FORM A - AREA

| Form numbers | in this area | Area letter |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1-62 | | К |
| | | |

Photo (3x3" or 3x5") Staple to left side of form

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 80 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02116

Photo number

Brookline MRA Town

Name of area (if any) Beacon Street

Historic District

General date or period 1890-1980

Sketch map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets (including route numbers, if any) and <u>indicate north</u>. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient)

SEE ATTACHED MAP

Note: This district runs from one USGS Quadrangle to another.

Boston South Quadrangle **UIM References:**

A: 19/326420/4690220

B: 19/326470/4690080

C: 19/324970/4689520

D: 19/324980/4689740

Newton Quadrangle

UTM References:

A: 19/324950/4689740

B: 19/324940/4689540

C: 19/322960/4689100 Recorded by Carla Benka

Organization Brookline Historical Comm.

June 1983 Date

> 19/322940/4689200 D:

(Staple additional sheets here)

Acreage: approximately 130 acres

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Describe physical setting, general character, and architecturally significant structures).

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Explain development of area, what caused it, and how it affected community; be specific).

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

SEE ATTACHED SHEETS

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Describe physical setting, general character, and architecturally significant structures).

The area under consideration is Brookline's portion of Beacon Street from Saint Mary's Street to Ayr Road (both at the Boston border) with a digression on to Tappan Street and Garrison Road to include a group of brick and stone townhouses, similar in style to other groups of townhouses found on the street.

Beacon Street, as defined above, is a bit over two miles in length and cuts across the northern part of Brookline, running from east to west. It is one of Brookline's major transportation routes and has the Cleveland Circle branch of the MBTA's Green line running down its center. The street's steepest grade is .04 as the road ascends to Summit Part, east of Coolidge Corner. The lowest point is at Carlton Street (17.4 feet above sea level); the higest point is Winthrop Road and Beacon (123 feet above sea level).

The street has always been commercial/residential in nature since it was laid out in the mid nineteenth century as a county way. Today there are (continued)

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE of area. (Explain development of area, what caused it, and how it affected community; be specific).

The laying out of Beacon Street in Brookline was the result of combining the creativity of Frederick Law and John Charles Olmsted with the financial and political dexterity of Henry Whitney. Although the original execution of the plan has been altered over the years, the concept of a primarily residential boulevard with a streetcar running down its center still remains in tact.

In 1814, the Great and General Court of Massachusetts passed a bill authorizing the construction of a dam across the basin of the Charles River, stretching from the Boston Common to Sewall's Point, now the approximate location of Kenmore Square. In 1821 a road over the top of the Mill Dame was opened and used first as a toll road and later as a public highway.

The northern section of Brookline thus became easily accessible from Boston, and several Boston merchants began to buy up large parcels of land in this area for farms and summer residences. For over twenty years nearly all of the land remained undeveloped; the 1844 map of Brookline shows only a few houses in the vicinity of the future Beacon Street. During the late 1840's George Griggs suggested the extension of the Mill Dam Road to what is now Cleveland Circle. Despite initial opposition, especially from Town Meeting, which thought the project too expensive, Beacon Street in Brookline was constructed as a county way in 1850-51. Built for \$18,000, a third of which was raised by private subscription, Beacon Street improved access to Boston and the means of contact within the town.

The 1855 map shows that a number of roads were laid out both north and south of BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued) Maps-1844, 1855, 1871; Atlases-1874, 1884, 1888, 1893, 1897, 1900, 1907, 1913 Brookline Chronicle- August 7, 1886, p.253; August 21,1886, p.270; Dec. 18, 1886 p.408; Dec. 4, 1886, p.1; Oct.1, 1892, p.344. Tucci, Douglass Shand, Built in Boston, New York Graphic Society; Boston, 1978; pp.112, 116-119; Curtis, John History of Brookline, p.127; Warner, Sam Bass, Streetcar Suburbs, p.25; Louis Hager, ed. History of the West End Railway, p.12 Charles Duncklee, Random Memories of Coolidge Corner, Brookline Historical Society papers, Vol. 6, 1936

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: Brookline | | Form No: K |
|-------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Property Name: | Beacon S | treet |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued. 2)

three major conmercial areas; Lower Beacon, from St. Mary's to Carlton Streets: Washington Square and Coolidge Gorner. The latter two areas developed around three of Brookline's older roads: Harvard Street, Washington Street, and Chestnut Hill Avenue. The residential structures which stood here during the late 19th and early 20th centuries were mostly single family homes, many of which were grand mansions, built by some of the area's more famous industrialists and merchants: King Gillette, Eben Jordan, John Webber, and George Mitton. These have been replaced with apartment houses, attached townhouses, and more recently, luxury condominiums. The commercial nodes alternating with residential blocks create a rhythm which Kevin Lynch notes in his book, Image of the City.

Brookline's portion of Beacon Street was constructed in 1850-51, but its present design derives from the concepts and plans of Frederick Law and John Charles Olmsted who proposed the transformation of a narrow country road into a 160 foot wide boulevard with one avenue for commercial/through traffic and one for pleasure driving. There were also lanes for cycling, riding and walking, and provisions were made for a streetcar to run down the center for the length of the street. According to this 1886 plan, trees were to be planted on each side of the railway track, making the cars less unsightly and obtrusive and "adding to the beauty of the street without making it into a park." (See attached comments by the Olmsteds for additional information.) Today the cycling and bridle paths have been replaced parking areas, and the elms which once lined the boulevard (except for the red and pin oaks around Corey Hill which were part of the original planting scheme) have been replaced with a variety of trees including green ash, sycamores, and oaks.

There are three major categories of buildings on this part of Beacon Street: commercial, residential, and religious/institutional. The oldest commercial structure in Coolidge Corner stands at the corner of Webster and Beacon. Called "The Willard", it was built in 1890 and was designed by Samuel Kelley, architect of a number of apartment houses in the Back Bay. The original arrangement of stores on the ground floor and apartments above still exists. In the same block is a branch of the Brookline Trust Company which dates from 1919. The architect, Thomas James, was a well-known designer of banks and was also the architect of the Shubert Theatre in Boston. This massive Neo-Classical structure serves as a strong contrast to the S.S. Pierce Building located across the street, at the corner of Harvard. It is probably the bsst known in Coolidge Corner and was the work of Winslow and Wetherell. Built in 1898-99, it bears a design which was influenced by the architecture of Medieval Germany and England. The location of the S.S. Pierce Building is next to the site of the first commercial structure in the area, the Coolidge and Brother store, built in 1858. Diagonally across is the Art Deco Bay Bank Norfolk County Trust Co., designed in 1930 by J. William Beal's Sons, executed in Indiana limestone with a polished granite base. For the most part, however, commercial structures on Beacon Street are one or two stories in height and constructed of pre-cast concrete or "cast stone" with such classical details as (continued)

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | Form No: | |
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| Brookline | | ĸ |
| Property Name: | Beacon S | treet |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued, 3)

egg and dart moldings, wide cornices, and urns. Most date from the 1920's and 30's. Known as "taxpayers", some, such as the one at 1042-54 Beacon Street, still retain older signs which contribute to the character of the structures. Typical residential Beacon Street buildings are three of four stories in height with flat roofs, flat facades alternating with rounded bays, and elaborate cornices, often with modillions, They are constructed of red (sometimes yellow) brick with stone trim, particularly around the windows and doors. This type can be seen as 1056-64; 1090-1120;1712-1726;1791-1801; 1803-1821; and 1888-1908 Beacon Street. Most of these were built as attached single family homes or attached triple dec kers. They date from the mid 1890's until approximately 1910. Today they are either condominiums, offices, or apartments, with units smaller than the original. Another type, although not so prolific, is the attached townhouse designed in the Chateauesque style. One block of such buildings is seen on the north side of Beacon Street, at 1394-1408. Originally nine houses designed by Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge in 1890, this brick and limestone block has been altered through the demolition of two of the houses, yet the dormers, towers, gables, and pinnacles still create a lively silhouette. Farther west is Richter Terrace, designed in 1889 by Fehmer and Page. Located at 1751-1763, it is one of the older structures on the street and one of seven terrace designed by Fehmer and Page. The others can be seen on Tappan Street and Garrison Road. Of these, three are designed in the Chateauesque style, one in the Flemish, and two in the Georgian Revival style.

Residential structures with unique designs range in style from The Wolloton (1070 Beacon), a "dumbbell" type apartment house to The Stoneholm (1514 Beacon), a Beaux-Arts Baroque courtyard apartment complex called "the most magnificent building of its type in Greater Boston" and "a splendid Baroque extravaganza" (Tucci). In between are such structures as Richmond Court (1209-1217 Beacon), designed in 1898 by Ralph Adams Cram and described as "the first apartment house in the northeastern United States massed and detailed like a great Tudor Manor about a courtyard open to the street." (Tucci) The Warwick at 1450-54 dates from a later period (1925), but still exhibits an association with English architecture and was designed with the courtyard concept in mind. Almost next door is The Colchester (1470), a Second Renaissance Revival type, the work of Arthur Bowditch who also designed The Stoneholm. The Colchester is particularly noteworthy for its decorative detailing.

