



NEWTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

*STAFF MEMO *

Date: February 23, 2023

Time: 7:00 p.m.

ZOOM Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83073583603> or
+16469313860,,83073583603

Ruthanne Fuller
Mayor

Barney S. Heath
Director
Planning & Development

Mollie Hutchings
Chief Preservation Planner

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Nancy Grissom
Katie Kubie
John Rice, Vice Chair
Harvey Schorr
Anne Marie Stein, Alternate
Scott Friedman, Alternate

1000 Commonwealth Ave.
Newton, MA 02459
T 617-796-1120
F 617-796-1142

www.newtonma.gov

1. 41 KILBURN RD

Total Demolition of House

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This 1950 Cape home has retained many of its original footprint and features, including the two dormers and exterior chimney. While the home is in keeping with the neighborhood context, with several other cape homes on the street and more broadly in West Newton, the building does not have any historical designations. The property is in less than ideal-condition on the exterior, with the siding in need of particular repairs. Staff does not recommend preferably preserving, but welcomes further discussion of its historical and neighborhood significance.

2. 51 MT ALVERNIA RD

Partial Demolition of House

[View Application Here](#)

**This property has been Administratively
Approved, as it falls under de minimis.**

3. 527 WALTHAM ST

Partial Demolition of Building

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**This property has been Administratively
Approved, as it falls under de minimis.**

4. 53 MOSMAN ST

Partial Demolition of House

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This 1953 cross-gabled ranch has a largely unaltered footprint. There is a strong neighborhood context for this property, with nearly every home on Mosman Street built in a similar style. The proposed design adds a second story to the existing structure that, while a departure from the ranches that characterize the neighborhood, it does retain some of the horizontal nature and forward gable of the original design. The building is listed as contributing to the Mosman Morrill Street Residential District. Staff recommends discussion of the proposed design, particularly in the context of the neighborhood.

5. 56 DEARBORN ST

Total Demolition of House

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This 1955, shingle-sided cape has had a few exterior improvements, including a new

garage, a dormer in the rear, and a reroofing project. While it is not listed as a contributing building to the Westland Park Residential District, the buildings which are listed as contributing, including 31 Dearborn St, were constructed in a similar period and style. Staff recommends that the building be preferably preserved.

6. 58 PARKER ST

Partial Demolition of House

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This Colonial Revival home was constructed in 1920 by builder and owner L.G. Bishop and designed by architect Keith McAdams. The matching garage, later reconstructed after a fire, was also built in 1920 and a mudroom addition was constructed in 1990. The building is not inventoried, either individually or as part of a larger historic area, but is immediately adjacent to the Newton Theological Institution National Register District. The proposed design would construct a two-story addition in place of the one-story mudroom addition that currently exists. Staff recommends finding the building preferably preserved and approving the design.

7. 73 PURITAN RD

Partial Demolition of House

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This 1938 shingle-sided dwelling was built the E William and Merrill C Nutting Company, and designed by architect W. J. Freethy. Despite an addition in 2014, the home retains the traditional character and footprint of a traditional Cape style home. The proposed design would transform the home from a Cape into a more transitional style, but would retain much of the New England vernacular. The double gable over the front entry and the bay window on the addition are particularly striking features. Staff recommends finding the property preferably preserved and approving the proposed design.

8. 872 CHESTNUT ST

Partial Demolition of House and Total Demolition of Garage

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This 1930 eclectic style home includes elements of both Tudor and Colonial Revival style. The high-pitched gabled entry is a notable character-defining feature that is repeated on other buildings on Chestnut St and Oliver Rd. While not listed as a contributing building, it is within the Howard Park Residential District and is similar in style to its neighbors, including 186 Oliver Rd on the corner. The proposed design would add a two-story side addition, which has taken care to match existing finishes and mimic some of the existing rooflines. Staff recommends finding the home preferably preserved and approving the proposed design, though welcomes discussion on the proposed windows. Staff recommends finding the garage not preferably preserved.

9. 236 CHAPEL ST

Waiver of Demolition Delay

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This two-story, single-family Colonial Revival house was built c. 1875. It is inventoried as the Hennessy-Scrocco House (NWT.1400). There are no particular character-defining features to render it a strong example of its

architectural style, though it is in keeping with the style and period of other Nonantum homes. The design team has updated the proposed design from the last meeting, having received feedback from the commission. Staff welcomes discussion of the proposed design.

10. 10-12 ELLIOT TER

Waiver of Demolition Delay

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This two-story, multifamily Colonial Revival was constructed in 1900. The character-defining large front porches are somewhat atypical of this variety of two-family in New England and set it apart as possibly inspired by the sleeping porches characteristic of colonial and classic revivals. Later alterations and maintenance have preserved the more unique features of the building, and the matching railings and balusters along the side entry. It has not been inventoried on the Historic Resources Survey. The proposed design is interesting in how it mimics some Colonial Revival finishes and elements on the front façade, while still creating a more contemporary style of two-family dwelling. Staff recommends approving the proposed design.

11. 61 ESTY FARM RD

Waiver of Demolition Delay

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61 Esty Farm Rd is a one-and-a half story midcentury split level, constructed in 1959, and has been inventoried as part of the June Lane Esty Farm Road area. The neighborhood is a mix of new construction and similar midcentury split levels, which were constructed between 1958-1959 by Sunny Lane Homes Inc. and Creative Builders and designed by Ralph I. Williams. The split levels are all constructed in the asymmetrical “flying wing” design. The proposed design does not seem to relate to the existing building or its neighboring split-levels. Staff welcomes discussion of the proposed design.

12. 6 FERCROFT RD

Waiver of Demolition Delay

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This two-story, eclectic home draws mostly on the Gothic Revival styles, as characterized by the brick construction, narrow windows and the high-pitched gable roof. The property is a noncontributing property within the Gordon and Evelyn Road Residential District, which contains an eclectic mix of Tudor revivals and post-war split levels, mostly built between 1930 and 1950. The proposed addition would include the replacement of the large garage on the front of the façade and a new family room addition on the rear façade. The design team is returning, having made adjustments to the design based on the Commission’s feedback. Staff recommends that the building be preferably preserved and the design be approved.

Administrative Approvals

9 The Ledges – PD Garage

887 Commonwealth Ave - TD Garage

120 Stanley Rd - TD

527 Waltham St – PD

51 Mt Alvernia RD - PD