

City of Newton City Historic Buildings Survey

Phase I: Evaluation of Historic Significance of City Buildings



April 11, 2012



BUILDING CONSERVATION ASSOCIATES INC

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City of Newton

City Historic Buildings Survey

Phase I: Evaluation of Historic Significance of City Buildings

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City Historic Buildings Survey Newton, Massachusetts

Phase I

Evaluation of Historic Significance of City Buildings

Introduction

Building Conservation Associates, Inc. (BCA) was contracted to perform a two-part survey of buildings owned by the City of Newton. Phase I of this project was to perform an exterior survey of all 77 buildings owned by the City. The purpose of the Phase I survey was to identify which of these buildings have enough historical significance to merit inclusion in the more in depth Phase 2 Survey of historic buildings. The Phase 2 historic building survey will provide an analysis of historical significance, description of historically significant architectural features, and recommendations for treatment for each building. The City will use this information to guide future planning for these historic resources.

This report summarizes the methodology and findings of BCA's preliminary evaluation of historic significance for each building owned by the City of Newton and will be reviewed and approved by the City prior to commencing the Phase 2 work.

Survey Methodology

As part of the preliminary evaluation of historic significance every building owned by the City of Newton was inspected in the field and evaluated for historic significance using criteria developed from the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation.

The National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation states:

The quality of significance in American history, architecture, archeology, engineering, and culture is present in districts, sites, buildings, structures, and objects that possess integrity of location, design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling, and association, and:

- A. That are associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history; or
- B. That are associated with the lives of significant persons in or past; or
- C. That embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or that represent the work of a master, or that possess high artistic values, or that represent a significant and distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; or
- D. That have yielded or may be likely to yield, information important in history or prehistory.

In addition to evaluation by the National Register criteria, the buildings were also surveyed for architectural character and their degree of "integrity" – the presence or absence of the visible features that tie each structure to its historic context. A preliminary list of basic character defining features, observable features that comprise the appearance of a building, was developed for each structure.

Due to the brief visual nature of the Phase I survey, the evaluation relies primarily on the concept of historic significance as embodied in the physical characteristics of the buildings and their relative level of historic integrity rather than the more complete picture that would be

provided through historic research. However, architectural character and historic integrity do provide a good indicator for whether a building is deserving of more in-depth study as part of the subset of buildings to be evaluated in detail in the historic buildings survey that is Phase 2 of this project. An overview of basic historic information for each building was obtained from the Massachusetts Historical Commission's "Form B" building inventory, which are available for almost every building included in the survey.

Each building owned by the City of Newton was evaluated using the criteria above and was assigned a level of historic significance from one (high significance) to four (no significance). The specific criteria used in determining this level of significance are noted on the individual building evaluation forms. It is recommended that buildings assigned to categories 1 and 2 be included in the full historic building survey, subject to review by the City. Being assigned to Category 3 does not imply that a structure has no value. Some of the buildings in this category are of relatively recent construction. For example, the Newton Free Library (completed in 1991) is an important civic structure with great importance to the City, but is still too new to be included in a historic survey. Other buildings, such as some of the architecturally interesting schools, fire stations constructed within the City in the 1950s and 1960s, and the World War II-era Quonset Hut in the Crafts Street DPW yard, will undoubtedly become historically significant as time progresses and as more buildings from this time period disappear or lose their original architectural integrity through alterations.

Resources and Future Recommendations

Category 3 Buildings of Interest

The following buildings were listed in Category 3, but are of architectural or civic interest. It is highly recommended that these buildings be re-evaluated within the next decade.

Countryside Elementary School
Crafts Street Quonset Hut
Fire Station #3
Horace Mann Elementary School
Mason-Rice Elementary School
Newton Free Library
Zervas Elementary School

Bibliography

The following resources were used to develop the preliminary survey criteria:

National Register Criteria for Evaluation

http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/nrb15/nrb15_2.htm

History in the National Park Service: Themes & Concepts

http://www.nps.gov/history/history/hisnps/NPSThinking/themes_concepts.htm

Nelson, Lee H. *Preservation Brief 17: Architectural Character – Identifying the Visual Aspects of Historic Buildings as an Aid to Preserving Their Character*. Washington DC: Technical Preservation Services, National Park Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, 1988.

<http://www.nps.gov/history/hps/tps/briefs/brief17.htm>

Form B Building Inventory Forms for the buildings were obtained from the Massachusetts Historical Commission via the Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System (MACRIS):

<http://mhc-macris.net/index.htm>

Phase I: Preliminary Significance Rankings

(Ranked Alphabetically by Significance Level)

Building	Address	Year Built	Listed on National or State Register?	Preliminary Significance Level
Auburndale Library	375 Auburn Street	1927	NR - Individual	1
City Hall	1000 Commonwealth Avenue	1932	NR - Individual	1
Crafts Street Stable/Garage	90 Crafts Street	1894	NR - Individual	1
Elliot Street Operations Center	74 Elliot Street	1926	NR - Individual	1
Fire Department Headquarters	1164 Centre Street	1928	Eligible for NR - Individual	1
Health Department Building	1294 Centre Street	1927	NR - Individual	1
Jackson Homestead	527 Washington Street	1809	NR - Individual	1
Newton Corner Library	124 Vernon Street	1848	NR - District: Contributing (Farlow & Kenrick Parks)	1
Police Annex	25 Chestnut Street	1926	NR - District: Contributing (W. Newton)	1
Police Headquarters	1321 Washington Street	1932	NR - District: Contributing (W. Newton)	1
Senior Center	345 Walnut Street	1938	NR - District: Contributing (Newtonville)	1
Waban Library	1608 Beacon Street	1929	NR - Individual	1
Angier Elementary School	1697 Beacon Street	1919		2
Angino Community Farm	303 Nahanton Street	1855		2
Bowen Elementary School	280 Cypress Street	1952		2
Brigham House Community Center	20 Hartford Street	1886	NR - District: Contributing (Newton Highlands)	2
Burr Park Fieldhouse	142 Park Street	1919		2
Cabot Elementary School	229 Cabot Street	1929		2
Cabot Park Fieldhouse	101 East Side Parkway	1926		2
Carr School	225 Nevada Street	1934		2
Crystal Lake Bathhouse	44 Rogers Street	1930	Eligible for NR - Individual	2
Education Center	100 Walnut Street	1921		2
Franklin Elementary School	125 Derby Street	1938		2
Jeannette Curtis West Recreation Center (The Hut)	69 Tyler Terrace	1892		2
Kennard Estate	246 Dudley Road	1907		2
Lincoln-Eliot Elementary School	191 Pearl Street	1939		2
Nonantum Library	144 Bridge Street	1957		2
Oak Hill Middle School	130 Wheeler Road	1936		2
Underwood Elementary School	19-21 Eldredge Street	1924	NR - District: Contributing (Farlow & Kenrick Parks)	2
Ward Elementary School	10 Dolphin Road	1928		2
Williams Elementary School	141 Grove Street	1950		2
Winchester Street Garage	525 Winchester Street	1948		2
Albemarle Fieldhouse	250 Albemarle Road	1940s		3
Auburndale Cove Fieldhouse	West Pine Street	1967		3
Bigelow Middle School	42 Vernon Street	1967		3
Brown Middle School	125 Meadowbrook Road	1954		3
Bullough's Pond Shelter	Rogers Street	1963		3
Burr Elementary School	171 Pine Street	1967		3
Countryside Elementary School	191 Dedham Street	1953		3
Crafts Street Quonset Hut	110 Crafts Street	c. 1940		3