At 1533 Beacon Street is the only remaining detached single family house built in the 19th century on this boulevard which was once lined with similar as well as larger homes.

Beacon Street is also the address of a number of houses of worship. Ralph Adams Cram was the architect for All Saints Church which stands at the intersection of Dean Road. It dates from 1894 and was built in the Gothic mode. Clarence Blackall's Temple Ohabei Shalom is a richly Byzantine synagogue which was built in 1928. Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge's Leyden Church is one of two churches which that firm designed in Brookline; the other is (continued)

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | Form No: |
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| Brookline | K |
| Property Name: Beacon S | treet |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

ARCHITECTURAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued, 4)

located on Walnut Street. This church was built in 1910 in a derivative of the Gothic style.

Many of the people involved with the late 19th century development of Beacon Street were also involved in the somewhat earlier development of the Back Bay. Often they used the same architects for the design of buildings in both areas. This fact and some deed restrictions which limited the building materials to brick and stone created a number of Beacon Street buildings in Brookline which strongly resembled Back Bay structures. In this and other wats, Beacon Street in Brookline was an extension of the fashionable Back Bay residential district.

New Construction

In spite of a strong Design Review By-law, the Town has seen the construction of a number of high-rise buildings whose designs are not sympathetic to existing 19th and early 20th century structures. Buildings such as The Atrium at 1265 Beacon Street and Regency Park at 1731 Beacon Street as well as 1369-73 and 1501 Beacon Street are incompatible in terms of their size, scale, and massing with neighboring properties. They lack the detailing of the older structures and deny their location by not acknowleding characteristic themes such as rounded bays, flat facades, and detailing around doors, windows, and at the roof cornices. In addition, inappropriate alterations have taken place to older structures, including the application of siding over masonry facades (1410-1414 Beacon Street, 1375-1393 Beacon Street) and the replacement of original windows with wooden sashes with windows of different configurations with metal frames (1411-1415 Beacon Street). However, there are instances of new construction whose designs do not detract from the streetscape such as the red brick structure at 1443 Beacon Street and the nearly completed 1111 Beacon Street.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | Form No: |
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Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued, 2)

Beacon Street and houses were built in the areas known today as Longwood and Cottage Farm. In addition, there were a few houses clustered at Harvard and Beacon Streets where, in 1857, members of the Coolidge and Griggs families built their general store.

The store was one of twenty-three buildings which stood on Beacon Street as late as the 1880's. Long stretches of farmland, much of which constituted the market gardens of the Griggs, Stearns, and Coolidge families, and vacant fields dominated the street. Some of the land east of St. Paul's Street was a morass; a swamp engulfed the land west of the Beacon Playground; and Cypress Swamp lay in the approximate location of the Amory Playground. In addition, a skating pond was located off Beacon Street, near the present Englewood Avenue; and Samuel Robinson's tanneries and tarpit stood in the hollow between Beacon and Washington Streets.

It was this undeveloped but potentially valuable land which Henry Whitney perceived to be a perfect location for a grand boulevard with a streetcar running down the middle. Aware of earlier opposition to "improve" Beacon Street, voiced especially by those people whose land and houses would have to be taken by eminent domain for any widening project, Whitney had begun to purchase.some of the available land along the street in 1879. Early in 1886 he formed a syndicate called the West End Land Company which, having raised one million dollars, purchased additional Beacon Street land for \$.40 per square foor. By the time Whitney was ready to present his project to the Brookline Board of Selectmen and the rest of the town for approval, he and/or the West End Land Company and Eugene Knapp, Whitney's agent/partner, owned about one half of the 1.7 million square.feet necessary to widen the street by two hundred feet.

Whitney, a Brookline resident, park commissioner, and member of the Brookline Water Board, hired Aspinwall and Lincoln, a Brookline engineering firm with an outstanding reputation to survey the land along the street. He then asked the Olmsteds, also Brookline residents, to draw up a plan for the widening. His undertakin met with temporary setbacks, not the lest of which was the Metropolitan Street Railway's opposition to operating the route unless it could construct the roadbed. Whit ney's reacted boldly by forming a syndicate of members from the West End Land Company which proceeded to purchase large amounts of Metropolitan stock along with the stock of four other street railways in Boston. He then offered to combine all five into the West End Street Railway Company, a proposal which won state approval.

Other objections, including the argument that Beacon Street was really a county and not a town way, and the fear that the project would be too costly, were also resolved. The state legislature classified the street as a town way, and Whitney donated his holdings on Beacon Street to the town, thus considerably lessening the cash cost of the project. He also contributed \$150,000 of his own money for the undertaking, and in a final gesture, agreed to reduce the proposed width to 160 feet. It should be mentioned that the street was widened at a cost of \$615,000, \$450,000 of which was carried by Staple to Investory for the undertaking the street was widened at a cost of \$615,000, \$450,000 of which was carried by

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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

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HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE (continued, 3)

the town. The assessed value of the land and buildings on each side of the street increased from \$1,955,000 in 1886 to \$6,288,900 in 1892.

Although Beacon Street was an extension of the fashionable Back Bay district in a variety of ways, it was also the symbol of Brookline's emergence from an agricultural community into a streetcar suburb. In addition, it served as the catalyst for the second major development phase of the town's growth in areas known today as North Brookline, Aspinwall Hill, Corey Hill, Aberdeen, and the Reservoir District.

The last parcel of land to be developed was between St. Paul and Hawes Streets; by 1907, the Amory House had been demolished and the land purchased by the Town for use as a playground. Today the mansions of industrialists and manufacturers have been destroyed and, in some cases, replaced with modern apartment houses and commercial blocks of one and two story buildings.

In 1971, the Brookline Planning Board reviewed the zoning by-law of the town and established an overall policy vis-a-vis Beacon Street to "restore and protect the residential qualities along the length of the street, and at the same time encourage new space in existing business centers for retail and professional uses." This policy also included "preserving the architectural quality and visual continuity of Beacon Street, recognizing it as a boulevard symbolic of Brookline's character."

The Beacon Street district meets NR criteria A,B,and C, reflecting the evolution of North Brookline from an agricultural community into a streetcar suburb; being the route of the first electric streetcar in the country; representing the boulevard concept in city planning as conceived and designed by Frederick Law and John Charles Olmsted; being the master plan of entrepreneur and President of the West End Land Company and West End Street Railroad Company, Henry Whitney; containing fine examples of attached town houses, commercial structures and residential hotels; and representing some of the work of such established architects as Winslow and Wetherell; Ralph Adams Cram; Clarence Blackall; Samuel D. Kelley; Arthur Bowditch; and Shepley,Rutan and Coolidge. In addition, it has served as a prototype for the "main streets" of other neighborhoods and communities, with long blocks of residential structures (single and multi-family), punctuated at major crossroads with commercial blocks and interspersed with institutional uses.

