

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	SBR.45
Historic Name:	Newton, Moses House
Common Name:	
Address:	15 Main St
City/Town:	Southborough
Village/Neighborhood:	Southborough
Local No:	54-28
Year Constructed:	
Architect(s):	Newton, Moses
Architectural Style(s):	Federal
Use(s):	Agricultural; Multiple Family Dwelling House; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	SBR.AG: Southborough Town Center SBR.A: Main Street Area
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Asphalt Shingle Wall: Vinyl Siding; Wood Foundation: Granite



The Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC) has converted this paper record to digital format as part of ongoing projects to scan records of the Inventory of Historic Assets of the Commonwealth and National Register of Historic Places nominations for Massachusetts. Efforts are ongoing and not all inventory or National Register records related to this resource may be available in digital format at this time.

The MACRIS database and scanned files are highly dynamic; new information is added daily and both database records and related scanned files may be updated as new information is incorporated into MHC files. Users should note that there may be a considerable lag time between the receipt of new or updated records by MHC and the appearance of related information in MACRIS. Users should also note that not all source materials for the MACRIS database are made available as scanned images. Users may consult the records, files and maps available in MHC's public research area at its offices at the State Archives Building, 220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, open M-F, 9-5.

Users of this digital material acknowledge that they have read and understood the MACRIS Information and Disclaimer (<http://mhc-macris.net/macrisdisclaimer.htm>)

Data available via the MACRIS web interface, and associated scanned files are for information purposes only. THE ACT OF CHECKING THIS DATABASE AND ASSOCIATED SCANNED FILES DOES NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE LOCAL, STATE OR FEDERAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS. IF YOU ARE REPRESENTING A DEVELOPER AND/OR A PROPOSED PROJECT THAT WILL REQUIRE A PERMIT, LICENSE OR FUNDING FROM ANY STATE OR FEDERAL AGENCY YOU MUST SUBMIT A PROJECT NOTIFICATION FORM TO MHC FOR MHC'S REVIEW AND COMMENT. You can obtain a copy of a PNF through the MHC web site (www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc) under the subject heading "MHC Forms."

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

This file was accessed on:

Friday, July 08, 2016 at 1:21: PM

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Massachusetts Archives Building

54-28

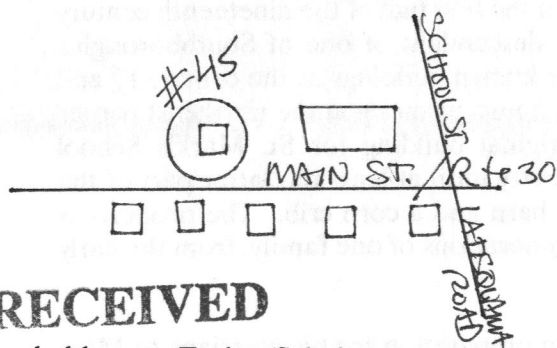
Marlborough

A

45



Number each property for which an inventory form has been completed. Label streets, including route numbers, if any. Attach a separate sheet if space is not sufficient here. Indicate north.

**RECEIVED**Recorded by Forbes/Schuler, consultants

JUL 03 2000

Organization Southborough Historical CommissionDate MASS. HIST. COMM February, 2000Town Southborough

Place (neighborhood or village) _____

Southborough centerAddress 15 Main StreetHistoric Name Moses Newton HouseUses: Present multi-family dwellingOriginal dwellingDate of Construction 1811-12Source former owner; Simpson; visual assessmentStyle/Form FederalArchitect/Builder Moses Newton

Exterior Material:

Foundation graniteWall/Trim vinyl sidingRoof asphalt

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures _____

2-car, clapboarded garage--mid-20th cenutyMajor Alterations (with dates) some door re-placement, entry canopies added--mid-20th C.Some trim lost to siding.Condition fair/goodMoved [x]no [] yes Date N/AAcreage 1.43 acresSetting On large, open lot in area of 19th-centuryhouses; modern commercial buildings to east.Stone retaining wall across southeast front.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION [] *see continuation sheet*

