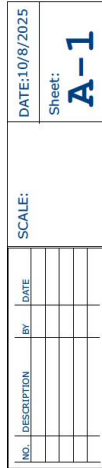


NEWTON HIGHLANDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

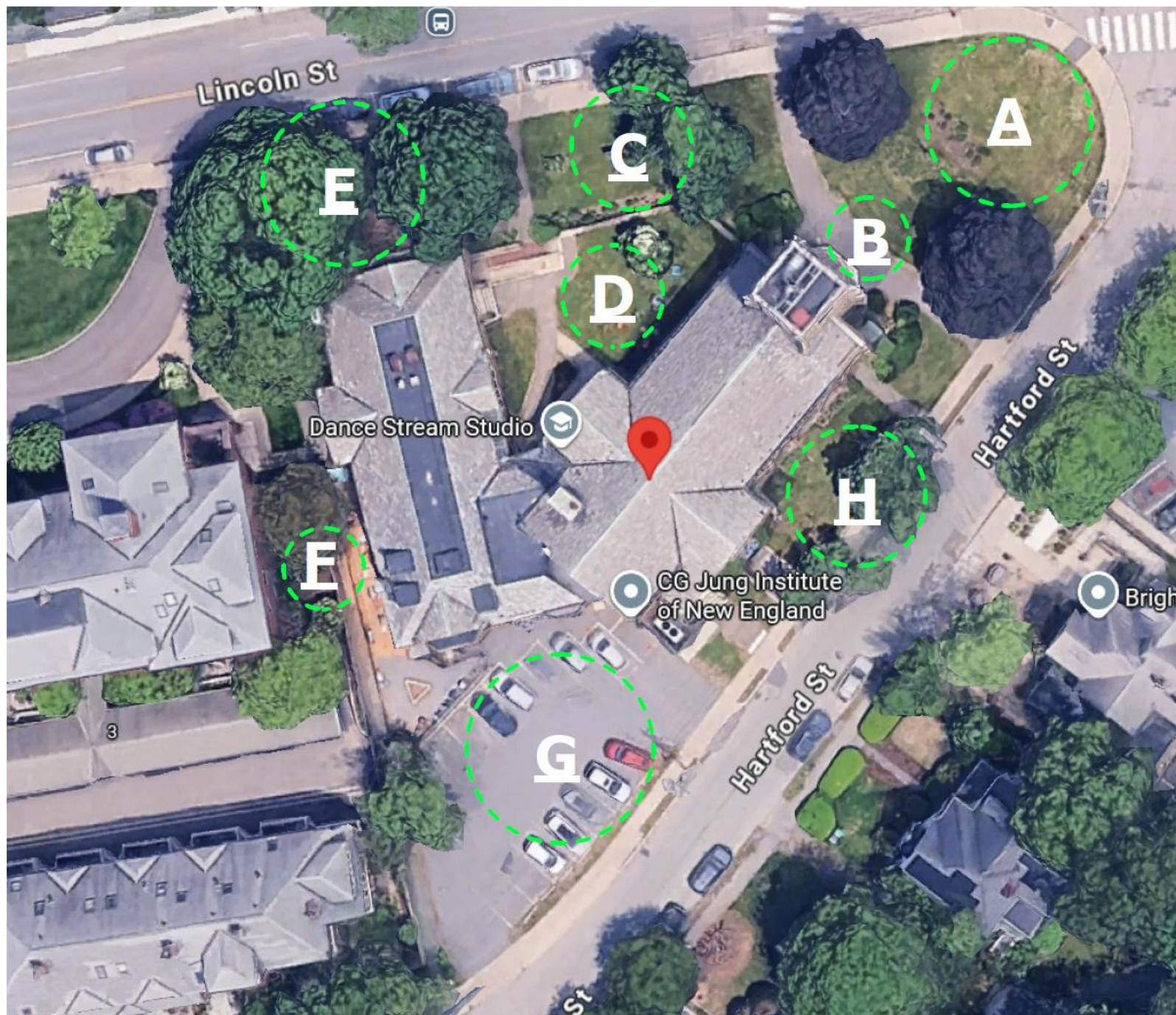
OCTOBER 28, 2025

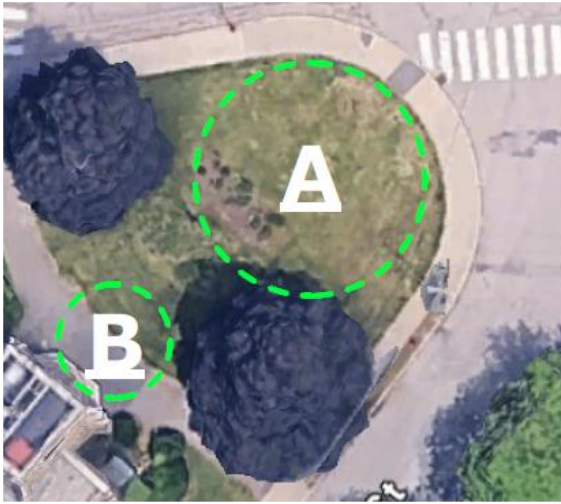
Purpose: This exercise is to help you each to get a fresh look at these familiar spaces, to dream big, and to share your quick thoughts and ideas with us. Directions: -Lets work in pairs. - For each space can you share something that happened or that it has been used for, -Imagine something that you think it could be used for, - share something fun or interesting or challenging about the space or its abutting spaces. Please list your ideas below and label each by area. If an idea falls between two areas list it with both areas divided by a /. When done please