BEACON STREET IN BROOKLINE - AREA K

| MAP# | ADDRESS | DATE | ARCHITECT <u>s</u> | TATUS | ORIGINAL OWNER |
|---------------|---------------------|---------|---|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| R. S. C. A. | 999-1007 Beacon | 1906 | H.T. Underwood | С | Charles Hitchcock |
| | 1002 | 1929 | F.A. Norcress | NC | Arthur Russell |
| | 1004-1010 | 1936 | S.S. Eisenberg | NC | A. Kaplan |
| | 1009-9A | 1915 | Maurice Meade | С | Charles Hitchcock |
| | 1011 | 1900 | R.G. Wright | C | Edith Steveris |
| | 1012-16 | 1947-8 | Unknown | NC | Brown and Mugar |
| 1 Mary Street | 1013-1017 | 1898 | G. Wilton Lewis | С | Luther Merrill |
| | 1018 | 1891 | Lewis and Paine | c | Luther Merrill |
| K-1 | 1019-29 | 1895 | G. Wilton Lewis | c | Luther Merrill |
| | 1020-20A | 1940 | Saul Moffie | ŇC | I.H. Goodman |
| | 1022-24 | 1920 | F.A. Norcross | NC | Rotman and Babbitt |
| | 1024A | 1947 | Herman Feer | Č | Misha Bialez |
| | 1026-32 | 1939 | Saul Moffie | С | Samuel Barkin |
| K-2 | 1031-37 | 1914 | F.A. Norcross | С | Snider and Babbitt |
| | 1038 | 1912 | M. Boyle | C | George Johnston |
| K-3 | 1042-54 | 1921 | F.A. Norcross | C | George Johnston |
| K-4 | 1043-49 | 1889 | Silas Merrill | C | Silas Merrill |
| | 1053-71 | 1891 | Lewis and Paine | C | Luther Merrill |
| | 1056-64 | 1897 | Winslow&Wetherell | | Brookline Real Estate Ti |
| K-5 | 1070 | 1897 | Frederick Pope | C | S.C. Whiting |
| K-6 | | 1894 | Pope and Vinal | c | Albion Knowlton |
| K-7 | 1080 | 1909 | George Fuller | c | C. Newhall et al, trs. |
| K / | 1085-89 | 1895 | H.T. Allen | | H.T. Allen |
| K-8 | 1090-1120 | 1905 | George Fuller | C C | C. Newhall et al, trs. |
| K-0 | 1093-95 | 1914 | C.A.&F.N. Russell | | William Davidson |
| K-9 | * 1101 | 1913 | H.A. Perkins | | C. Newhall et al,trs |
| K-9 | * 1126-28 | 1920 | | C | |
| | 1129-1141 | 1920 | Harry Ramsay Herman Feer | C | Eugene Verges |
| K-10 | 1134-36 | 1915 | 가 걸렸다. 그는 것 것 같아요. 것 것 것 같아요. 그는 것 같아요. 것 같아요. 이번 정말 이번 물질을 통하는 것 같아요. 그는 것 같아요. 가지 않는 것 않는 것 같아요. 가지 않는 것 않는 것 같아요. 가지 않는 것 않는 것 않는 것 같아요. 가지 않는 것 않는 | C | Poorvu and Kahn |
| K-10 | 1134-50 | 1910 | George Jacobs | C | L&H Rothenburg |
| | 1151-63 | 1910 | M. Boyle | C | George Johnston Poorvu and Kahn |
| | | | Herman Feer | C | |
| Here and | 1152 | 1924 | H. Ramsay | C | Meyer Sawyer |
| | 1162 | 1924 | H. Ramsay | C | Meyer Sawyer |
| 17 1 1 | 1166 | 1916 | David Brown | C | Mrs. David Brown |
| K-11 | | 1927;25 | Clarence Blackall | | Temple Ohabei Shalom |
| K-12 | 1180 | 1921 | H.A. Perkins | С | C. Newhall et al, trs. |
| | 1195 | 1912 | James Mahan | С | Thomas Mahan |
| | 1197-99 | 1913 | James Mahan | C · | Thomas Mahan |
| | 1200 | 1953 | Sturgis Assoc. | NC | C. Newhall et al, trs |
| K-13 | 1203 | 1898 | Ralph Adams Cram | | Richmond Court Trust |
| K-14 | 1209-17 | 1898 | Ralph Adams Cram | С | Richmond Court Trust |
| | 1221 | 1898 | Ralph Adams Cram | С | Richmond Court Trust |
| K-15 | 1223 | 1903 | Charles Park | С | St. Paul Building Trust |
| 18-15 | 1232A-40 | 1909 | Frederick Johnsto | nc | Frederick Johnston |
| | 1243 | 1972 | Fred Lenox | NC | St. Paul Realty Trust |
| | 1244-48 | 1911 | M. Boyle | С | Frederick Johnston |
| Sec. Sec. | 1247-49 | 1907 | John Johnston | C ' | John Johnston |
| K-16 | 1253 | 1907 | F.M. Riley | С | James Littlefield |
| K-17 | 1258-64 | 1928 | F.A. Norcross | С | Samuel Altman |
| | 1265 | 1981-2 | Prager, Glassman&L | arkin NC | 1265 Associates |
| K-18 | 1272 | 1928 | Gay and Proctor | С | Rosen and Lewis |
| K-19 | 1278-90 | 1926 | Arthur Bowditch | С | Pelham Hall, Inc. |
| C. S. Mark | 1285 | 1946 | Sun Oil Co. | NC | Philip Bowker |
| Sec. Same | 1292-1308 | 1912 | Arthur Bowditch | NC | A.D. Towle |
| 1. A. SA. | *1111 Beacon Street | 1980 | Peter Dimeo | C | 1101 Trust |
| | | | | The second second | |

BEACON STREET IN BROOKLINE - AREA K (PAGE TWO)

| MAP# | ADDRESS | DATE | ARCHITECT ST. | ATUS | ORIGINAL OWNER |
|--------|-------------|---------|--------------------|----------|--|
| | 1295 Beacon | 1935 | M. Meade | С | U.S. Government |
| | 1297 | 1941 | Carney Goldberg | С | Curtis and Tucker |
| | 1297A | 1940 | Saul Moffie | C | Kendall Goodwin |
| | 1299 | 1911 | M. Boyle | Č | George Johnston |
| | 1309 | 1938 | Gulf Oil Co. | NC | |
| V 20 | 1310-22 | 1912 | | | Paul Jenney |
| K-20 | | | Arthur Bowditch | C | L.D. Towle |
| K-21 | 1319 | 1930 | J. William Beal | | Boulevard Trust Co. |
| K-22 | 1324-34 | 1898-99 | Winslow&Wetherel | | S.S. Pierce Co. |
| 17 0.0 | 1329-37 | 1950 | Sumner Schein | NC | Howard Cosgrove |
| K-23 | 1336-54 | 1913 | Page and Frothing | | S.S. Pierce Co. |
| K-24 | 1341 | 1919 | Thomas M. James& | | Brookline Trust Co. |
| K-25 | 1343-49 | 1893 | Ernest Boyden | C | Albion Knowlton |
| K-26 | 1351 A&B | 1898 | William Dykeman | С | John Shapleigh |
| K-27 | 1355-63 | 1890 | Samuel Kelley | С | John Shapleigh |
| | 1356 | 1897 | Unknown | NC | Hanna Cogswell |
| | 1360-64 | 1920 | Moroll&Rand | NC | W.P. Cotter |
| K-28 | 1366-76 | 1914 | Minor&Kalman | С | Atlas Realty Co. |
| | 13.69 - 73 | 1972 | Irving Salsberg | NC | Beacon Park Assoc. |
| | 1375-1393A | 1921 | George Jacobs | С | Snider&Drucker |
| K-29 | 1378-92A | 1903 | W.H. Andrews | С | P. Briggs Wadsworth |
| K-30 | 1394-1408 | 1890 | Shepley, Rutan&Coo | olidge C | Mary Wason |
| | 1397 | 1924 | S.S. Eisenberg | C | Frank Diliberto |
| K-31 | 1405-1419 | 1913 | Gay&Proctor | С | Gorfinkle&Barkin |
| | 1410-1414B | 1926 | F.A. Norcross | CC | Mary McDonough |
| K-32 | 1416-28 | 1925 | Gay&Proctor | С | Beacon Summit Realty |
| n 32 | 1425 | 1962 | Charles Guleseria | | Harry McCracken, jr. |
| | 1429-41 | 1921 | W.L.Minor | C | Herman Weisberg |
| | 1430-32A | 1928 | Saul Moffie | c | Rosen and Levine |
| | 1440 | 1949 | C.C. Crowell | NC | |
| | 1443 | 1978 | | | Sovereign Apartments Brookline Associates |
| K-33 | | 1925 | Glaser, deCastro& | C | |
| | 1450-4 | | Whiiten&Gore | C | The Warwick Co. |
| K-34 | 1455 | 1900 | E.P. Morse | | Susan Wadsworth |
| | 1459 | 1897 | E.P. Morse | C | P. Briggs Wadsworth |
| | 1463 | 1903 | W.H. Andrews | C | H.M. Warren |
| | 1469 | 1897 | E.P.Morse | С | P. Briggs Wadsworth |
| K-35 | 1470 | 1894 | | C | Caroline Foster |
| | 1471 | 1897 | E.P.Morse | C | P. Briggs Wadsworth |
| | 1473-5 | 1915 | Gay&Proctor | NC | H. Bertram Finer |
| K-36 | 1476-84 | 1915 | Silverman Engine | ering C | Louis Finn |
| | 1477 | 1897-8 | Arthur Bowditch | С | A. Bilafsky |
| K-37 | 1485-95 | 1896 | E.P. Morse | C | Peter Rice |
| | 1488-1500 | 1940 | Herman Feer | C | Poorvu&Kahn |
| | 1501 | 1974 | Irving Salsberg | NC | Beacon Towers |
| K-38 | 1514 | 1907 | | С | John Webber |
| | 1515-21 | 1923 | S.S. Eisenberg | С | Marden&Orlando |
| | 1525-7 | 1949 | Saul Moffie | С | Celia Fisher |
| | 1529 | 1903 | A.F. Haynes | C | Willard Chamberlain |
| | 1530 | 1964 | Leo Kornblatt As: | | Barclay House |
| K-39 | 1533 | 1890 | S.J. Brown | C | 이 방법에서 이렇게 잘 다니니 아니는 것은 것은 것이 같아요. 이렇게 집에서 집에 있는 것이 아니는 것이 있는 것이 없다. |
| K-39 | 1537-9 | 1910 | F.A. Norcross | C | Cyrus Noyles Boniamin Snidor |
| | | 1910 | | | Benjamin Snider |
| | 1540-60 | | Stull Associates | | B&L Associates |
| | 1547 | 1940 V | Herman Feer | C | Rairbanks Realty Trust |
| | 1555 | 1946 | Saul Moffie | С | Morris Fisher |