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This large, complex house is a building of many parts, one of which may have incorporated the carpenter's shop of its builder, Moses Newton. The original house is apparently the two-story, hip-roofed main house and a short northeast rear wing. A pair of tall interior end chimneys rises from the side slopes of the main house roof, and a third chimney from the center portion of the wing. What apparently began as a typical symmetrical five-bay facade acquired a two-story polygonal bay window on the southeast portion in the latter part of the nineteenth century, and a large flat-roofed entry canopy on slender Tuscan columns in the twentieth. A smaller hip-roofed canopy on square posts at an entry in the third bay of the east elevation probably dates to about the same time. This main block of the house is two bays deep on the west elevation, and five on the east. Most of the windows are 6-over-9-sash, in altered surrounds, with modern vinyl shutters. The main entry has a modern multi-light-over-panel door, flanked by large leaded, three-pane, half-length sidelights. Much of the trim of the house has been obscured by the siding, but there is evidence of cornerboards and a molded, boxed cornice.

A two-story, four-bay side-gabled wing with 2-over-2-sash windows extends west from the northwest corner of the main block. Its entry is in the easternmost bay, where a 6-panel door, with glass in the top two panels, is located. A hip-roofed porch extends forward of the entry, along the west elevation of the main house, supported by a Tuscan column at the southwest corner. A second story gable-roofed bay at the west end of the wing projects over a first-story polygonal bay window, suggesting a late-nineteenth-century date for at least that section. A two-story cross-gabled wing extends north from the rear wall of this wing. It has a variety of windows, including a 6/9 toward the outer end, a 6/6, and a small 3/6 at the second story. A modern 6-panel steel door is situated midway along its west elevation.

The northeast part of the house has been enlarged by the addition of another gabled wing, extending north/south, and slightly overlapping the rear northeast corner of the original rear wing. The first two bays of it are two stories high; behind that it becomes a two-bay, one-story ell. A pair of multi-light casements occupies the first story of the front part of this section; most of the other windows visible there are 6/6's.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE [x] *see continuation sheet*

Explain history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Although it has lost some of its original details, the Moses Newton House is extremely significant as the house that Southborough's most prominent master-builder of the first half of the nineteenth century built as his own residence. **Moses Newton** (b. 1787) was the descendant of one of Southborough's original settlers, after whom he was named. At least two other known buildings at the center, 17 and 26 Main Street, were built by him, as was the Timothy Brigham house formerly at the northeast corner of Main Street and Marlborough Road that became the original building for St. Mark's School (demolished). Mr. Newton's carpenter shop stood on the property until at least the latter part of the nineteenth century, along with other buildings that included a barn and a corn crib. The property is also significant as one that continued in the possession of four generations of one family, from the early nineteenth century until 1964.

According to family information, Mr. Newton built the house in preparation for his marriage to Mary (or Martha; also known as Polly) Ball on the day after Christmas in 1811. They had three children--a smaller family than most at that time.

[x] Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, a completed National Register Criteria statement form is attached.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Community

Property

Southborough

15 Main Street

Massachusetts Historical Commission
 Massachusetts Archives Building
 220 Morrissey Boulevard
 Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Area(s)
 A

Form No.
 45

HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE, cont.

In about 1843 Moses divided out a small houselot just west of his own residence for his son, Samuel, and it was probably father and son together who built Samuel's house at 17 Main Street. Moses Newton was a farmer as well as a carpenter, and built up a farm of about thirty acres stretching north of Main Street on what apparently had been Newton family land for many decades.

Moses died in 1859, and **Samuel Newton** (1813-1891) apparently moved his family into 15 Main Street, where they lived with his mother until her death in 1876. Samuel may have gradually bought out some of the other heirs, as in 1870 he is listed as owning 6/11 of the property, while Mary Newton owned 5/11, plus the carpenter's shop; by 1881 Samuel owned 5/6, and his mother 1/6. In 1870 the farm associated with the house was 26 acres, plus forty more at other locations. The land around the house had been reduced to five acres by 1881, but until his death Samuel Newton kept possession of forty-four acres of pasture and tillage land east of the railroad, where he pastured a herd of about a dozen cows. He also kept a few pigs and a flock of chickens in a combined hog and hen house, and added a carriage house to the collection of outbuildings on this property.

