

# **Updates on Landmark Considerations in Waban Village Center**

**Waban Area Council**

**April 13, 2023**

**Update on the status of the Strong Block  
local landmark consideration**

# NEWTON HISTORICAL COMMISSION

## \*AGENDA\*

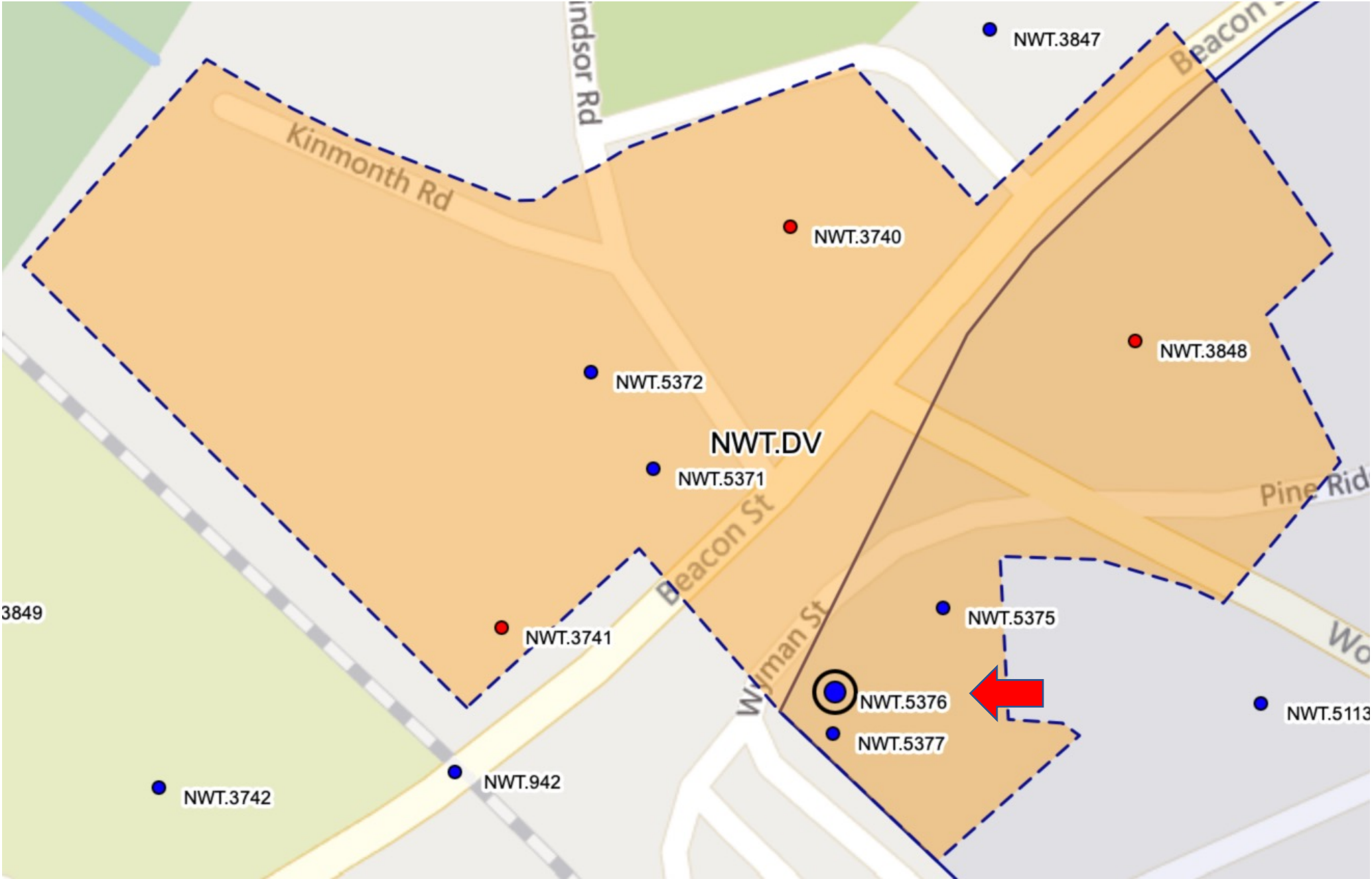
**Date: April 27, 2023**

**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**ZOOM Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86403328988> or  
+16465588656,,86403328988#**

- 1. 86 Halcyon Rd**  
Review of Design after Violation  
See Supplementary Materials
- 2. 89-93 Wyman Rd (Waban Hall)**  
Local Landmark Nomination – Vote to Accept Nomination  
See Supplementary Materials

Waban Hall is considered a historic resource within the Group Inventory Form for Waban Village Center NWT.DV



# Historic Resources within NWT.DV

9 Historic Resources within Newton Area NWT.DV

Use arrow keys for [navigation inside of the grid](#)

Download results [PDF](#) or [Excel](#)