BEACON STREET IN BROOKLINE - AREA K (PAGE THREE)

| MAP# | ADDRESS | DATE | ARCHITECT STATUS | ORIGINAL OWNER |
|---------|----------------|---------|---|---|
| 100 | 1559-63 Beacon | 1911 | M. Boyle [,] C | Ellen Johnston |
| K-40 | 1566 | 1948 | Saul Moffie c | Temple Beth Zion |
| K-41 | 1569-71 | 1896 | S.D. Kelley C | Joseph Feldman |
| | 1572-74 | 1904 | W.H. Andrews C | J.L. Roll |
| V 1.2 | 1575-77 | 1893 | A.T. Morrill C | A.T. Morrill |
| K-42 | 1578-80 | 1911 | 있는 <u>것은 바람에 관련하</u> 에서 가지 것 같아요. 것은 것을 가지 않는 것을 것이다. 것은 것은 것은 것은 것이다. 것은 것은 것은 것을 가지 않는 것을 것을 것을 수 있다. 것을 | P Briggs Wadsworth |
| | 1581 | 1892 | | |
| | | | S.D. Kelley C | John Shapleigh |
| W 1.2 | 1584-92 | 1909 | W.H. Andrews C | Alice Palmer |
| K-43 | 1589 | 1902 | Benjamin Fox C | Century Building Trust |
| | 1595 | 1902 | Benjamin Fox C | Century Building Trust |
| | 1600 | 1959 | Arthur Manaselian NC | 1600 Beacon St. Trust |
| | 1601 | 1948 | L.M. Goldsmith c | Atlantic Refining Co. |
| | 1614-22A | 1897 | Charles Isenbeck C | Ernest Isenbeck |
| | 1615 | 1906 | J. Gardner Bartlett | \sim |
| K-44 | 1617-21 | 1898 | Ernest Boyden C | Charles Merrill |
| 1.1.1.1 | 1623-39 | 1907 | William Collett C | Rhodes Brothers |
| K-45 | 1624-32A | 1913 | William Collett C | Rhodes Brothers |
| | 1634-54 | 1916 | Funk and Wilcox C | Beacon Real Estate Tr. |
| | 1641-51 | 1938 | S.S. Eisenberg C | Brewster Realty Co |
| K-46 | 1653-55 | 1922 | John Cahill C | Edith Richard |
| | 1657-63 | 1928 | George Jacobs C | Annabel Coklan |
| | 1658-62 | 1959 | Holmes&Edwards NC | Lewandos-Brookline Trust |
| | 1665-71A | 1930 | Myer Louis C | Israel Cherry |
| | 1668 | 1953 | Richmond&Goldberg N | |
| | 1673-81 | 1911 | M. Boyle C | Charles Johnston |
| | 1674-78 | 1899 | Samuel Rantin C | Annie McKay |
| K-47 | 1680-82 | 1891 | O.F. Smith C | Uriah Coffin |
| | 1683-93 | 1901 | Gay&Proctor C | E.C. Eastman |
| | 1684 | 1896 | G. Fred Crosby C | John Jones |
| | 1688-94 | 1914 | F.A. Norcross C | Snider and Rudnick |
| K-48 | 1696-1706 | 1927 | Krokyn&Browne C | Gordon and Keenan |
| | 1710 | 1894 | Warren&Bacon C/ | G. Alice Watson |
| K-49 | 1712-26 | 1895 | A.L. Darrow C | D.W. Thomas |
| | 1717 | 1954 | Herman Feer NC | DaveLee Trust |
| | * 1728-42 | 1897 | James Galvin C | Israel Nesson |
| K-50 | 1748-54 | 1892 | Lewis&Paine C | Asa Caton |
| K-51 | | | | 그는 것이다. 사람이 집중 것은 것은 것을 것을 것을 수 있는 것을 하는 것을 물러 바람이 있는 것을 물러 가지 않는 것을 것을 하는 것을 것을 수 있다. 것은 것은 것을 하는 것을 수 있다. 것은 것을 하는 것을 하는 것을 수 있다. 것은 것을 하는 것을 하는 것을 하는 것을 수 있다. 것은 것은 것을 수 있다. 것은 것을 수 있다. 것은 것은 것은 것을 수 있다. 것은 것은 것은 것은 것은 것을 수 있다. 것은 것은 것은 것을 수 있다. 것은 것은 것은 것은 것은 것을 수 있다. 것은 |
| K-52 | 1751-63 | 1889 | | Knapp and Whitney |
| K-53 | 1756-62 | 1890-1 | Charles Mooney C | Asa Cotton |
| K-54 | 1768 | 1910 | B.J. Connolly C | Margaret Tobin |
| K-55 | 1773 | 1898 | | onc All Saints Parish |
| K-22 | 1774-78 | 1892 | S.E.Tobey C | Charles Morss |
| | 1780-82 | 1911 | Taylor; Gay&Proctor (| |
| 17 57 | 1784-86 | 1922 | Porter NC | B.J. Connelly |
| K-56 | 1788 | 1909 | Foley C | B.J. Connolly |
| K-54 | 1789 | 1913 | Cram, Goodhue&Fergus | onC All Saints Parish |
| K-57 | 1791-1801 | 1907 | Boyle C | George Johnston |
| K-58 | 1796-1812 | 1898-99 | Arthur Bowditch C | Gardiner Shaw |
| | 1803-21 | 1907 | Boyle C | George Johnston |
| | 1822-24 | 1909 | F.A. Norcross C | Benjamin Snider |
| K-59 | 1834 | 1902 | J. Marsden ParksC | Englewood Realty Trust |
| K-60 | 1841 | 1910 | Shepley, Rutan&Cooli | |
| | 1842 | 1971 | Bedar&Alpers NC | 1842 Realty Trust |
| | | | | |
| * | • 1731 | 1977 | Eisenberg-Haven _{NC} | Regency Park Associates |

BEACON STREET IN BROOKLINE - AREA K (PAGE FOUR)

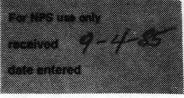
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NPS Form 10-900-a (3-82)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Inventory—Nomination Form

OMB No. 1024-0018 Expires 10-31-87



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|----------------------|----------------|--|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| | | | Multiple Resource Thematic Gro | | | dnr-11 |
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| | | Colk County, MASSA | CHUSETIS | Co | ver Multing | 10-17-8 |
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WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984)

boundary selection

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| Beacon Street Histo | oric District (Brookline | | | |
|--|---|------------------------|--|--|
| MRA) | ATTE DISTITUT (Brooking) | Substantive R | | |
| Norfolk County MASSACHUSETTS | | / | Working No | |
| MASSACHUSEIIS | | | Fed. Reg. Date: 2/3/87 | |
| | | | Date Due: 10/3/85- 10/19 | 185 |
| | | | Action:ACCEPT | 25 |
| resubmission | | | RETURN | |
| nomination by perso | n or local government | | REJECT | |
| owner objection | | | Federal Agency: | |
| appeal | | | | |
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| CRITERION C. FOR | ITS PLANNING IN RELATION | to THE | Reviewer <u>Mon Dry</u> STCP Discipline <u>Andritud mal</u> How Date <u>10-16-85</u> See continuation sheet | |
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| 1. Name | AND PLONNI | NG OF BROOKL | INE INTO A STREET CON SUBURG. | |
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| Category | Ownership | Status | Present Use | |
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| Has this property been de | etermined eligible? | 🗆 no | | |
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| Describe the present and | original (if known) physical appea | arance | | |
| summary paragraph | | | | |
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8. Significance

| Period | Areas of | Significance- | Check | and | justify | below |
|--------|----------|---------------|-------|-----|---------|-------|
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Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

| summary paragraph |
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| completeness |
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| 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 | 10. | Geogra | phical | 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 | sta | te |
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State Historic Preservation Officer signature

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13. Other

Maps
 Photographs
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Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to .

| S 11 | - | 0 | - |
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local

Phone:

FORM A - AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION 80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

MIMM

| К. | 1-62 |
|---|--|
| AMENDED NOMI | NATION |
| Town Brook | line Multiple Resource Area |
| Name of Area | (if any)Beacon Street |
| | Historic District |
| Present Use | Residential and Commercial |
| | |
| General Date | or Period <u>1890-1980</u> |
| General Date General Condi | |
| General Condi | f tion <u>Good</u> |
| General Condi Acreage | ition <u>Good</u> |
| General Condi Acreage <u>appr</u> Recorded byw/ | fition <u>Good</u> <u>roximately 130 acres</u> Carla Benka, Brookline Hist |

Photos (3"x3" or 3"x5" black & white) Indicate on back of each photo street addresses for buildings shown. Staple to left side of form.

Please refer to original submission.

Sketch Map. Draw a general map of the area indicating properties within it. Number each property for which individual inventory forms have been completed. Label streets including route numbers, if any. <u>Indicate north</u>. (Attach a separate sheet if space here is not sufficient).

Please refer to original submission.

NOTE: This district runs from one USGS Quadrangle to another.

| UTM REFERENCE | A: 19/326420/4680220 |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| | B: 19/326470/4690080 |
| | C: 19/324970/4689520 |
| | D: 19/324980/4689740 |
| USGS QUADRANGLE | Boston South |
| SCALE | 1:25.000 |

A: 19/324950/5689740 B: 19/324940/4689540 C: 19/322960/4689100 D: 19/322960/4689100 Newton Quadrangle 1:25,000

DEC 1 2 1985

Valenie Talmoge 12/5/85

NATIONAL REGISTER CRITERIA STATEMENT (if applicable)

See the last paragraph of Historical Significance.