One of Samuel's daughters, Martha, became a missionary. She spent five years in Africa, and later worked with poor whites in Georgia. After her marriage, as Martha Newton North, she and her husband moved to Oklahoma, making her the first missionary to go west from Southborough.

Upon Samuel Newton's death in 1891, the property was inherited by his two children, **Lucy Sophia** (b. 1841) and **Albro W. Newton** (1845-1911). For many years Albro Newton worked as a janitor, but continued to work the farm here. In 1897 he still had seven cows and a sizable number of chickens. By 1900 he no longer raised cows, had reduced the house lot to an acre and a half, and had sold the land east of the railroad to other Newton family members who would shortly subdivide some of it for the development of Lyman Street.

Albro Newton's wife, **Cora (Howard) Newton**, survived him, and lived here until her death in the 1930s. For at least part of that time her brother, Herbert B. Howard, and sister Nellie L. Howard, an invalid, also lived in the house. Herbert Howard was a druggist. He and Cora and Albro's son, Albro R. Newton, were owners of the town pharmacy, Newton & Howard, in the Masonic Building at the corner of Main Street and Boston Road.

The last family member to own the house was Cora and Albro's younger son, **Howard Newton**, who sold the property out of the family in 1964.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES [] *see continuation sheet*

Maps and Atlases: 1831; 1856, 1857 (M & S Newton); 1870 (S. Newton); 1898 (S. Newton heirs).

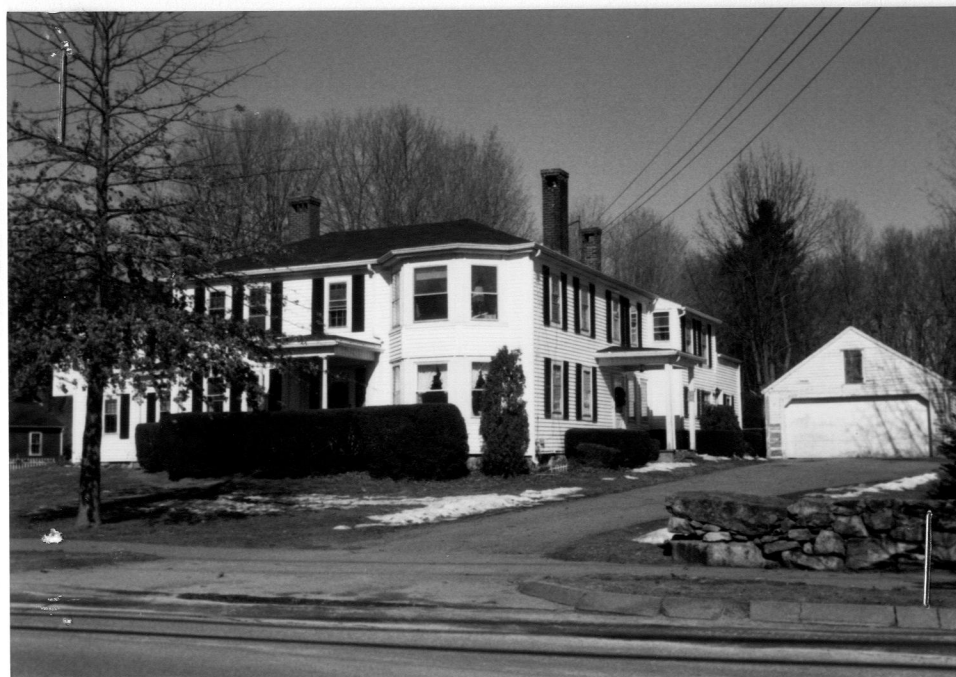
Noble, Richard. Fences of Stone: a History of Southborough, MA. Portsmouth, NH: Peter Randall, 1990.

Old Southborough, a Photographic Essay. Southborough Historical Society, 1981.

Simpson, Louise. Old Houses in Southborough. Unpublished manuscript, 1904.