be sure to hand your sheet back to us so we can gather all the ideas together. If you need more space use the back of your sheet. Thanks!

[illegible]

SHEET TITLE:

Newton Highlands
Congregational Church





AREA 'A'

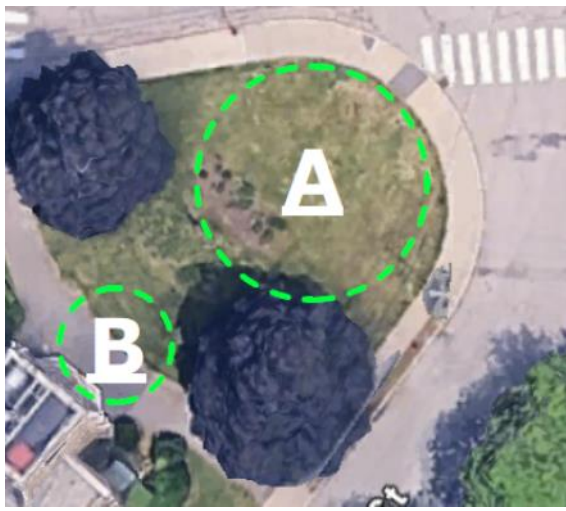
- EASTER EGG HUNT
- VILLAGE DAY-MUSIC SOMETIMES
- BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
- CHRISTMAS SERVICE DURING THE PANDEMIC
- VILLAGE DAY BANDSTAND
- WOMEN'S CLUB USED TO RUN TABLES HERE ON VILLAGE DAY



THE SIGN:

- CHANGE THE SIGN –IT IS HARD TO READ
- MOVE THE SIGN
- SIGN SHOULD BE IN A GARDEN
- BETTER SIGN

- PARK LIKE AREA-BIG SPACE, MOSTLY WASTED NOW
- AVOID HUGE YEWs
- NO TALL SHRUBS
- DEFINE EDGES
- REMOVE VINES ON BUILDING

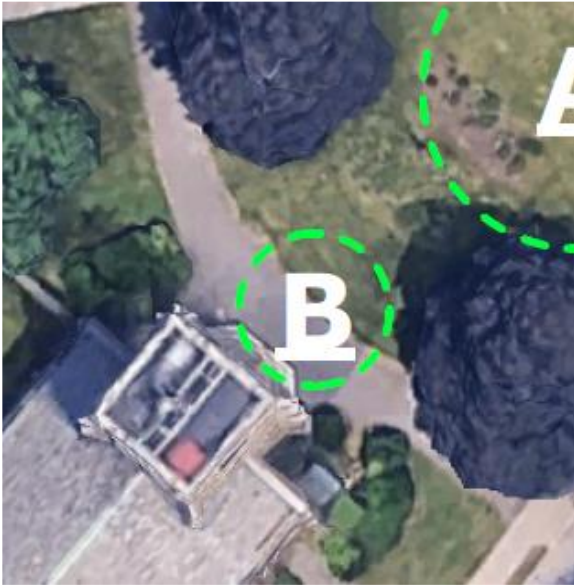


AREA 'A'