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

The area under consideration is Brookline's portion of Beacon Street from Saint Mary's Street to Ayr Road(both at the Boston border) with a digression onto Tappan Stret and Garrison Road to include a group of brick and stone townhouses, similar instyle to other groups of townhouses found on the street. Continued

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE Explain historical importance of area and how the area relates to the development of other areas of the community.

The laying out of Beacon Street Brookline was the result of combining the creativity of Frederick Law and John Charles Olmsted with the financial and political dexterity of Henry Whitney. Although the original execution of the plan has been altered over the years, the concept of a primarily residential boulevard with a streetcar running down its center still remains intact.

In 1814, the Great and General Court of Massachusetts passed a bill authorizing the construction of a dam across the basin of the Charles River, stretching from the Boston Common to Sewall's Point, now the approximate location of Boston's Kenmore Square, on the Boston-Brookline border. In 1821 a road over the top of the Mill Dam was opened and used first as a toll road and later as a public highway.

Continued

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES

Maps--1844, 1855, 1871; Atlases--1874, 1884, 1888, 1893, 1897, 1900, 1913
<u>Brookline Chronicle</u>--Aug 7, 1886, p. 253; Aug 21, 1886, p. 270; Dec 18, 1888, p. 408;
<u>Dec 4, 1886, p.1; Oct 1, 1892, p. 344.</u>
<u>Tucci, Douglass Shand, Built in Boston</u>, New York Graphic Society; Boston, 1978; pp. 112, 16-11
<u>8785</u>

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: Broc | kline | Form No: |
|--------------------|-------|----------|
| Property Name: | | |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Architectural Significance, continued

Beacon Street, as defined above, is a bit over two miles in length and cuts across the northern part of Brookline, running from east to west. It is one of Brookline's major transportation routes and has the Cleveland Circle branch of the MBTA's Green Line streetcar running down its center. The street's steepest grade is .04 as the road ascends to Summit Part, east of Coolidge Corner. The lowest point is at Carlton Street (17.4 feet above sea level); the highest point is Winthrop Road and Beacon (123 feet above sea level).

The street has always been commercial/residential in nature since it was laid out in the mid nineteenth century as a county way. Today there are three major commercial areas, Lower Beacon, from St. Mary's to Carlton Streets: Washington Square and Coolidge Corner. The latter two areas developed around three of Brookline's older roads: Harvard Street, Washington Street, and Chestnut Hill Avenue. The residential structures which stood here during the late 19th and early 20th centuries were mostly single family homes, many of which were grand mansions, built by some of the area's more famous industrialists and merchants: King Gillette, Eben Jordan, John Webber, and George Mitton. These have been replaced with apartment houses, attached townhouses, and more recently, luxury condominiums. The commercial nodes alternating with residential blocks create a rhythm which Kevin Lynch notes in its book, Image of the City.

Brookline's portion of Beacon Street was constructed in 1850-51, but its present design derives from the concepts and plans of Frederick Law and John Charles Olmsted who proposed the transformation of a narrow country road into a 160-foot-wide boulevard with one avenue for commercial/through traffic and one for pleasure driving. There were also lanes for cycling, riding and walking, and provisions were made for a streetcar to run down the center for the length of the street. According to this 1886 plan, trees were to be planted on each side of the railway track, making the cars less unsightly and obtrusive and "adding to the beauty of the street without making it into a park. " (See attached comments by the Olmsteds for additional information.) Today the cycling and bridle paths have been replaced by parking areas, and the elms which once lined the boulevard (except for the red and pin oaks around Corey Hill which were part of the original planting scheme) have been replaced with a variety of trees including green ash, sycamores, and oaks.

There are three major categories of buildings on this part of Beacon Street: commercial, residential, and religious/institutional. The oldest commercial structure in Coolidge Corner stands at the corner of Webster and Beacon. Called "The Willard", it was built in 1890 and was designed by Samuel Kelley, architect of a number of apartment houses in the Back Bay. The original arrangement of stores on the ground floor and apartments above still exists.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | Form No: |
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| Brookline | K |
| Property Name: Beacon St | treet District |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Architectural Significance, conntinued

In the same block is a branch of the Brookline Trust Company which dates from 1919. The architect, Thomas James, was a well-known designer of banks and was also the architect of the Shubert Theatre in Boston. This massive Neo-Classical structure serves as a strong contrast to the S.S. Pierce Building located across the street, at the corner of Harvard. The S. S. Pierce Building is probably the best known building in Coolidge Corner and was the work of Winslow and Wetherell. Built in 1898-99, it bears a design which was influenced by the architecture of Medieval Germany and England. The location of the S.S. Pierce Building is next to the site of the first commercial structure in the area, the Coolidge and Brother store, built in 1858. Diagonally across is the Art Deco Bay Bank Norfolk County Trust Co., designed in 1930 by J. William Beal's Sons and executed in Indiana limestone with a polished granite base. For the most part, however, commercial structures on Beacon Street are one or two stories in height and constructed of pre-cast concrete or "cast stone" with such classical details as egg and dart moldings, wide cornices, and urns. Most date from the 1920s and 30s. Known as "taxpayers", some, such as the one at 1042-54 Beacon Street, still retain older signage that contributes to the character of the structures.

Typical residential Beacon Street buildings are three or four stories in height with flat roofs, flat facades alternating with rounded bays, and elaborate cornices, often with modillions. They are generally constructed of red (sometimes yellow) brick with stone trim, particularly around the windows and doors. This type can be seen as 1056-64; 1090-1120; 1712-1726; 1791-1801; 1803-1821; and 1888-1908 Beacon Street. Most of these were built as attached single family homes or apartment blocks. They date from the mid 1890s until approximately 1910. Today they are either condominiums, offices, or apartments, with units smaller than the original. Another type, although not so prolific, is the attached townhouse designed in the Chateauesque style. One block of such buildings is seen on the north side of Beacon Street, at 1394-1408. Originally nine houses designed by Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge in 1890, this brick and limestone block has been altered through the demolition of two of the houses, yet the dormers, towers, gables, and pinnacles still create a lively silhouette. Farther west is Richter Terrace, designed in 1889 by Fehmer and Page. Located at 1751-1763, it is one of the older structures on the street and one of seven terraces designed by Fehmer and Page. The others can be seen on Tappan Street and Garrison Road. Of these, three are designed in the Chateauesque style, one in the Flemish, and two in the Georgian Revival style.

Residential structures with unique designs range in style from the Wolloton (1070 Beacon), a "dumbbell" type apartment house to the Stoneholm (1514 Beacon)a Beaux-Arts Baroque courtyard apartment complex called "the most magnificent building of its type in Greater Boston" and "a splendid Baroque

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

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| Community: | Form No: |
| Brookline | K |
| Property Name:Beacon St | reet |
| Historic I | District |
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Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Architectural Significance, continued

extravaganza" (Tucci). In between are such structures as Richmond Court(NR: 1985) (1209-1217 Beacon), designed in 1898 by Ralph Adams Cram and described as "the first apartment house in the northeastern United States massed and detailed like a great Tudor Manor about a courtyard open to the street." (Tucci) The Warwick at 1450-54 dates from a later period (1925), but still exhibits an association with English architecture and was designed with the courtyard concept in mind. Almost next door is the Colchester (1470), a Second Renaissance Revival type, the work of Arthur Bowditch who also designed the Stoneholm. The Colchester is particularly noteworthy for its decorative detailing.

At 1533 Beacon Street is the only remaining detached single family house built in the 19th century on this boulevard which was once lined with similar as well as larger homes.

Beacon Street is also the address of a number of houses of worship. Ralph Adams Cram was the architect for All Saints Church which stands at the intersection of Dean Road. It dates from 1894 and was built in the Gothic mode. Clarence Blackhall's Temple Ohabei Shalom is a richly Byzantine synagogue which was built in 1928. Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge's Leyden Church is one of two churches which that firm designed in Brookline; the other is located on Walnut Street. This church was built in 1910 in a derivative of the Gothic style.

Many of the people involved with the late 19th century development of Beacon Street were also involved in the somewhat earlier development of the Back Bay of Boston. Often they used the same architects for the design of buildings in both areas. This fact and some deed restrictions which limited the building materials to brick and stone created a number of Beacon Street buildings in Brookline which strongly resembled Back Bay structures. In this and other ways, Beacon Street in Brookline was an extension of the fashionable Back Bay residential district.

