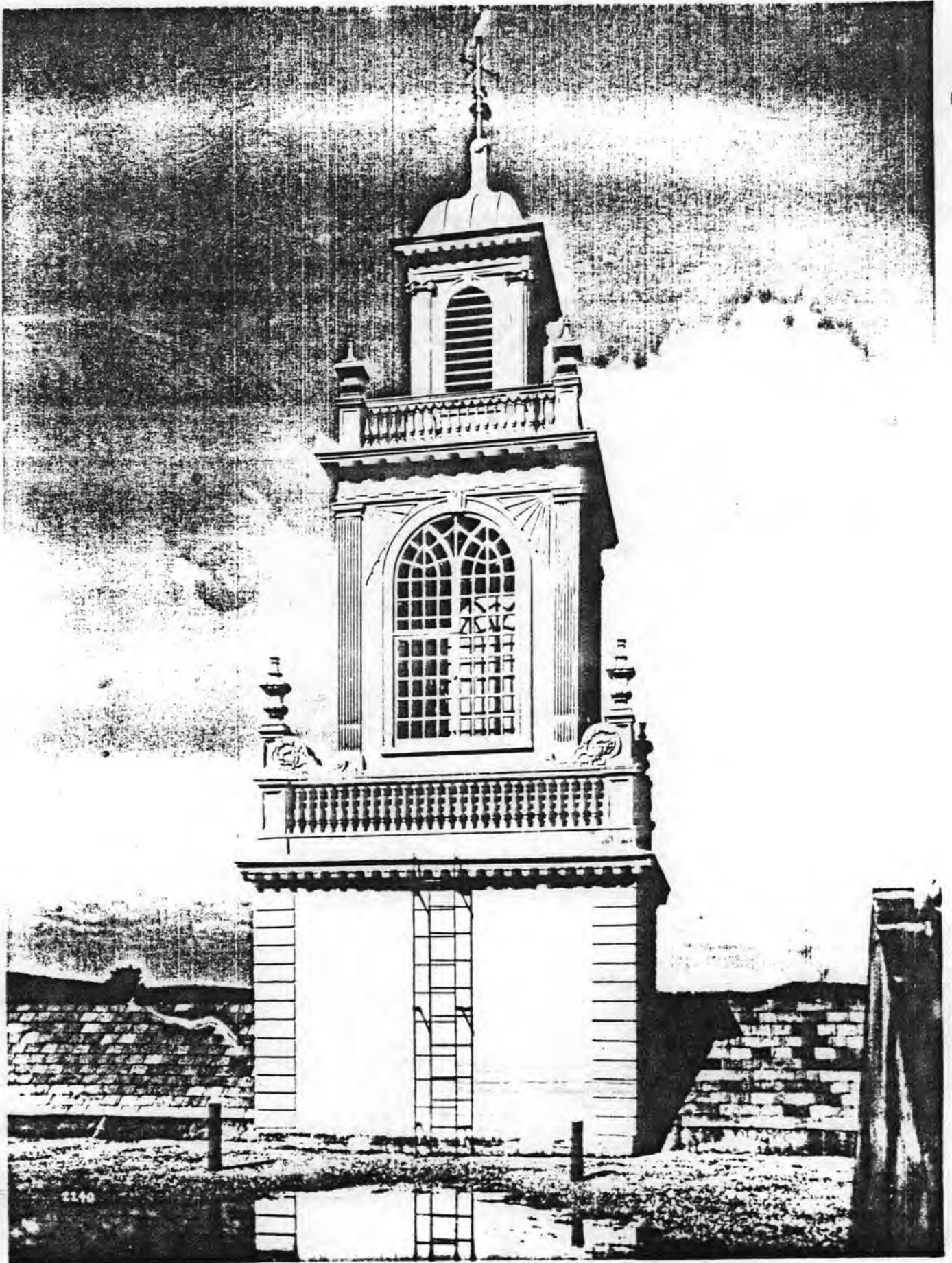
City

The Architect Jan. 1928  
Warren Jr. High School

Newton, MA-MRA



1928



*The structure built  
by Warren Dr. High School*

Newton, MA-MRA

2240

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

- 161. Second Church of Newton **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Delores Byers 2/16/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 162. Stratton, Edward B., House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Delores Byers 2/16/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 163. Towle, Loren, Estate **National Register** Keeper Delores Byers 2/16/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 164. Waban Branch Library **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Delores Byers 2/16/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 165. Walker Home for Missionary Children **Substantive Review** Keeper \_\_\_\_\_  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 166. Warren, Levi, Jr., High School **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Delores Byers 2/16/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 167. Boston College Main Campus **Substantive Review** Keeper Ret.  
Historic District Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 168. Church, William L., House **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Delores Byers 2/21/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 169. Farlow Hill Historic District **Entered in the National Register** Keeper Delores Byers 2/21/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_
- 170. Newton Cottage Hospital Historic District **Substantive Review** Keeper Beth J. Savage 2/21/90  
Attest \_\_\_\_\_