OPPORTUNITIES

- AREA COULD BE MORE ACCESSIBLE TO COMMUNITY WITH SHADE, PICNIC TABLES, CHAIRS, WATER FEATURE
- MORE AREAS THAT INVITE PEOPLE IN TO USE THEM
- LAWN CONCERTS
- MORE SEATING
- LOW STONE FENCE YOU CAN SIT ON
- WATER FEATURE
- WATER SUPPLY FOR PLANTS
- BRIGHT FLOWERS
- WELCOMING
- PLANTS/GARDEN/NATIVE FLOWERS
- GREAT TO INVITE COMMUNITY TO THIS SPACE MORE OFTEN WITH SEATING OR GAMES, PERHAPS EVEN INCORPORATING THE CHURCH STEPS AS SEATING
- FERRIS WHEEL
- FOUNTAIN



AREA 'B'

- EASTER EGG HUNT
- BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS
- ANOTHER COVID MEMORY: CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OUTSIDE AT FRONT DOOR
- STAR ON TOP OF CHURCH

- STEPS AREN'T EQUAL (1ST STEP)
- MAKE SIDEWALK NICER
- SURFACE POROUS
- PUT A SIGN ABOVE CHURCH DOOR
- WELCOME SIGN ABOVE CHURCH DOOR (FLASHING LIGHTS)

WITH AREA 'A'

- LAWN CONCERTS
- GAZEBO AND MAYBE A FOUNTAIN
- VILLAGE DAY BAND STAND
- GREAT TO INVITE COMMUNITY TO THIS SPACE MORE OFTEN WITH SEATING, GAMES, PERHAPS ENVE INCORPORATING CHURCH STEPS AS SEATING



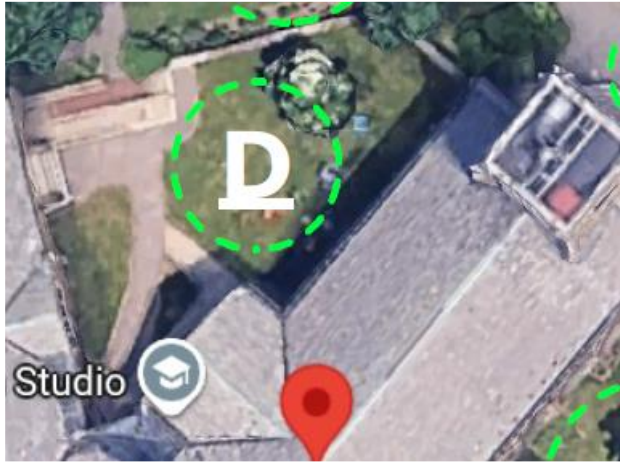


AREA 'C'

- EASTER EGG HUNT
- VILLAGE DAY BOOTHS
- IT'S A BIG SPACE-HOW TO DEMARCATE AND INVITE?
- NOT USED FOR ANYTHING NOW
- RANDOM GARDEN IN MIDDLE
- ADD PLACES TO SIT

- MORE TREES
- MAYBE CREATE SOME 'STRUCTURE' WHICH INCLUDES A GARDEN WITH SEATING
- MEMORIAL GARDEN HERE
- NEW GRASS
- NEW SIGN
- BETTER INTEGRATION BETWEEN 'C' AND 'D'
- IMPROVE/REPLACE RAMPS WITH MORE ATTRACTIVE SWEEPING RAMP FOR HANDICAPPED AND OTHERS
- RENT TO OUTDOOR CAFÉ?
- TABLE TENNIS
- GAZEBO FOR MUSICIANS OR JUST ENJOYING THE NEIGHBORHOOD
- BOCCE BALL





AREA 'D'