New Construction

In spite of a strong Design Review By-law, the Town has seen the construction of a number of high-rise buildings whose designs are not sympathetic to existing 19th and early 20th century structures. Buildings such as the Atrium at 1265 Beacon Street and Regency Park at 1731 Beacon Street as well as 1369-73 and 1501 Beacon Street are incompatible in terms of their size, scale, and massing with neighboring properties. They lack the detailing of the older structures and deny their location by not acknowledging characteristic themes such as rounded bays, flat facades, and detailing around doors, windows, an at the roof cornices. In addition, inappropriate alterations have taken place to

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | | Form No: |
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| Brookline | | K |
| Property Name: | Beacon Sti Historic I | |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Architectural Significance, continued

older structures, including the application of siding over masonry facades (1410-1414 Beacon Street 1375-1393 Beacon Street) and the replacement of original windows with wooden sashes with windows of different configurations with metal frames (1411-1415 Beacon Street). However, there are instances of new construction whose designs do not detract from the streetscape such as the red brick structure at 1443 Beacon Street and the nearly completed 1111 Beacon Street.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | Form No: |
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| Brookline | K |
| Property Name: Beacon St Historic | treet |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Historical Significance, continued

The northern section of Brookline thus became easily accessible from Boston, and several Boston merchants began to buy up large parcels of land in this area for farms and summer residences. For over twenty years nearly all of the land remained undeveloped; the 1844 map of Brookline shows only a few houses in the vicinity of the future Beacon Street. During the late 1840s, George Griggs suggested the extension of the Mill Dam Road to what is now Cleveland Circle. Despite initial opposition, especially from Town Meeting, which thought the project too expensive, Beacon Street in Brookline was constructed as a county way in 1850-51. Built for \$18,000, a third of which was raised by private subscription, Beacon Street improved access to Boston and the means of contact within the town.

The 1855 map shows that a number of roads were laid out north and south of Beacon Street and houses were built in the areas known today as Longwood and Cottage Farm. (NR 1978). In addition, there were a few houses clustered at the intersection of Harvard and Beacon Streets where, in 1857, members of the Coolidge and Griggs families built their general store.

The store was one of only twenty-three buildings which stood on Beacon Street as late as the 1880s. Long stretches of farmland, much of which constituted the market gardens of the Griggs, Stearns, and Coolidge families, and vacant fields dominated the street. Some of the land east of St. Paul's Street was a morass; a swamp engulfed the land west of the Beacon Playground; and Cypress Amory Swamp lay in the approximate location of the armory playground. In addition, a skating pond was located off Beacon Street, near the present Englewood Avenue; and Samuel Robinson's tanneries and tarpit stod in the hollow between Beacon and Washington Streets.

It was this undeveloped but potentially valuable land which Henry Whitney perceived to be a perfect location for a grand boulevard with a streetcar running down the middle. Aware of earlier opposition to "improve" Beacon Street, voiced especially by those people whose land and houses would have to be taken by eminent domain for any widening project, Whitney had begun to purchase some of the available land along the street in 1879. Early in 1886, he formed a syndicate called the West End Land company which, having raised one million dollars, purchased additional Beacon Street land for \$.40 per square foot. By the time Whitney was ready to present his project to the Brookline Board of Selectmen and the rest of the town for approval, he and/or the West End Land Company and Eugene Knapp, Whitney's agent/partner owned about one half of the 1.7 million square feet necessary to widen the street by two hundred feet.

Whitney, a Brookline resident, park commissioner, and member of the Brookline Water Board, hired Aspinwall and Lincoln, a Brookline engineering firm with

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | Form No: |
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| Property Name: Beacon S | treet |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Historical Significance, continued

an outstanding reputation to survey the land along the street. He then asked the Olmsteds, also Brookline residents, to draw up a plan for the widening. His undertaking met with temporary setbacks, not the least of which was the Metropolitan Street Railway's opposition to operating the route unless it could construct the roadbed. Whitney reacted boldly by forming a syndicate of members from the West End Land company which proceeded to purchase large amounts of Metropolitan stock along with the stock of four other street railway in Boston. He then offered to combine all five into the West End Street Railway company, a proposal which won state approval.

Other objections, including the argument that Beacon Street was really a county and not a town way, and the fear that the project would be too costly were also resolved. The state legislature classified the street as a town way, and Whitney donated his holdings on Beacon Street to the town, thus considerably lessening the cash cost of the project. He also contributed \$150,000 of his own money for the undertaking, and in a final gesture, agreed to reduce the proposed width to 160 feet. It should be mentioned that the street was widened at a cost of \$615,000, \$450,000 of which was carried by the town.

In addition to its significance as a grand, landscaped boulevard as planned by nationally-noted landscape architects, F. L. and J. C. Olmsted, Beacon Street is also significant as a very early example of a major innovation in transportation technology, the development of the electric street railway. In February, 1888, the first non-experimental electric street railway system in the country went into operation in Richmond, Virginia. Developed by inventor and pioneering electrical engineer, Frank Julian Sprague, for the Union Passenger Railway Company of Richmond, the system conquered all of the major technological difficulties that previously had plagued the use of electricity to power street railways. Sprague's Richmond system established technology that remained standard in electric street railway operation through the mid-20th century.

Henry Whitney knew of Sprague's success in Richmond and, after a special demonstration of the Richmond System, determined to install such a system on the Beacon Street railway, originally planned to operate using a cable system. The Boston-Brookline section of the West End Street Railway, using Sprague's electric system, went into operation only eleven months after Richmond, in December, 1888. It appears that many of the initial difficulties which troubled the Richmond System seem to have been solved by the time the Beacon Street railway opened. In addition, the Beacon Street railway is exceptional for the incorporation of such an improvement as part of an important overall scheme of street improvements by Whitney and the Olmsteds. It is not known whether the Richmond Street Railway System survives.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| 11/1/23 | - - | and the second |
|--------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Community: Broo | okline | Form No: K |
| Property Name: | Beacon St Historic | |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Historical Significance, continued

The assessed value of the land and buildings on each side of the street increased from \$1,955,000 in 1886 to \$6,288,900 in 1892.

Although Beacon Street was an extension of the fashionable Back Bay district in a variety of ways, it was also the symbol of Brookline's emergence from an agricultural community into a streetcar suburb. In addition, it served as the catalyst for the second major development phase of the town's growth in areas known today as North Brookline, Aspinwall Hill, Corey Hill, Aberdeen and the Reservoir District.

The last parcel of land to be developed was between St. Paul and Hawes Streets; by 1907, the Amory House had been demolished and the land purchased by the Town for use as a playground. Today the mansions of industrialists and manufacturers have been destroyed and, in some cases, replaced with modern apartment houses and commercial blocks of one and two story buildings

In 1971, the Brookline Planning Board reviewed the zoning by-law of the town and established an overall policy vis-a-vis Beacon Street to "restore and protect the residential qualities along the length of the street, and at the same time encourage new space in existing business centers for retail and professional uses." This policy also included "preserving the architectural quality and visual continuity of Beacon Street, recognizing it as a boulevard symbolic of Brookline's character."

The Beacon Street district meets NR criteria A, B, and C, reflecting the evolution of North Brookline from an agricultural community into a streetcar suburb; being the route of the second extensive electric streetcar in the country; representing the boulevard concept in city planning as conceived and designed by Frederick Law and John Charles Olmsted; being the master plan of entrepreneur and President of the West End Land Company and West End Street Railroad Company, Henry Whitney; containing fine examples of attached town houses, commercial structures and residential hotels; and representing some of the work of such established architects as Winslow and Wetherell; Ralph Adams Cram; Clarence Blackall; Samuel D. Kelley; Arthur Bowditch; and Shepley, Rutan and Coolidge. In addition, it has served as a prototype for the "main streets" of other neighborhoods and communities, with long blocks of residential structures (single and multi-family), punctuated at major crossroads with commercial blocks and interspersed with institutional uses.

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION Office of the Secretary, Boston

| Community: | Form No: |
|--------------------------|----------|
| Brookline | K |
| Property Name: Beacon St | |

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

Bibliography and/or References

 Maps-1844, 1855, 1871; Atlases-1874, 1883, 1888, 1893, 1897, 1900, 1907, 1913
 Brookline Chronicle-August 7, 1886, p. 253; August 21, 1886, p. 270; Dec. 18, 18% p. 408; Dec. 4, 1886, p. 1; Oct. 1, 1892, p. 344;
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 Charles Duncklee, "Random Memories of Coolidge Corner", Brookline Historical Society Papers, vol. 6, 1936;
 Boorstin, Daniel J., The Americans: The Democratic Experience, p. 264;
 Passer, Harold C., Frank Julian Sprague: Father of Electric Traction, 1857-1934, pp. 212-29.