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 Significance List
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DPW - Water Utilities Department	60 Elliot Street	1935		3
Emerson Community Center	45 Pettee Street	1955		3
F.A. Day Middle School	21 Minot Place	1971		3
Fire Station #1 (Newton Corner)	241 Church Street	1965		3
Fire Station #10 (Oak Hill)	755 Dedham Street	1948		3
Fire Station #2 (West Newton)	1750 Commonwealth Avenue	1964		3
Fire Station #3 (Newton Center)	31 Willow Street	1955		3
Fire Station #4 (Newtonville)	195 Crafts Street	1955		3
Fire Station #7 (Highlands/Upper Falls)	144 Elliot Street	1955		3
Gath Pool Building	256 Albemarle Road	1965		3
Horace Mann Elementary School	687 Watertown Street	1965		3
Hyde Community Center	90 Lincoln Street	1967		3
Lower Falls Community Center	545 Grove Street	1957		3
Mason-Rice Elementary School	149 Pleasant Street	1959		3
Memorial Spaulding Elementary	250 Brookline Street	1954		3
Nahanton Park Nature Center	455 Nahanton Street	1996		3
Newton Free Library	330 Homer Street	1991		3
Newton North High School	Walnut Street	2010		3
Newton South High School	140 Brandeis Road	1961		3
Pelligrini Park Fieldhouse	17 Hawthorne Street	1950		3
Pierce Elementary School	170 Temple Street	1951		3
Quinobequin Road Pump Station	136 Quinobequin Road	c. 1980		3
Recreation Department	70 Crescent Street	1930s/1940s		3
Zervas Elementary School	30 Beethoven Avenue	1954		3
Crafts Street DPW Operating Center	110 Crafts Street	1919		4
Elliot Street Sand/Salt Shed	70 Elliot Street	1994		4
Elliot Street Yard Garage	70 Elliot Street	1959		4
Forte Park Restroom Structure	233 California Street			4
Highlands Fieldhouse	10 Winchester Street	c. 1917		4
Newton Center Metal Storage Building	Tyler Terrace			4
Newton South Auto Shop	140 Brandeis Road	1976		4
Police Headquarters Garage	1321 Washington Street	1950		4
Public Buildings Department	52 Elliot Street	1968		4
Recreation Garage	70 Crescent Street			4
Rumford Avenue Facility	Rumford Avenue			4
Upper Falls Fieldhouse	86 Pennsylvania Avenue	1965		4
Waban Hill Radio Tower & Shed	Manet Road			4

Albemarle Fieldhouse



Address: 250 Albemarle Road

Year of Construction: Unknown, possibly mid 1940s

Historic Context and Function:

Field house structure with restrooms in Albemarle Park, adjacent to the Gath Pool building. It is possible this building was part of the Park's original playground facilities constructed in the mid-1940s. It appears to pre-date the pool building.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Low one-story rectangular structure with recessed entrance.

Materials: Red brick that has been painted at the street elevation.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof. The roofing membrane has been pulled over the top of the wall and fastened to the brick with an aluminum termination bar.

Openings: Large steel windows with divided-light sashes at the street elevation and smaller steel windows high in the wall at the side elevations (all likely original). Aluminum replacement door at entrance.

Projections: The entrance area is recessed into the building. Steel columns support the front wall at the street edge.

Trim and Secondary Features: A concrete ramp with steel railings leads to the entrance area. The ramp appears to be of more recent construction.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. Still retains many of its original materials and design features, but has been poorly maintained leading to loss of original features such as the roof fascia.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

A well-designed utilitarian structure, but with few exterior architectural details. The building has not been well-maintained leading to loss of original material.

Angier Elementary School



Address: 1697 Beacon Street
Year of Construction: 1919

Historic Context and Function:

The oldest school in the Newton system. Designed in the Tudor Revival style by architect James H. MacNaughton.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two stories with high basement, roughly square in plan with a bowed one-story front extension and slightly projecting entrance bays with crenellated parapets at the street side.

Materials: Brick with cast stone trim.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof hidden behind a low parapet with a metal parapet cap.

Openings: Typically single tall openings or bands of horizontal windows with replacement aluminum sashes within stone surrounds. The metal sashes are divided into multiple fixed sashes and operable hoppers with areas of aluminum infill at transoms and are jarring compared with the delicate original sashes seen in historic photos. Arched entrances with stone surrounds and aluminum doors located at the street elevation on either side of the bowed projection.

Projections: A large masonry chimney is located at the rear of the building.

Trim and Secondary Features: Brick pilasters with stone caps at either side of entrance doors.
Band of cast stone below cornice. Metal lettering at wall with school name.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The building retains the many of its original design features and materials. However, the replacement of the windows has greatly changed the appearance of the building.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance.

A well-designed building of high-quality original building materials. Significant for its age relative to the majority of Newton's other school buildings.

Angino Community Farm



Address: 303 Nahanton Street

Year of Construction: 1855

Historic Context and Function:

A Greek Revival farmhouse built in 1855 for David Hall Jr. that has been repeatedly altered. Purchased in 1917 by the Angino family. The property is the last remaining agricultural property in the Oak Hill neighborhood. Outbuildings consist of a 1890s barn and two other sheds of unknown date.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two and a half story rectangular structure with two rear additions.

Materials: Wood clapboard front with brick cladding at the side and rear walls (added in the 1970s).

Roof and Related Features: Gable roof with cross gable at rear addition. Clad with asphalt shingles. Aluminum gutters.

Openings: Small individual openings with 2-over-2 wood sashes.

Projections: Front porch supported by wood columns at street side. The second floor level of the porch is surrounded by a metal railing. A small projection is present at the side gable around a secondary entrance.