Page 1 of 1 15 items per page



MHC ID	Type	Historic Name	Address	City/Town	Year	Designations	Pic	Inv	NR
<a href="#">NWT.3740</a>	Building	Staples - Craft - Wiswall Farm	1615 Beacon St	Newton	C 1750	NRIND; NRMRA;			
<a href="#">NWT.5371</a>	Building	Strong's Block Extension	1629-1639 Beacon St	Newton	1924				
<a href="#">NWT.3741</a>	Building	Strong's Block	1637-1651 Beacon St	Newton	1896	NRIND; NRMRA;			
<a href="#">NWT.5369</a>	Building		69 Homestead St	Newton	1928				
<a href="#">NWT.5368</a>	Building		74 Homestead St	Newton	1928				
<a href="#">NWT.5372</a>	Building	Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company	8-12 Windsor Rd	Newton	1938				
<a href="#">NWT.5375</a>	Building	Newton - Waltham Bank and Trust Company	466 Woodward St	Newton	1949				
<a href="#">NWT.5376</a>	Building	Waban Hall	474 Woodward St	Newton	1890	<b>Second oldest contributing structure</b>			
<a href="#">NWT.5377</a>	Building	U. S. Post Office - Waban Branch	93 Wyman St	Newton	1944				

Page 1 of 1 15 items per page



FORM A - AREA

NWT.DV

Area Letter Form numbers in this Area

IV-KDN	5370 - 5377
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MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116



Newton (Naban) *ND*

of Area (if any) \_\_\_\_\_

Naban Village Center

nt Use commercial, institutional,  
residential

al Date or Period c1890-1950

al Condition good-excellent

ge \_\_\_\_\_

Recorded by Candace Jenkins/Susan Abele

Organization Newton Historical Comm.

Date January 1987

*STRONG'S BLOCK EXT.*

Inventory forms have been completed.  
Label streets including route numbers, if  
any. Indicate north. (Attach a separate  
sheet if space here is not sufficient).

FORM A - AREA

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION  
80 BOYLSTON STREET, BOSTON, MA 02116

NWT.DV

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Waban Hall

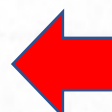


5376 Waban Hall (474 Woodward St., 1890), at the corner of Wyman Street, was the first commercial block built in Waban; it was originally a two story wood-frame Queen Anne style block with distinctive round-arched display windows flanking a central entry with heavy segmental arched hood. In 1923 a one story brick Colonial Revival style storefront with large arched openings echoing the original design of the block was added by architect John Barnard. In 1933, the undistinguished one story stores at 89-93 Wyman Street were added according to plans by architect F.A. Burton.



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

In 1886, before completion of the Highland Branch of the Boston and Albany Railroad, the village now known as Waban did not exist. Less than a dozen families lived in the area, their farms scattered along Woodward and Beacon Streets. Although there had been some attempt to stimulate growth in the 1870s, full-scale suburban development, with its commercial amenities, was not assured until construction of the railroad. A small station, one of the original H. H. Richardson designs, was built near the intersection of Woodward and Beacon Streets and in 1890, Waban Hall, the first commercial block was built at the intersection of Woodward and Wyman Streets. The Dutch-gabled Strong's block (NR 9/4/86) on Beacon Street followed in 1897. Although a vigorous community was beginning to develop in Waban, organizing an Improvement Society as early as 1888, broad development of the area did not take place until after the turn of the century.



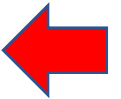
## Historical Significance (continued)

Although development came to a standstill during the war a new Post Office was built at 83 Wyman Street in the 1943-4 and in the post-war period (1949) the Newton Waltham Bank and Trust located a branch office at 466 Woodward Street, adjacent to the old Waban Hall complex. Since then, although alterations to existing buildings have occurred with changes in tenancy, the number of commercial structures has remained stable, providing retail and service businesses aimed mainly toward the Waban community.

## **DIVISION 3. LANDMARKS**

### **Sec. 22-63. Nomination**

(c) At this or a subsequent meeting, the commission shall determine whether to accept the nomination and conduct further study of the nominated property. The commission may accept the nomination of buildings, structures, landscapes and places upon an initial determination that such property **may meet one or more of the following criteria:**



(2) the property is meaningfully associated with a person or persons who significantly contributed to the cultural, historic, architectural or archeological aspect of the development of the City of Newton, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, or the United States of America;

(4) historic events or activities occurred at the property that have made an outstanding contribution to, or which best represent some important aspect of, the history of the City of Newton, Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the United States of America.

## **DIVISION 3. LANDMARKS**

### **Sec. 22-64. Designation.**

**(a) If the commission determines to accept the nomination of a property, the commission shall hold a public hearing prior to a vote on whether to designate the property as a landmark.** The public hearing shall be held not less than thirty (30) days and not more than ninety (90) days from the date of the commission's determination to accept the nomination.