Town of Southborough: Vital Records; Annual Reports and Assessor's Reports, various dates.

Massachusetts death records.



Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Community
Southborough

Property Address
15 Main Street

Area(s)
A

Form No(s).
45

National Register of Historic Places Criteria Statement Form

Check all that apply:

- ☒ Individually eligible ☐ Eligible only in a historic district
☒ Contributing to a potential historic district ☐ Potential historic district

Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D

Criteria Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Statement of Significance by Forbes/Schuler, Consultants
The criteria that are checked in the above sections must be justified here.

Designed and built by its first owner, the Moses Newton House meets Criterion C of the National Register individually at the local level as an example of a Federal period house indicative of the work of a local master-carpenter who is known to have built other local buildings, as well. It also fulfills Criterion A for its connection with the Newton family, owners, builders, and developers of a considerable part of the center of Southborough along the lower part of Main Street. For these reasons it is also eligible as a contributing property in a district encompassing the historic residential and institutional meetinghouse center of the town.

The property retains integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship, feeling, setting and association.



PHD / 45

(A)	Pl. SOUTH us. m. el
own <u>Southborough</u>	
reet address <u>15 Main St</u>	
me _____	
iginal use <u>dwellings</u>	
esent use <u>" (multiple)</u>	
esent owner <u>L. Cibelli</u>	
en to public _____	
te <u>1811</u>	Style _____
urce of date <u>owner ADSC Rept.</u>	

MUSIC _____ Development of town/city _____ Architect Moses Newton - Builder

3. CONDITION: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated Moved Altered Added

4. DESCRIPTION

FOUNDATION/BASEMENT: High Regular Low Material: _____

WALL COVER: Wood clapboards Brick Stone Other _____

ROOF: Ridge Gambrel Flat Hip Mansard _____
Tower Cupola Dormer windows Balustrade Grillwork _____

CHIMNEYS: 1 2 3 4 Center End Interior Irregular Cluster Elaborate

STORIES: 1 2 3 4 ATTACHMENTS: Wings Ell Shed _____

PORCHES: 1 2 3 4 PORTICO _____ Balcony _____

FACADE: Gable end: Front/Side Ornament: _____

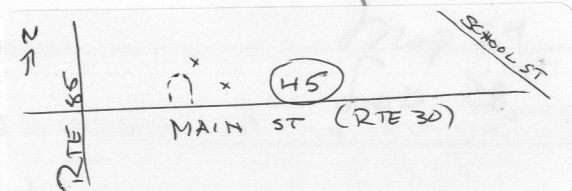
Entrance: Side Front: Center/Side Details: _____

Windows: Spacing: Regular/Irregular Identical/Varied _____

Corners: Plain Pilasters Quoins Cornerboards _____

5. Indicate location of structure in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings

6. Footage of structure from street
Property has _____ feet frontage on street



Recorder _____

For _____

Photo 2-11 Date 1971

SEE REVERSE SIDE

RELATION OF SURROUNDING TO STRUCTURE

SBR. 45

1. Outbuildings Garage

2. Landscape Features: Agriculture Open Wooded Garden: Formal/Informal
 Predominant features
 Landscape architect

3. Neighboring Structures

Style: Colonial Federal Greek Revival Gothic Revival Italian Villa Lombard Rom.
 Venetian Gothic Mansard Richardsonian Modern

Use: Residential Commercial Religious Conditions: Excellent Good Fair Deteriorated

GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC IMPORTANCE OF SITE (Refer and elaborate on theme circled on front of form)

A large colonial style house built in 1811 by Moses Newton, the town carpenter. He brought his bride, Polly Ball, here in 1812. He was considered a wealthy man in his day and at one time owned one of the three covered carriages in town. The house remained in the Newton family until 1964 when Howard Newton, great-grandson of the builder sold the house to Mr. Cibelli.

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND/OR REFERENCE

1870 Atlas

1898 S. Newton Hairs

also

Moses Newton

① HDSC Report 1972

2916-15

RESTRICTIONS

Original Owner:

Deed Information: Book Number 1477 Page 557, Worcester Co. Registry of Deeds