Trim and Secondary Features: Most of the windows have exterior wood shutters.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Low. The building has been extensively altered since original construction, including the addition of the rear structures, installation of brick cladding, and window, door and porch alterations.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance.

Significant primarily for its site, which still retains its setting as a working farm, and for its association with the Angino family.

Auburndale Cove Fieldhouse



Address: West Pine Street
Year of Construction: 1967

Historic Context and Function:

Park structure with restrooms and program space. Also known as the William "Cuz" Connelly Recreation Center.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Cross-shaped one-story structure.

Materials: Cast-in-place concrete (painted) with metal trim.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with a deep overhang and a decorative aluminum fascia.

Openings: Tall, narrow openings with original metal double-hung sashes with transoms.

Windows are set behind exterior metal grates. Aluminum replacement doors at each side with transoms.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: The concrete walls are scored in a pattern of squares.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The structure retains most of its original design features and materials.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance. The building is a primarily utilitarian structure with few architectural features.

Auburndale Library



Address: 375 Auburn Street

Year of Construction: 1927

Historic Context and Function:

Also known as the Plummer Memorial Library, this was the second of five branch libraries built by citizen subscription between 1926 and 1939, and the only one still functioning as a branch library. The building was designed in the Tudor Revival style by the firm of Smith and Walker. Individually listed building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: One story with attic, roughly “Y” shaped in plan. The short leg of the “Y” is a children’s wing added in 1948. The entrance is located at a low projection in the center of the “Y”.

Materials: Brick with cast stone trim. Half-timbering with brick infill is located at the gable ends.

Roof and Related Features: Steep gable roof clad with slate. A copper cupola is located at the center of the roof above the main entrance.

Openings: There is a projecting bay window of leaded glass within a cast stone surround at the gable end facing Auburn Street. Other windows at the building are typically tripartite windows with steel casements filled with leaded glass and two sets of stacked leaded glass transoms. The main entrance is contained within an elaborate cast stone surround. The original door and arched transom have been replaced with a glass and aluminum entryway.

Projections: A large masonry chimney is located at the Ash Street gable end. A concrete ramp with metal railings leads to the entrance.

Trim and Secondary Features: Decorative rubble fieldstone is located at the sides of the chimney and at various intervals above the concrete foundation.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building retains the majority of its original design features and materials with the exception of the main entrance door. The 1948 addition and the entrance ramp are harmonious with the original structure.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level I – High Significance.

The building is a well-designed municipal structure and is part of an important civic movement in Newton. Individually listed building on the National Register.

Bigelow Middle School



Address: 42 Vernon Street
Year of Construction: 1967

Historic Context and Function:

Public middle school in Newton, designed by Rich, Phinney, Lang and Cote, Inc. in a late version of the International style.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: A large conglomeration of one, two and three-story structures loosely organized around a central courtyard.

Materials: Brick with concrete trim at the majority of the building. The portion of the building holding the auditorium is clad with cast-in-place concrete with projecting concrete fins.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with aluminum fascia.

Openings: Windows are set in vertical banks of paired windows contained within concrete surrounds. The windows retain their original aluminum sashes. The lower level of the classroom building facing the street has large horizontal bands of windows separated by concrete piers. The main entrance at the street side is set within a glazed aluminum storefront.

Projections: The building has a monumental concrete stairway with integrated planters at the street side. A corrugated metal structure has been built at the top of one of the classroom building roofs.

Trim and Secondary Features: The brick buildings all have a band of concrete running across the top of the wall. Metal lettering with school name is present at the auditorium wing wall.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building retains the majority of its original design features and materials.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

Not an exceptional example of its style and still of relatively recent construction.

Bowen Elementary School



Address: 280 Cypress Street
Year of Construction: 1952

Historic Context and Function:

One of the largest public elementary schools in Newton. Designed in the Art Moderne style by Louis Warren Ross in 1952, making the building a late example of this style. Additions have been added to the north and rear of the original structure.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Low horizontal two-story structure. Roughly L-shaped.

Materials: Red brick with limestone trim and entrance surround, aluminum windows and doors.

Roof and Related Features: Flat, hidden roof with either an aluminum fascia or an aluminum cap above a parapet wall.

Openings: Typically horizontal bands of double-hung windows with replacement aluminum sashes with aluminum infill panels. Three windows above the main entrance have an elaborate mullion pattern. Doors are aluminum replacements with transoms above.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: The entrance doors are recessed behind limestone columns with decorative lintels. The second floor above the main entrance is framed with limestone and there are bands of limestone above the second floor classroom windows. Some of the first floor windows and the second floor windows above the main entrance have limestone surrounds.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. Still retains much of its original building fabric and design features. Later additions do not detract from the original structure's primary façade.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance

Unique and elegant design for a school structure in Newton with high quality original building materials and a high degree of integrity.

Brigham House Community Center



Address: 20 Hartford Street
Year of Construction: 1886

Historic Context and Function:

Queen Anne style house built as a private residence for Louis K. Brigham. Purchased by the City in the 1950s and transformed into the Newton Highlands Branch Library. Currently leased to an organization that provides programs for teenagers. Listed on the National Register as a contributing structure within the Newton Highlands National Historic District.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Three-story building roughly cross-shaped in plan with asymmetrical façades.

Materials: Wood clapboard siding with wood trim. Decorative shingle siding at the gable ends and as a band above the first floor level. Stone foundation.

Roof and Related Features: Hipped roof with lower cross gables. Roof clad in asphalt shingles, likely a replacement for either or slate or wood shingles.

Openings: A variety of opening shapes and sizes, typically containing wood single two-over-two double hung sashes or fixed sashes. The main entrance door is a modern replacement.

Projections: One-story porch at the main entrance with a pedimented roof and other decorative wood detailing. A modern ramp with aluminum railings has been constructed to access the entrance at the side of the main stairs. A one-story addition has been constructed at one side of the structure.

Trim and Secondary Features: Wood beltcourse and decorative wood brackets between first and second floor.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. Still retains many of its original materials and design features, but has been altered for institutional use.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance.

A contributing structure within the Newton Highlands National Register Historic District with a long association with the City of Newton.

Brown Middle School



Address: 125 Meadowbrook Road
Year of Construction: 1954

Historic Context and Function:

Public middle school in Newton, designed in the International Style by Rich and Tucker Associates. Located adjacent to Oak Hill Middle School.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Low horizontal structure with one and two-story side wings and multiple connected structures at rear.