*Substantive Review*

*2/19-2/23/90*

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

REQUESTED ACTION: NOMINATION

PROPERTY NAME: Warren, Levi, Jr., High School

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: 90000032

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

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CLASSIFICATION

count       resource type

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STATE/FEDERAL AGENCY CERTIFICATION

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FUNCTION

historic       current

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DESCRIPTION

architectural classification  
 materials  
 descriptive text

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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

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BIBLIOGRAPHY

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GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

acreage       verbal boundary description  
 UTM's       boundary justification

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ACCOMPANYING DOCUMENTATION/PRESENTATION

sketch maps       USGS maps       photographs       presentation

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OTHER COMMENTS

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to

\_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



Levi F. Ware Junior High School  
1600 Washington St.  
Newton, MA

Medley Co

C. Jenkins

1/87

neg. @ Jackson Homestead

view - southeast

87-4-18

Newton, MA-MRA

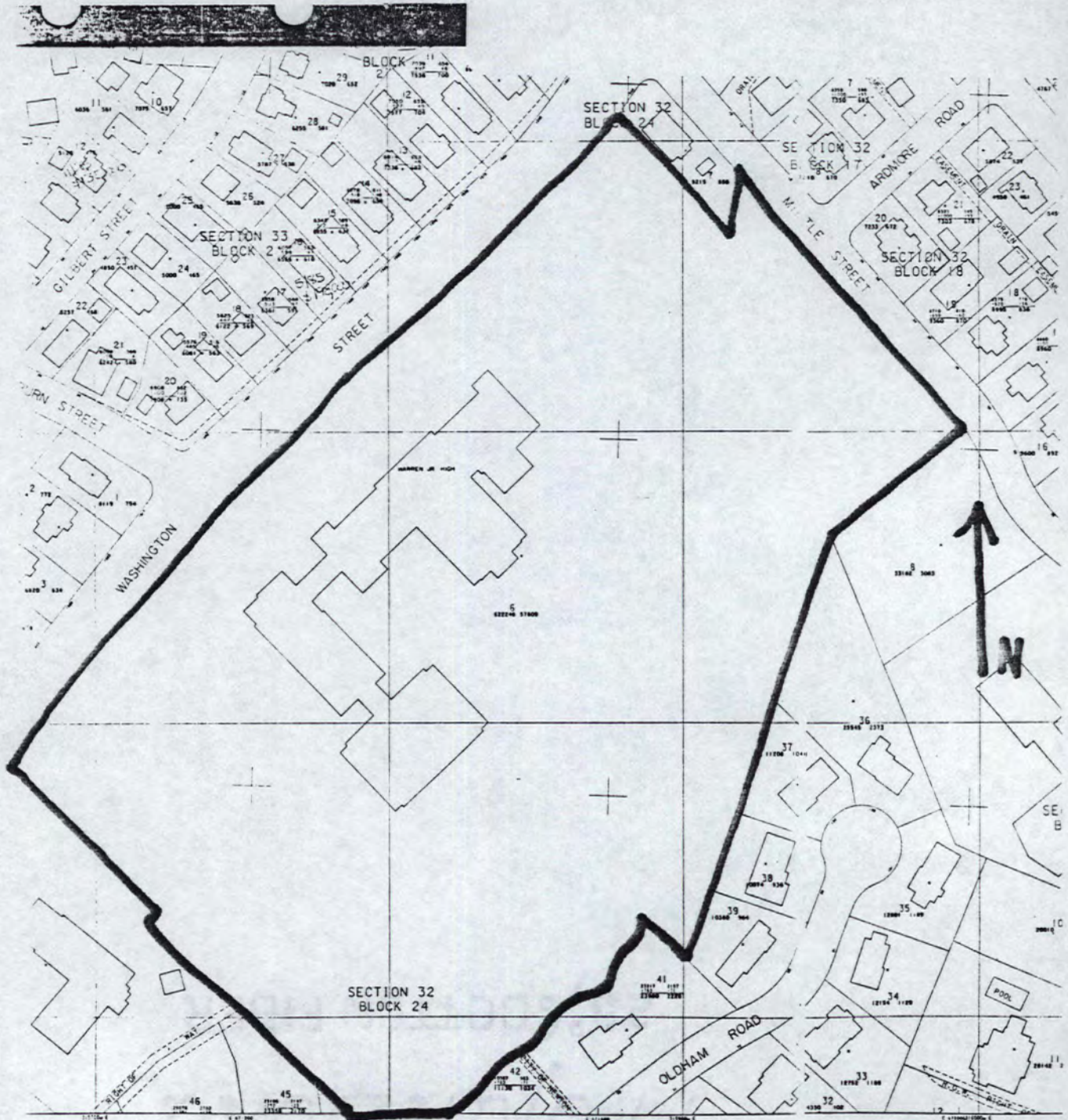
1600 Washington Street

SBL: 32-24-6

Assessors Map - Verified 1985

Page 53 NE

Scale 1"=40' Reduced 82 %



CITY OF NEWTON  
MASSACHUSETTS

SECTION 32 33  
BLOCK 24 2  
SCALE 1"=40'  
PAGE 53 NE

VERIFIED 1-1