- COFFE HOUR
- SUMMER SERVICE
- KIDS ICE CREAM
- EASTER EGG HUNT
- OUTDOOR 'PARLOR'



- WOULD LIKE A PATIO, MEETING PLACE
- IT GETS HOT-MORE SHADE?
- OPEN STRUCTURE?
- OUTDOOR PARTIES AND GATHERINGS
- MOVEABLE SEATING
- DEFINED SEATING AREA
- PATIO WITH TABLES
- BETTER INTEGRATED WITH AREA 'C'
- IMPROVE/REPLACE RAMPS WITH SWEEPING RAMP FOR HANDICAPPED AND OTHERS
- SAFETY RAILINGS SHOULD BE BLACK!
- ICE CREAM STAND
- MEMORIAL GARDEN BETWEEN SIDEWALK AND HALL
- EVENING SUMMER SERVICE 2024-2026
- GAZEBO FOR MUSICIANS OR JUST ENJOYING THE NEIGHBORHOOD
- MINI GOLF



AREA 'E'

- PLAYGROUND SIGNAGE
- IMPROVE THE PLAYGROUND
- ITS NOT ATTRACTIVE OR INVITING
- SHADE GARDEN
- FRIENDLY SEATING
- LEAVE ALONE OR ADD SHRUBS
- POSSIBLY VINES ON THE FENCE
- IMPROVE FENCE AND PLANTINGS
- IT'S NOT OUR SPACE
- UPDATE PLAYGROUND BUT KEEP TREES





AREA 'F'

- EXTEND SIDEWALK TO LINCOLN STREET AND UPGRADE SURFACE
- RE DO MULCH WITH OUT RAISING LEVEL ALONG BUILDING
- CONSIDER PLASTIC BOARD ALONG THE BOTTOM OF THE FENCE TO HOLD IN WOOD CHIP MULCH
- IMPROVE FENCE AND PLANTINGS
- DRAINAGE ISSUE
- UPDATE PLAYGROUND BUT KEEP TREES



AREA 'G'



- TREES
- TREES
- PARKING FOREMOST
- SHRUBS DEFINING BORDER
- TREES WOULD BE NICE
- DRIVE IN SINGING DURING COVID. PEOPLE IN THEIR CARS WOULD SING INTO MICS AND BROADCAST SO WE COULD ALL LISTEN ON CAR RADIOS
- SOLAR ROOF COVERAGE & ADDING POWER TO CHURCH



AREA 'H'



- URBAN FOREST (SEE BOSTON GLOBE SUNDAY 10-5-2025)
- BUSHES, TREES, GARDEN
- LESS LAWN
- GARDEN SPACE WITH SOME BENCHES
- LOW MAINTENANCE
- WILDFLOWERS
- COMMUNITY PARK
- INTEGRATE WITH NEIGHBORHOOD
- VEGGIE GARDEN?
- TINY GREEN HOUSE? ATTACHED TO STONE WALL?

GENERAL COMMENTS

(FOR NO SPECIFIC AREA)

- NO MORE GARDENS- WE HAVE AN AVID GARDENER NOW BUT SHE WON'T BE HERE FOREVER
- CREATE AREAS FOR CONTEMPLATION ON THE GROUNDS WHERE ANYONE CAN FEEL COMFORTABLE SPENDING TIME (ANYONE IN THE COMMUNITY)
- VENDING MACHINES
- OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS TREE
- BIKE PARKING/BIKE RACK

What is a Master Plan and how does it help?

A Landscape Master Plan will serve as an overarching framework in pictures and words for the design and implementation of projects over time.

Through the process of its creation it helps the community join together to identify opportunities and organize its goals and priorities into a thoughtful approach to the property as a whole.

Upon completion and approval it serves as a touch stone for motivating, organizing, fundraising and planning for projects being developed and implemented over time and to ensure that each effort maintains a connection to the stake holders' initial goals and concerns and the property continues to function as a cohesive whole.

Finally, it should serve as a reference point for the community to evolve and change over time.

WORKING TITLE: COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

THE QUESTION IS, WHAT DOES
CONNECTING TO THE COMMUNITY MEAN
TO YOU?