Materials: Tan brick, stucco and glazed aluminum curtain wall at various locations. The curtain wall replaced the original steel, glass and multi-colored enameled panel walls of the original building.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with aluminum fascia.

Openings: Banks of horizontal windows set within brick or as part of the curtain wall assembly. Individual windows are typically fixed sashes over operable hoppers.

Projections: Three canopies at the main entrance supported by steel columns encased in tan brick at the outer edge. The center canopy is taller than the canopies at either side.

Trim and Secondary Features: Metal lettering with school name at side wing.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The building, particularly the original curtain wall assembly, has been greatly altered from its original appearance. Large additions were added to the building in 1962 and 1997 and the curtain wall was replaced in 2011.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

The building has lost much of its original character through alterations.

Bullough's Pond Shelter



Address: Rogers Street
Year of Construction: 1963

Historic Context and Function:

Seasonal structure used when the Pond was opened for ice skating.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Rectangular structure, one-story at street elevation, two stories facing pond.

Materials: Wood clapboard cladding.

Roof and Related Features: Gable roof clad with asphalt shingles.

Openings: Four double hung 6-over-6 wood sashes, two at each side. Entrance door at street side has a wood door (likely a replacement).

Projections: Side projection at gable end with shed roof.

Trim and Secondary Features: Wood trim. The pond side has an exterior porch with wood railing.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The date of construction given for the building is the mid 1960s, and it appears that the building has been altered. Possible alterations include the installation of the asphalt shingles where there was once likely wood shingles, replacement of doors and the porch structure, which appears to be of relatively recent construction, and likely replaces an original porch.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance. The building has few architectural details and has been altered from its original appearance.

Burr Elementary School



Address: 171 Pine Street
Year of Construction: 1967

Historic Context and Function:

Public elementary school in Newton, designed in the Modern/late International style by Charles H. Cole.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Long, low, horizontal two-story building nested into a hillside. The center of the building is slightly projecting and the ends are recessed.

Materials: Brick at the sides and lower walls. The street and rear elevations have smooth concrete panels at each building bay and fascia and piers of concrete faced with chipped stone pieces.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with aluminum fascia.

Openings: Square glass windows are arranged around the top and sides of large smooth concrete panels at the street and rear elevations. The entrance is located within a glass and colored panel curtain wall at the center of the building recessed behind the concrete panels.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: Metal lettering over main entrance with school name.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building retains most of its original design features and materials and has not been greatly altered or added to.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

A well-designed building nicely integrated into its hillside site and representative of its time period. Not an exceptional example of its style and still of relatively recent construction.

Burr Park Fieldhouse



Address: 142 Park Street
Year of Construction: 1919

Historic Context and Function:

Colonial revival structure located within Burr Park adjacent to a wading pool. The building was designed by Boston architect William G. Rantoul. The landscape architect for the park was Arthur A. Shurtleff, who trained with Frederick Law Olmsted.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: One story symmetrical T-shaped structure. Two arched side pavilions lead from the playing fields on one side of the building to the playground in the rear. The playing field side has stairs on either side leading to a porch area.

Materials: Red brick (some of which has been painted to cover graffiti) with wood trim.

Roof and Related Features: Hipped roof with exposed wood brackets. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles, replacing the original slate. Gutters are modern aluminum.

Openings: Curved bay window at the center bay facing the playing fields. Each projecting side bay on the field side has a tripartite window with a center 6-over-6 double-hung sash with 2-over-2 sidelights. The side of the building facing the playground has additional 6-over-6 sashes. Two arched doorways are located on the playing field side that have replacement aluminum doors. The larger entrance door facing the playground has an arched doorway with a replacement aluminum door and transom.

Projections: Masonry chimney at top of roof.

Trim and Secondary Features: Decorative cast stone units are set into the top and sides of the arched door and pavilion openings. The windows at the playground side have decorative molded brick window heads.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The structure has been poorly maintained, leading to loss some of its original building material such as the slate roof. In addition, a non-historic chain link fence has been installed at the edge of the porch on the playing field side.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance.

An elegant structure with high-quality materials designed by a well-known architect and an important feature within the park landscape.

Cabot Elementary School



Address: 229 Cabot Street
Year of Construction: 1929

Historic Context and Function:

Public elementary school adjacent to Cabot Park designed in the Tudor Revival style by architects Charles R. Greco and W. B. Hollings. A large addition was added at one side of the building in 1956 and the original windows were replaced with aluminum windows in the 1980s.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: The original building is three stories and roughly "L"-shaped in plan.

Materials: Brick with cast stone trim and concrete foundation.

Roof and Related Features: The roof is a steep gable roof with a cross gable and asphalt shingle cladding with an expanse of flat roof hidden at the center of the structure. A cupola is present at the center of the roof.

Openings: Typically single openings with replacement aluminum sashes divided into stacked horizontal sashes with two fixed sashes and one operable hopper and a large infill panel at the top of the opening. The replacement windows are dramatically different from the original sashes, which were large wood 12-over-12 double-hungs. The main entrance has replacement aluminum doors set within an elaborate cast stone surround.

Projections: A masonry chimney is located at the rear of the building.

Trim and Secondary Features: Buttresses with stone caps at either side of entrance doors. Band of cast stone below at top of wall. Stone windows sills.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The building retains many of its original design features and materials. However, replacement windows have greatly changed the appearance of the building.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance.

A well-designed building of high-quality original building materials. One of the older remaining public schools in Newton.

Cabot Park Fieldhouse



Address: 101 East Side Parkway
Year of Construction: 1926

Historic Context and Function:

Field house structure at the east side of Cabot Park. When constructed it held a recreation room, showers and lockers and was designed to support park activities. Currently houses an afterschool program.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Rectangular structure with a square center section and two side wings.

Materials: Painted brick with concrete foundation.

Roof and Related Features: The square center section has a hipped roof with exposed wood brackets. The roof is clad with asphalt shingles, likely a replacement for slate. The two side wings have flat roofs with aluminum fascias. Gutters are modern aluminum.

Openings: The front of the building has individual openings with replacement aluminum double-hung sashes covered with metal security grilles. Original openings at the rear of the building have all been infilled with brick or plywood.

Projections: The hipped roof overhangs the front and rear elevations of the building wall creating covered porches at both sides. Painted steel columns, replacements for the original wood columns, support the edge of the roof. A masonry chimney is present at the rear side of the hipped roof.

Trim and Secondary Features: A band of decorative brick is present at the perimeter of the building near the cornice.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The structure has been altered since its original construction, changing its appearance. Changes include infilling of window openings, replacement of the original wood columns and window sashes and roof and painting of the brick.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance.

A simple but elegant structure that is an important feature within the park landscape.