additional Info

85003322

WASO Form - 177 ("R" June 1984) UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES EVALUATION/RETURN SHEET

| | | | InSetantilys 1 | N.F. | |
|--|--|--|----------------------|---|---|
| Beacon Street (Brookline MR Norfolk Count MASSACHUSETTS | y | trict | | Working No DEC 12 K Fed. Reg. Date: | 985 |
| resubmission nomination by pers owner objection appeal | on or local government | | | Action:ACCEPT RETURN REJECT Federal Agency: | |
| Substantive Review: | 🗆 sample | request | appeal | NR decision | |
| Reviewer's comments: Accept ad Came to of the d | ditional ing light follo istrict. | lormation wing the | which listing | Accept allot Recom./Criteria_inform Reviewer Discipline Datesee continuation sheet | nation nation |
| Nomination returned fo | | ections cited below sons discussed belo | w | concur - Patrick And | luis 186 |
| 1. Name | | an ann an tha an tha Tha an tha an t | | | and the second second second |
| 2. Location | | | | | |
| 3. Classification | and the second | | | | |
| Category | Ownership Public Acquisitio | n | Status Accessible | Present Use | |
| 4. Owner of Property | | | | | |
| 5. Location of Legal De | scription | | | | at flering and |
| 6. Representation in Ex | isting Surveys | | | | and the second second |
| Has this property been o | determined eligible? | 🗆 yes 🛛 | no | | |
| 7. Description | | ing Balanta proprio and the transmission | territe care care of | | and the first second |
| Condition excellent good fair | <pre>deteriorated ruins unexposed</pre> | Check o una alter | Itered | Check one | 9 |
| Describe the present and | d original (if known) ph | ysical appearance | | | |
| summary paragraph completeness clarity alterations/integrity dates boundary selection | | | | | |

8. Significance

| of Significance-Check an | id justify below |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| | of Significance-Check an |

Specific dates Builder/Architect Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

| summary parage | raph | | |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----|
| completeness | 12 | 070 | |
| Clarity | | U U U U U | |
| applicable criter | ria | | |
| justification of | | necked | |
| relating significa | | | |
| Context | | | |
| relationship of i | ntegrity | y to significar | nce |
| justification of | exception | on | |
| Other | | | |

9. Major Bibliographical References

10. Geographical Data

| Acreage of nominated property | $b_{1} \otimes b_{2} \otimes b_{1} \otimes b_{2}$ |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 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:

date

| | national |
|------|----------|
| Same | national |

_state ____local

State Historic Preservation Officer signature

title

13. Other

Maps
 Photographs
 Other

Questions concerning this nomination may be directed to _____

Signed_

Date .

Phone: ____



#51791-97 Beaun St Brookline MRA Brochline, MA North Side - Unter Beaconst.



South Side - Lower Beacon St # 1090-1120 Beaconst Brookline Jules Brookline, MA



North side of lowier Beacon st #5 1030-1128 1073-1101

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA

2-85-



South side of Beacon St

1177 (Ohabei Shalon) - 1223

Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA

2-85



North Side of Beacopst - Carno of Wornick 1796-1812 Beacon st 1893-99 arthur Boud teh Brookline MRA Brookline, MA



NorTh Si ile Of Beaco St between Willistort Cores 1748-54 Beacan St 1892-Leevist Paule Brookline MRA

Brookline, MA



Vorth such of Bours &? it summer Ave

14/6-1440 Beacon St 14-16-1428 5135 1430-32A-1928 Saul hoffice

1925-Gay & Procrove

1440-1949- C.C. Crowell

Brookline, MA Brookline, MA



South Side of Benon Sto at he inthing Roll (Wahnoten Square)

1653-63 Blacon St 1922 John Cahill Brookline MRA Brookline, MA



Bearcon St (500+4 sipe) # 5 1053-1071 5/85

Brookline MRA Brookline, MA



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1366-1386A Beacan St

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South Side of Beecon St. Cast of Coolidge co

The Atriving 1265 Blacon St 5/25-

1981-2. Prayer, Classman's lastin Brookline MRA Brookline, MA

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1371-1393A Blacon St.

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1369-73 1371- 1972 Ieving Salsberg Brookline MRA Brookline, MA



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1731 Beacanst

Brockline MRA Brookline, MA



South sills of Boecen ST. cast of Washington Sydare

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Beaccy St- # 1285 5/85 1946

Brookline MRA Brookline, MA



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1897 Charles Isenbeck 17 18

Brookline, MA



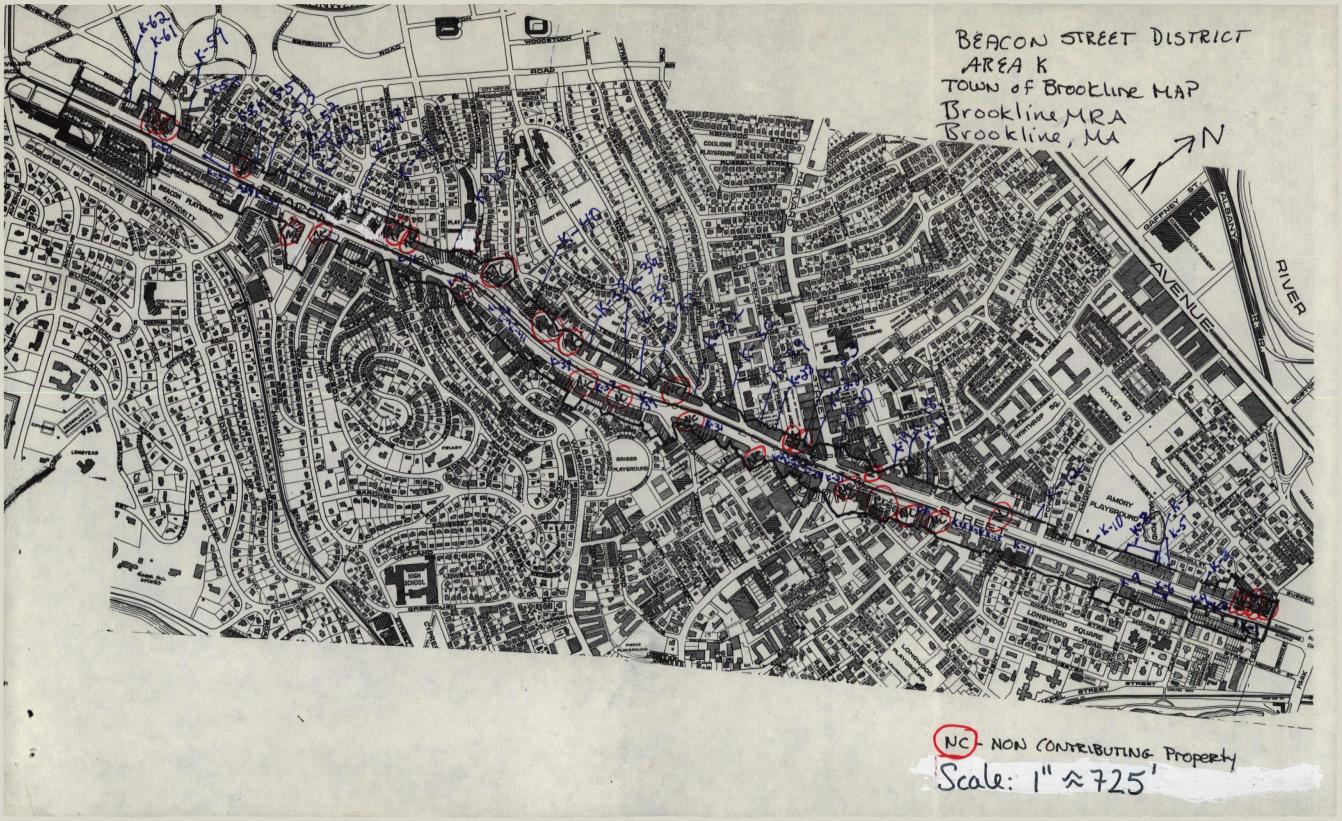
North side A Beacon St 1324 Beacon (55 Pierce) - 1408 Beacon Brooklive MRA Brookline, MA

2-85



North side of upper Blacen St #3 1874 -1908 Brookline MRA Brookline, MA

2-85



RECEIVED Brotkåre MRA

JUN -7 1985

MASS. HIST. COMM.

Steven Chin 1037 Beacon Street Brookline, Ma 02146 June 4, 1985

Massachusetts Historical Commission Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office of the Secretary of State 80 Boylston Street Boston, Ma 02116

Dear Valerie A. Talmage:

I am the current owner of record of the building located at 1037 Beacon St., Brookline, Ma. This building is currently being considered for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

I am the sole owner of this building and I object to having my building listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Thank you for having considered my building for this honored listing but I would rather not have my building be a part of more Federal bureaucracy.

Respectfully yours

Steven Chin

Subscribed to before me this 4th day of June 1985

Notary public Jan. 2, 1992 My commission expires

KM.

Beacon St HD



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

July 15, 1985

Arthur J. Broder, D.M.D. 1908 Beacon Street Brookline, MA 02146

Re: Objection to listing of 1908 Beacon Street, Brookline, MA on the National Register

Dear Dr. Broder:

Your letter of June 18, 1985, which we received July 12, 1985, was not a notarized objection to the listing of 1908 Beacon Street, Brookline on the National Register of Historic Places. Your objection cannot be accepted unless it is notarized. If you wish your objection to be noted, you must submit a notarized objection to this office. Please feel free to call if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kevin C. McLean Legal Counsel Massachusetts Historical Commission

KCM/1s

flew/MRA 52 Beacon 87 HD

Spiros & Pota Stavropoulos 1673 A Beacon Street Brookline MA 02146

June 16 1985

Massachusetts Historical Commission C/O Valerie A. Talmage

RE; OBJECTION for listing 1673-1681 as Historical Building.