Carr School



Address: 255 Nevada Street
Year of Construction: 1934

Historic Context and Function:

Former school building in Newtonville designed by Ralph Coolidge Henry Architects in 1934 with a rear addition added in 1966. It was decommissioned and sold by the City in the 1980s and was repurchased by the City in 2000. Since 2004 it has been the home of the Newton Cultural Center, a cluster of arts and other cultural organizations.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: 2 stories, with a strictly symmetrical street-facing (east) elevation centered on a slightly projected central bay with a wood pediment.

Materials: Red brick with buff-colored brick central entrance bay.

Roof and Related Features: Hipped roof clad in slate shingles. The roof has a decorative central wood and copper cupola. There are copper gutters with aluminum downspouts.

Openings: Typically regularly-spaced window openings with 20-over-20 wood sashes. Exterior doors are aluminum replacements.

Projections: Central pedimented entrance bay. Small circular “bump-out” window bay on side of building.

Trim and Secondary Features: Decorative cast stone panels, molded brick at base, wood pilaster, ocular window and dentilated pediment at central bay.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. Still retains many of its original materials and design features, however the quality of some of the original building materials and poor maintenance have caused some features to deteriorate. The modern addition does not overwhelm the original structure.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance

The building is an unusual example of its style and retains most of its original design features and materials. The addition does not detract from the original structure.

City Hall



Address: 1000 Commonwealth Avenue

Year of Construction: 1931

Historic Context and Function:

A monumental building in the Georgian Revival style designed by the firm of Allen and Collens and set within a park designed by the Olmsted Brothers landscape architects. The building serves as both Newton City Hall and as a War Memorial. Individually listed building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: The building is roughly “T”-shaped in plan with protruding wings at each side of the long end (the section containing City Hall). The rear walls of the long end curve back to the short leg of the “T”, which is the location of the War Memorial.

Materials: Brick with limestone trim.

Roof and Related Features: Slate gable roof with arched dormers and raised brick gable ends at the center section of City Hall. Slate hipped roofs at the side wings. The City Hall roof has a small steeple and low wooden balustrade at the roof edge. The War Memorial has a slate gable roof and a large steeple on a square brick base protruding from the roof.

Openings: Windows are typically single double-hungs with 12-over-12 wood sashes. Some windows at the second floor level have arched transoms. There are multiple entrances at the front and sides of City Hall and the War Memorial, typically contained within elaborate limestone surrounds with pediments.

Projections: The War Memorial side has a monumental pedimented stone portico supported by Tuscan columns. The City Hall side has a smaller pedimented stone portico supported by Corinthian columns.

Trim and Secondary Features: Numerous decorative elements, including a stone frieze at the perimeter of the building, an arcade with brick arches and decorative metal railings at the second floor of the areas of curved walls and wood balustrades at the steeples.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building retains the majority of its original design features and materials and has been well maintained.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level I – High Significance.

An important civic structure in Newton that was recognized as architecturally significant at construction. Individually listed building on the National Register.

Countryside Elementary School



Address: 191 Dedham Street
Year of Construction: 1953

Historic Context and Function:

Public elementary school in Newton, a late example of the Art Moderne style with curved metal awnings at the entrance doors.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Low horizontal two-story structure with an auditorium at one end of the site. Later addition at rear.

Materials: Two different shades of red brick, metal trim and precast concrete window sills.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with aluminum fascia.

Openings: Banks of horizontal windows with what appear to be replacement aluminum sashes.
Replacement aluminum entrance doors with sidelights and transoms.

Projections: Curved metal cantilevered awnings over front, side and rear doors.

Trim and Secondary Features: Dark red brick bands at building base and at windows as window surrounds. Metal lettering with school name

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The building's appearance has been altered by the installation of the replacement window sashes and the aluminum fascia.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

The building has a few architectural elements that place it within the Art Moderne style, which is not a common style for schools in Newton. However, it is not as distinctive as the two other schools in this style present in the City and its appearance has been altered through insensitive choices in replacement materials. Will gain in historic stature, but does not merit further investigation at this time.

Crafts Street DPW Operating Center



Address: 110 Crafts Street
Year of Construction: 1919

Historic Context and Function:

Originally a Classical Revival masonry structure designed by Allen Lieb. In 1988 the building was completely reconstructed and given a new Postmodern exterior.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two-story square office block at the street side with a long one story rectangular garage structure at rear. There are two additional block of office space interspersed between the garage bays

Materials: Brick, concrete block and square cast stone units with glass block surrounding the main entrance on Crafts Street.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof hidden behind a parapet. The building cornice is composed of square cast stone units.

Openings: Large openings are present at the ground floor of the office wing that are filled with fixed aluminum sashes. The second floor has small square fixed aluminum windows. The garage wing has large door openings at each garage bay.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: A band of dark concrete block is located between the first and second floors of the office wing and continues across the garage wing. The center bay of the office building has a light cast stone surround.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Low. All of the original exterior design features and building materials were removed or covered over during the 1998 renovation.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 4 – No Significance. Other than some of the interior structure there is no intact 1919 original material present at the building.

Crafts Street Quonset Hut



Address: 110 Crafts Street
Year of Construction: 1940s

Historic Context and Function:

Quonset hut at the rear of the DPW Operations Center currently used for vehicle storage.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Long horizontal half-cylinder.

Materials: Standing seam aluminum cladding.

Roof and Related Features: The building's aluminum cladding forms both the roof and the walls.

Openings: Large door opening at the short end of the structure with no door. A smaller door opening is located approximately midway at the side of the structure.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: None.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The structure retains most of its original design features and materials.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance. The Quonset hut was a widely used building type of the 1940s, although this example is unique to the City of Newton. This particular example has not been well maintained. The building may gain in historic stature, especially as other Quonset Huts around the country continue to disappear, but does not merit additional investigation at this time.

Crafts Street Stable/Garage



Address: 90 Crafts Street
Year of Construction: 1894

Historic Context and Function:

90 Crafts Street was built by the City to house municipal horses, wagons and other equipment. It is still in use by the Department of Public Works as a garage and storage facility. Individually listed building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two and a half story structure with an irregular “L” shape. A lower two-story addition is located at the center of the “L”.

Materials: Brick with granite and wood trim and granite foundation.

Roof and Related Features: Hipped slate roof with hipped dormers and an offset front gable. A truncated cupola is located at the roof of the rear leg of the “L”.

Openings: Windows at the first floor are typically single rectangular openings with 9-over-2 wood sashes. Second floor windows are single square wood pivot sashes with divided lights. An oval window is set within the front gable at the street elevation above a large opening at the second floor. There are two large door openings at the first floor. One of the openings has been infilled with plywood, the other has a roll-down garage door.

Projections: A small wood entrance canopy is located over the street-side door. A concrete ramp with modern railings leads to the garage door.

Trim and Secondary Features: The building has a corbelled brick cornice. A stone tablet with the building name is set into the wall over the infilled first floor entrance.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The building has been altered, but retains most of its defining features.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level I – High Significance

A well-designed building and a significant remnant of municipal architecture. The building is one of the only city stables from this time period still standing. Individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Crystal Lake Bathhouse



Address: 44 Rogers Street
Year of Construction: 1930

Historic Context and Function:

The bathhouse was constructed in 1930, designed in a Spanish eclectic style by architect Herbert Colby. The building has served an important function for the City of Newton since construction, providing access to Crystal Lake to the public.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two and a half story square building adjacent to the lake connected to a rectangular one-story rear extension. The second story of the square building is level with the first story of the extension, due to the downward slope of the land to the lake. A two-story elevator tower is located at the side of the rear extension.

Materials: Stucco.

Roof and Related Features: The square building has a hipped roof with overhanging eaves clad with asphalt shingles that forms an arcaded porch below at three sides of the building. The rear extension has a flat roof that holds a handicapped-accessible roof deck.

Openings: Windows are inset into the second story of the square building within the enclosed structure beneath arcaded porch. Ventilators are set into the wall of the half-story at the square building. The rear extension has rectangular windows set high in the wall. Double doors are present at the lower level of the square building facing the lake, and at the side and back of the rear extension facing the parking lot.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: The openings at the arcaded porch are stepped rather than arched, and have metal railings set between the stucco posts.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The structure retains most of its original design features and materials.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance.

The Crystal Lake Bath House has been an important part of community life in Newton since construction. The building's Spanish eclectic design is also unique for public buildings within the city. Eligible for the National Register as an individual building under Criteria A and Criteria C.

DPW – Water Utilities Department



Address: 60 Elliot Street
Year of Construction: 1935.

Historic Context and Function:

Utilitarian structure originally constructed as an incinerator building for the City of Newton. Decommissioned in the 1960s and currently serving as office space for the Water Utilities Department.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two story rectangular structure.

Materials: Brick with concrete base.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof hidden behind a brick parapet with aluminum parapet cap.

Openings: The building originally had large double-height openings that have been infilled with brick. Aluminum double hung and fixed windows have been installed within some of the infilled areas. A large double-height door opening at the side elevation has a modern replacement aluminum garage door and aluminum trim.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: There is a decorative band of brick running along the top of the building below the level of the parapet.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Low. The building has been detrimentally altered by the bricking-in of the original window openings and removal of the original door.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance. The building has few architectural features and has been significantly altered from its original appearance.

Education Center



Address: 100 Walnut Street
Year of Construction: 1921

Historic Context and Function:

Originally the Day Junior High School, a public school building designed in the English Revival style by the firm of Brainerd, Leeds and Kellogg. The building currently houses Education Department offices and the Newton Early Childhood Preschool.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Three-story rectangular block with side wings set at a 45 degree angle. A 1966 addition is located at the rear, but is not visible from the street elevation.

Materials: Brick with limestone and cast stone trim.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof hidden behind parapet wall with cast stone copings.

Openings: Typically horizontal bands of windows. Window openings are inappropriately infilled with aluminum replacement windows. The entry doors are wood set within an elaborate stone surround.

Projections: Decorative limestone front entry and secondary rear entry.

Trim and Secondary Features: Limestone and cast stone trim, beltcourses and spandrel panels. Basketweave brick coursing.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. Still retains most of its original materials and design features although it has lost its original wood window sashes.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance

The original building is 90 years old and retains most of its original design features and materials.

Elliot Street Operations Center



Address: 74 Elliot Street
Year of Construction: 1926

Historic Context and Function:

The Elliot Street Operations Center is a Flemish revival style building designed by Herbert W. Colby for the Street Department. The building was originally constructed to hold trucks at the lower level and horses at the main floor. Also known as the City of Newton Stable and Garage.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two-story rectangular structure. The lower level is a full story at one side of the site only due to a change in grade.

Materials: Brick with stepped Flemish gable ends with stone parapet caps, painted concrete foundation.

Roof and Related Features: Steeply pitched gable roof with cross gable and exposed rafter ends. The roof is clad with slate shingles.

Openings: Windows are typically single arched openings with replacement aluminum 6-over-6 sashes. A large arched window opening is located at the attic level of the gable end facing Elliot Street. The main entrance is in the side cross-gable and there are several secondary entrances, all with aluminum doors. The lower level has four garage bays. A concrete beam inserted in the street-facing wall indicates that there was once a large ground-level opening at this location.

Projections: A steel beam projects from the wall above the large arched opening at the street-side gable end.

Trim and Secondary Features: A large ramp leads to the street-side gable end.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. Although altered, the building has been sensitively renovated.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level I – High Significance

The City Stable and Garage is an unusual and significant building that marks the transition from use of horses to automobiles. An individually listed building on the National Register of Historic Places.

Elliot Street Sand/Salt Shed



Address: 70 Elliot Street
Year of Construction: 1994

Historic Context and Function:

Sand/Salt storage shed that is part of the Department of Public Works complex on Elliot Street.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Tall rectangular structure.

Materials: Wood.

Roof and Related Features: Gambrel roof with cross gable clad with asphalt shingles.

Openings: The center bay below the cross gable is open to the exterior.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: The support structure for the base of the shed is located at the exterior. The end roof trusses are also visible at the exterior at the gable ends.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The structure is substantially the same as when constructed.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 4 – No Significance. The building is a utilitarian structure of a common form with few architectural details.

Elliot Street Yard Garage



Address: 70 Elliot Street

Year of Construction: 1959.

Historic Context and Function:

Garage structure used by the Department of Public Works.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: One story rectangular structure.

Materials: Brick.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with aluminum fascia.

Openings: Four large garage bays and two smaller garage bays with roll-down aluminum doors.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: Painted steel angles are located at the side of each door opening to protect the brick piers.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. The building appears to be substantially the same as when originally constructed, although it appears some of the garage doors may be replacements.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 4 – No Significance. The building is a utilitarian structure with limited attention provided to its architectural design.

Emerson Community Center



Address: 45 Pettee Street
Year of Construction: 1955

Historic Context and Function:

1955 addition to the former Ralph Waldo Emerson School. The 1904 school building was sold by the City, and is now the Fallsridge apartment complex. The 1955 addition was retained as a community center.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Double-height rectangular structure with projecting entrance pavilion at side.