We, Spiros and wife Pota Stavropoulos certify that we are the sole owners of the above property and object to be listed as Historical building.

Spilo Stalagando

Pota Stavropoulos

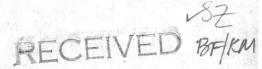
MIDDLESEX,SS

JULY 5, 1985

THEN APPEARED THE ABOUR NAMED, SPIROS STAVROPOULOS AND POTA STAUROPOULDS, AND ACKNOWLEDED THE ABOUE STATEMENT TO BE THEIR FREE ACT AND DEED, BEFORE ME.

Clarle A. Katsener

NOTARY PUBLIC my commission Expires Averst 31, 1880



UUN 24 1985

MASS. HIST. COMM. .

Spiros & Pota Stavropoulos 1673 A Beacon Street Brookline MA 02146

11

June 16 1985

Massachusetts Historical Commission

C/O Valerie A. Talmage

RE; OBJECTION for listing 1673-1681 as Historical Building.

We, Spiros and wife Pota Stavropoulos certify that we are the sole owners of the above property and object to be listed as Historical building.

Spiros Stavropoulos

alas Stavropoulos

June 16, 1985

There appeared before me this date, Spiros Stavropoulos and Pota Stavropoulos and affixed the foregoing signatures.

3. Jours Quinton B. Jones Justice of the Peace

My Commission Expires: April 4, 1991

ARTHUR J. BRODER, D. M. D. 1908 BEACON ST. BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS 02146

TELEPHONE 277-5200

June 18, 1985 MASS. HIST. COMMA To; Valerie A. Talmage Exec. Director State Historic Preservation Officer Mass. Historical Commission

As sole owner, I hereby object to my property at 1908 Beacon St., Brookline, Ma being listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Please see that my property is not listed in the National Register of Historic Places, either alone, or in conjunction with the Brookline Multiple Resource Area.

Sincerely,

alter flordel

Arthur J. Broder D.M.D.

AJB/dmh

Mut be Notarized

JUN 24 1985

RECEIVED

MASS. HIST. COMM.

June 21, 1985

Ms. Valerie A. Talmage Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer Ma. Historical Commission 80 Boylston St. Boston, Ma. 02116

Dear Ms. Talmage:

I am herein submitting a notorized statement certifying that I am the sole trustee of the Beacon Amory Realty Trust which owns 1134, 1136, 1140 and 1146 Beacon St. in Brookline, Ma. In that capacity, I hereby object to listing in the national register in the manner detailed by your letter of may 16, 1985.

If any further action is necessary to object to a listing, kindly inform me forthwith.

Thankyou.

truly your



Samuel Shactman & Son Real Estate Samuel Shactman David Shactman

> 89 State Street Boston, Mass. 02109 227-3987

File w/MRA 52 Beacon St HD

RECEIVED

JUN = 1985

MASS. HIST. COMM.

34 Beals Street Brookline, Massachusetts 02146 June 24, 1985

Ms. Valerie A. Talmage Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer Massachusetts Historical Commission 80 Boylston Street Boston, Massachusetts 02116

Dear Ms. Talmage:

As per your instructions, we enclose a notarized statement stating our objection to your listing our property at 1572 Beacon Street, Brookline, Massachusetts as a historical landmark.

Sincerely yours,

Lou Birger Riva Birger

We are the owners of the property at 1572 Beacon Street, Brookline, Massachusetts. We object to having our property listed as a historic landmark. June 24, 1985.

Riva Berge

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Norfolk County

.....

June 24, 1985

Then personally appeared the above named Lou Birger Riva Birger, who acknowledge that they have executed the foregoing instrument as their free act and deed, before me. Notary Public

My commission expires: 1-13-89



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

June 25, 1985

Spiros and Pota Stavropoulos 1673A Beacon Street Brookline, MA. 02146

Re: Objection ato listing 1673-1681 Beacon Street on the National Register

Dear Spiros and Pota Stavropoulos:

In order to object to the listing of your property on the National Register, you need to have your objection signed by you and properly notarized. The objection which you submitted was attested to by a justice of the peace (it is not clear whether he is also a notary public) and, in any event, did not contain the correct language for a proper notarization. Any notary should be able to do this for you. A notary public should be available at your local insurance agency. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Kevin C. McLean Legal Counsel

KCM/1s



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

June 25, 1985

Mr. David Shactman Samuel Schatman & Son Real Estate 89 State Street Boston, MA. 02109

Re: Objection of Beacon Amory Realty Trust to listing 1134, 1136, 1140 and 1146 Beacon Street on the National Register

Dear Mr. Schactman:

In order to object to the listing of your property on the National Register, you need to have your objection signed by you and properly notarized. The objection which you submitted was not notarized and no notarized statement was included in your submission. If you wish to have your objection recognized you must submit your objection in the proper form. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely Kevin C. McLean

Legal Counsel

KCM/1s

file w/Brookline URA Beacon 87 HDSZ

RECEIVED

JUL - 3 1985

MASS. HIST. COMM.

June 28, 1985

Ms. Valerie A. Talmage Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer MA Historical Commission 80 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02116

Dear Ms. Talmage:



. .

Samuel Shactman & Son Real Estate Samuel Shactman David Shactman

> 89 State Street Boston, Mass. 02109 227-3987

I am herein submitting a notarized statement certifying that I am the sole trustee of the Beacon Amory Realty Trust which owns 1134, 1136, 1140 and 1146 Beacon Street in Brookline, MA. In that capacity, I hereby object to listing in the national register in the manner detailed by your letter of May 16, 1985.

If any further action is necessary to object to a listing, kindly inform me forthwith.

Thank you.

truly yours

David Shactman

My. Commission expires: Nov. 28, 1991

July 9, 1985

Massachusetts Historical Commission Office of the Secretary of State State House Boston, MA 02133 Attn: Valerie A. Talmage

Dear Ms. Talmage:

I am the sole owner of the property at 1685 Beacon Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02146.

Pursuant to your letter to me, I do not wish to have this property listed in the National Register of Historical Places.

Very truly yours, -Janina Refalle 41)

Janine R. Galler

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

Norfolk, ss.

July 9, 1985

in white.

Then personally appeared the above named Janina R. Galler and acknowledged the foregoing to be her free act and deed before me.

Notary Public My Commission Expires 6/11/87

Sile W/MRA SZ Beacon 87 40

Michael M. Wick M.D. 1180 Beacon Street Suite 6A Brookline, MA 02146 (617) 232-2637

20 July 1985

Valerie A. Talmadge Mass. Historical Commission Office of Secretary of State 80 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02116

Dear Ms Talmadge:

I object to the listing of my property at 1180 Beacon Street, Brookline MA 02146 in the National Register of Historic Places as is my right under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1980 and Federal regulations 36 CFR Part 80.

Thank uou.

Sincerely,

Mulalla delle

Miachael M. Wick M. D.

my commission acques 1/4/91 <u>Ruth Anne White</u> Noting Public



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

August 21, 1985

Ms. Carol Shull, Chief National Register of Historic Places National Park Service Department of the Interior 18th and C Streets, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20240

Dear Ms. Shull:

Enclosed please find one notarized owner objection to the listing of 1685 Beacon Street, Brookline, Massachusetts, a property within the <u>Beacon Street Historic District</u> in the Brookline Multiple Resourse Area. The objection was omitted from the packet sent to you on August 15, 1985, This brings the total number of legal objections for the Beacon Street Historic District to five, which does not constitute a majority of property owners.

Sincerely,

Evall J. Dinmemian

Sarah J. Zimmerman Director, Preservation Planning Massachusetts Historical Commission

Enclosure

SJZ/dr

AUG 2 9 1985



P284 880 911

DEC 1 2 1985

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

December 6, 1985

Carol Shull, Keeper National Register of Historic Places Dept. of the Interior, National Park Service P.O. Box 37127 Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

Dear Ms. Shull:

I hereby request that the Multiple Resource Area nomination to the National Register for Brookline, Massachusetts be amended to include the following properties:

Beacon Street Historic District (listed to the NR: 10/17/85)

The Massachusetts Historical Commission staff received some new information about this district after it had been listed to the National Register. Both the Historical Significance and the Criteria statement have been amended to reflect the fact that the electric streetcar system in the district was the second, not the first, in the United States. This copy of the nomination should replace the copy you currently have on file, although the photographs and maps from the original should be transferred to this copy.

The Country Club, 191 Clyde Street

This property had been held back from the MRA until the Massachusetts Historical Commission staff received more information on the outbuildings and their relative significance to the nomination.

Both of these properties have <u>already been mapped</u> on the USGS map that was submitted to you with the bulk of the nomination.

As the designated State Historic Preservation Office for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate these properties for inclusion in the National Register and certify that they have been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The properties have been voted eligible by the State Review Board. Owners were notified of pending State Review Board consideration 30-75 days before the meeting and were afforded the opportunity to comment. Comments received to date are attached to the nomination forms.

Sincerely,

almoor alerie

Valerie A. Talmage ⁰ Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer Massachusetts Historical Commission

enclosure