Materials: Red brick.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with an aluminum fascia.

Openings: Large steel windows with divided-light sashes set high in the walls. Aluminum entrance door.

Projections: A small canopy is located over the main entrance supported by the main building and side pavilion at two sides and a steel column at the opposite corner.

Trim and Secondary Features: A concrete ramp and staircase with steel railings leads to the entrance area. The ramp appears to be of more recent construction. Window sills are brick.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. Still retains most of its original materials and design features. Has been poorly maintained leading to extensive damage to the brick.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

The building has few exterior architectural details and has not been well-maintained leading to loss of original material.

F. A. Day Middle School



Address: 21 Minot Place
Year of Construction: 1971

Historic Context and Function:

Large public middle school building located in Newtonville. Constructed in the Modern style by the firm of Korslund, Le Normand and Quann.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Three-story, primarily rectangular with wing at the rear.

Materials: Brick, aluminum spandrel panels

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with flat aluminum fascia/cornice. Copper gutters and downspouts.

Openings: Tall, narrow aluminum fixed/hopper windows. Aluminum infill wall panels between windows within masonry openings, metal doors.

Projections: Walls project or recede around the perimeter of the building.

Trim and Secondary Features: Modern style with minimal trim. Decorative painted mural above the main entrance.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. Still retains many of its original materials and design features.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

This building is of relatively recent construction (less than 50 years old). The structure may gain in historic stature in the future, but does not command further investigation at this time.

Fire Department Headquarters



Address: 1164 Centre Street
Year of Construction: 1928

Historic Context and Function:

The building, designed in the Classical Revival style by architects Kendall, Taylor and Company, was constructed as a fire alarm headquarters for the City of Newton. It still serves as the headquarters for the Newton Fire Department.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Rectangular two-story structure. Symmetrical with a slightly projecting center bay.

Materials: Brick laid in a Flemish bond pattern with cast stone trim.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof hidden behind brick parapet with a cast stone coping.

Openings: Typically large rectangular openings with aluminum replacement windows set in pairs of double hung sashes with fixed transoms. The window over the main entrance is in an arched opening. The main entrance retains what appear to be the original bronze doors.

Projections: The building has a projecting cast stone cornice.

Trim and Secondary Features: The center bay has fluted cast stone pilasters at either side with Doric capitals. Above the pilasters is a cast stone frieze that reads "City of Newton". The parapet of the center bay has a center cast stone panel encribed "1928" with engaged balusters and piers at either side. The main entrance and window above are contained within a cast stone surround, with "Fire Department" in bronze lettering above the entrance. The building has brick corner quoins and cast stone panels set into the wall above the second floor windows.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building retains the majority of its original materials and design features with the exception of the replacement window sashes.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level I – High Significance

A well designed building of high-quality materials with a high degree of integrity. Meets the criteria for individual listing on the National Register under category C as one of Newton's finest examples of a twentieth century Classical revival style municipal building.

Fire Station #1 (Newton Corner)



Address: 241 Church Street
Year of Construction: 1965

Historic Context and Function:

One of two neighborhood fire stations constructed in Newton in the early 1960s. Designed in the Modern Style by David J. Abrahams & Associates.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Composed of a two-story garage wing connected to a one-story office wing at the street elevation. A tall stair tower rises from the roof of the one-story office wing and is visible at the street elevation.

Materials: Red brick with precast concrete trim, metal windows and doors.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with a shallow overhang wrapped with an aluminum fascia.

Openings: Horizontal bands of aluminum windows. Metal roll down garage doors with vision lights at the three bays of the garage wing.

Projections: A metal canopy with a side wall of decorative precast concrete blocks is attached to the wall above the entrance to the office wing and the adjacent windows. Metal lettering is fastened to the top of the canopy.

Trim and Secondary Features: Projecting precast concrete grid at the wall of the garage wing. Bands of precast concrete are also located at the top and bottom of the second floor garage wing windows.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building still retains many of its original design features and materials and has been sensitively renovated.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

A well-designed municipal structure that has been well maintained over time. Will gain in historic stature, but does not merit further investigation at this time.

Fire Station #2 (West Newton)



Address: 1750 Commonwealth Avenue
Year of Construction: 1963

Historic Context and Function:

One of two neighborhood fire stations constructed in Newton in the early 1960s. Unique in relation to the other contemporary fire stations in Newton for being constructed in a traditional rather than a modern style. Designed by George H. Sherwood.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two-story symmetrical rectangular structure with slightly projecting center bay.

Materials: Red brick with wood clapboards at the gable end of the center cross gable.

Roof and Related Features: Hipped roof with lower center cross gable clad in asphalt shingles.

The edge of the roof has a built-in gutter at the perimeter with copper leaders. Dormer windows with wood clapboard cladding are located at the sides of the hipped roof. The dormer openings are infilled with louvers.

Openings: Single window openings with 12-over-12 and 12-over-8 wooden double-hung sashes.

There are four large arched garage door openings at street façade that have aluminum garage doors with vision lights. The center two openings appear to have been enlarged.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: The garage door openings have three rows of header bricks over each arched lintel. Window openings have flat jack arches.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building still retains most of its original design features and materials.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

A well-designed municipal structure in an unusual style compared to its contemporaries. Will gain in historic stature, but does not command further investigation at this time.

Fire Station #3 – Newton Center



Address: 31 Willow Street
Year of Construction: 1955

Historic Context and Function:

Municipal building of the 1950s designed in the modern style. One of several neighborhood fire stations constructed in the 1950s in Newton and completed at the same time as fire stations #4 and #7. Designed and built by the Carol Construction Company. Still an active fire station.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Low horizontal form composed of two connected two-story structures along the street elevation and a one-story garage at the rear of the site.

Materials: Red brick with precast concrete trim, metal windows and wood doors.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof concealed from view behind a parapet wall. The projecting edge of the roof overhang of the rear garage has a curved shape.

Openings: Horizontal bands of windows that retain what appear to be their original window sashes and metal infill panels. The garage doors of the main building appear to be later replacements.

Projections: Concrete portico over the garage doors at the street elevation.

Trim and Secondary Features: Largely unadorned with exception of precast concrete trim and portico and raised brick banding at side of office wing. Original metal lettering mounted to wall above portico.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. Still retains most of its original materials and design features and has not been extensively altered or modified.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

Representative of municipal design of the 1950s with an elegant design and a high degree of historic integrity. An interesting building representative of its time period, during which Newton constructed a large number of public buildings. Will gain in historic stature, but does not merit further investigation at this time.

Fire Station #4 (Newtonville)



Address: 195 Crafts Street
Year of Construction: 1955

Historic Context and Function:

One of several neighborhood fire stations constructed in the 1950s in Newton, and completed at the same time as fire stations #3 and #7. Designed and built by the Proia Construction Company. The building has been substantially altered from its original appearance by recent renovations. Still an active fire station.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Low horizontal form composed of a two-story office wing connected to a two-story garage wing at the street elevation. A tall stair tower is present at the back portion of the building.

Materials: Red brick with precast concrete trim, metal windows and doors.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof concealed from view behind a low parapet wall with an aluminum cap.

Openings: Horizontal bands of windows. The original sashes have been replaced with aluminum windows with multiple divided lights. Metal roll down garage doors with vision lights at the four bays of the garage wing.

Projections: A small metal canopy is attached to the wall above the entrance to the office wing. This canopy is a later addition.

Trim and Secondary Features: Precast concrete surround at the garage door openings. Raised brick banding at side of office wing. Metal lettering mounted to wall above garage doors.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Low. The building has been extensively altered. Historic photos show that the original building had a concrete portico with fins, similar to that found on Fire Station #3 that has been removed, likely to increase the height of the garage doors. In addition the windows have been altered with new sashes with a different muntin pattern, the entrance canopy has been added and numerous other changes have been made to the structure.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

Alterations have substantially changed the appearance of the building.

Fire Station #7 (Highlands/Upper Falls)



Address: 144 Elliot Street
Year of Construction: 1955

Historic Context and Function:

Municipal building of the 1950s designed in the modern style. One of several neighborhood fire stations constructed in the 1950s in Newton, and completed at the same time as fire stations #3 and #4. Designed and built by M. Spinelli & Sons, Inc. Still an active fire station but is currently undergoing renovation.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Low horizontal form composed of a two-story office wing connected to a two-story garage wing at the street elevation with a one-story structure at the rear of the site.

Materials: Red brick with precast concrete trim, metal windows and doors.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof concealed from view behind a low parapet wall with an aluminum cap.

Openings: Horizontal bands of replacement aluminum windows consisting of groups of two sashes with two fixed panes over an operable hopper separated by metal infill panels. Metal roll down garage doors with vision lights at the garage wing.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: Precast concrete surround at the garage door openings and the main entrance to the office wing. Raised brick banding at side of office wing.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Low. The building has been extensively altered from its original construction. None of the precast trim appears in historic photographs and the replacement windows are similar to the original, but the area of glazing has been reduced.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

The building has been significantly altered from its original appearance.

Fire Station #10 (Oak Hill)



Address: 755 Dedham Street

Year of Construction: 1948

Historic Context and Function:

The oldest of Newton's active fire stations. Designed by Thomas James Company.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two-story rectangular structure with back ell. Approximately two-thirds of the street façade contains the garage space with offices above and the other third is slightly lower and contains office space on two levels.

Materials: Red brick with concrete foundation and wood window and door casing.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof concealed from view behind a low parapet wall with an aluminum cap.

Openings: Single window openings filled with 6-over-6 double hung sashes. Roll down aluminum garage doors at the two garage bays. Wood door to office spaces.

Projections: Metal hood over the main entrance door to the office spaces.

Trim and Secondary Features: Raised brick band between first and second stories. Brick keystones above windows. Large metal lanterns are affixed to the brick piers adjacent to the garage bays. Metal lettering mounted to wall over garage bays.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The building retains most of its original design features and materials.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance

Well-designed utilitarian structure, but with few exterior architectural features.

Forte Park Restroom Structure



Address: 233 California Street
Year of Construction: Unknown

Historic Context and Function:

Playground restroom structure set within public Forte Park. Exact date of construction is unknown, but the structure appears to be of relatively recent construction.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: One-story rectangular structure with gable roof. The walls at the corners of the playground-side elevation are recessed and decorative columns support the overhanging roof edges at those locations.

Materials: Painted concrete block with wood clapboards at the gable ends. The columns are made of a composite material.

Roof and Related Features: Moderately pitched gable roof clad with asphalt shingles.

Openings: Circular louvers set into each gable end. The small window openings in each restroom area have been infilled with painted plywood. Doors are metal.

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: Wood trim with composite columns.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. With the exception of the plywood infill at the window openings the building appears to be relatively unaltered since original construction.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 4 – No Significance

This structure is of recent construction and has few significant architectural features.

Franklin Elementary School



Address: 125 Derby Street
Year of Construction: 1938

Historic Context and Function:

Elementary school constructed in 1938. The building was designed by Albert M. Kreider and construction was partially funded by the Public Works Administration. Similar in design to the Lincoln-Eliot Elementary School, also a Public Works Administration funded project.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: Two and a half story rectangular structure with an original wing at the rear, one story projecting addition at front and two later additions on the rear and side.

Materials: Brick with limestone window sills and cornice. The rear addition is brick, the other addition is stucco.

Roof and Related Features: Hipped roof clad with slate shingles. The additions have flat roofs. The roof has a central cupola clad with lead coated copper.

Openings: Regularly-spaced window openings that have been infilled with inappropriate aluminum windows. Original doors have been replaced with metal doors.

Projections: Limestone entrance portico at front elevation.

Trim and Secondary Features: Copper gutters, aluminum downspouts. Decorative limestone trimmed ocular window at central pediment.

Overall Degree of Integrity

Moderate. This building still retains many of its original materials and design features. The modern additions do not overwhelm or particularly detract from the original historic structure.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 2 – Moderate Significance

The original building is over 70 years old and retains most of its original design features and materials. The two additions are of lesser significance, but do not detract from the original structure.

Gath Pool Building



Address: 256 Albemarle Road
Year of Construction: 1965

Historic Context and Function:

Outdoor public pool with associated enclosed structure in the late International style located in Albemarle Park.

Overall Visual Character

Shape: One-story rectangular structure raised above street level.

Materials: Red brick with a concrete foundation.

Roof and Related Features: Flat roof with a deep overhang and a concrete and aluminum fascia.

Openings: Tall, narrow openings with what appear to be precast concrete infill panels and two narrow slit windows per opening. Large roll-down aluminum door at the main entrance at the street elevation and doors leading from the interior to the pool deck

Projections: None.

Trim and Secondary Features: Large staircase leading from street level to the main entrance.

Overall Degree of Integrity

High. The structure retains most of its original design features and materials.

Preliminary Level of Significance

Level 3 – Low Significance. The building is a primarily utilitarian structure although it has some interesting architectural details. May gain in historic stature, but does not merit additional investigation at this time.