

FORM B -BUILDING

Assessor' number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

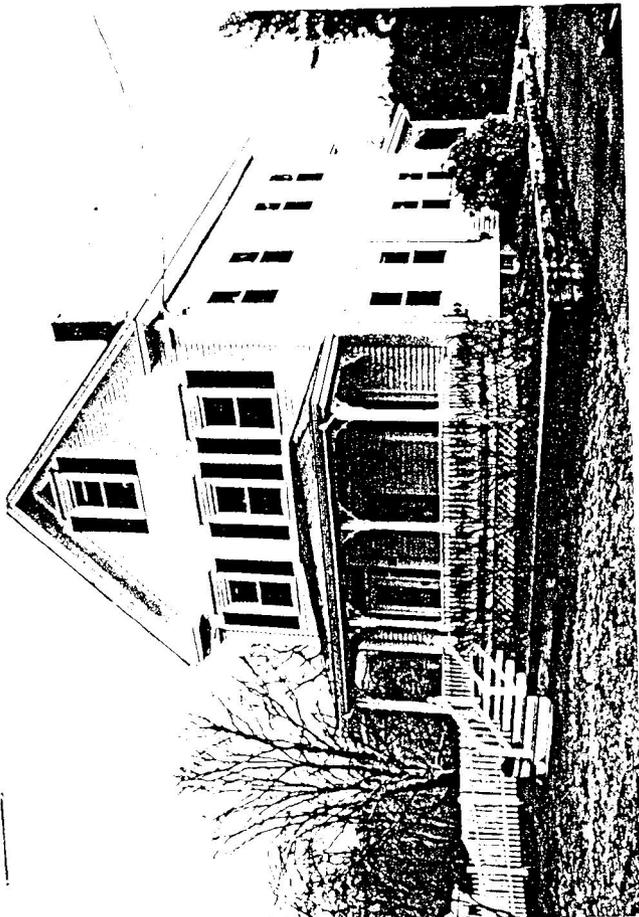
Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard

Map:54 Parcel: 81

Reading

135



Town: North Reading, MA

Place (neighborhood or village)

Wilson's Corner/

Town Center East

Address 11 Washington Street

Historic Name Samuel P. Breed House

Use: Present Private residence

Original Private residence

Date of Construction 1859

Source Middlesex County Deeds, Vol. 805, page 282

Style/Form Italianate/ L-shaped

Architect/Builder Undetermined

Exterior Material

Foundation granite blocks

Wall Vinyl siding

Roof Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures N/A

Major Alterations (with dates) Vinyl siding replaced original clapboards at an undetermined date. Queen Anne front and side porches added during the late nineteenth century.

Condition Good

Moved yes no

Acreage .25 acres

Setting Key component in linear development of mid nineteenth century houses bordering Washington Street.



BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

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

This house stands with its end gable overlooking a narrow front lawn and the street while its west wall is adjacent to a side driveway. 11 Washington Street is a relatively stylish and substantial end gable Italianate house. While houses of this style and type are generally well-represented in most Massachusetts cities and towns, Italianate end gable houses are relatively rare in North Reading (with scattered examples along western Mount Vernon Street and at the town center). Although clad with vinyl siding, it retains its original L-shaped form and Queen Anne front and side porch additions. Composed of a three-bay-by-four-bay main block with a long, one-bay-by-four-bay rear ell, this house rises two stories from a heavy granite block foundation to a gable roof with return eaves. Doric pilasters accent the edges of the main block. The front door is flanked by five-pane side lights and Doric pilasters and is surmounted by a four-pane transom. The front door opens on to a later, full-length porch addition with typically Queen Anne elements including turned railing balusters and posts. The posts support a hip porch roof. A similar Queen Anne porch is in evidence at the intersection of the main block's rear wall and the ell's west wall. Interestingly the side porch is more ornate (or more intact?) than the front porch, enlivened as it is by a spool work transom. In general, windows are fully enframed and exhibit cornice-headed moldings. The windows of the rear wall are more simply enframed. With the exception of the tall, 6/6 wood sash windows to the right of the entrance, windows are standard size and contain 1/1 metal sash.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE *see continuation sheet*

Discuss the 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.

11 Washington Street is part of a linear development of mid-nineteenth century residences that were built along Washington Street following its creation around 1850. Referred to in early 1850s Middlesex County deeds as "the new town road leading from Park Street to Elm Street," Washington Street linked the farms in the eastern part of the town more closely with the town center at the intersection of Park and Haverhill Streets. Washington Street, west of Park Street, was originally lined with nine houses. Three of these houses were demolished to accommodate mid-twentieth century commercial concerns.

11 Washington Street provides a physical link with North Reading during the Early Industrial Period (1830-1875). The town's population was characterized by slow and gradual growth from around 800 people in 1830 to 1,203 in 1860--a figure that was not reached again until 1915. During this period, the town achieved independence from Reading in 1853. Shoemaking was largely responsible for the growth of North Reading during this period. By the mid-1840s, five stores, two wheelwrights, one blacksmith and several mills as well as numerous shoe making shops figured importantly in the local economy. Agricultural pursuits, however, remained the principal way North Reading's citizens supported themselves. By 1865, the town encompassed 88 farms.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES *see continuation sheet*

North Reading Maps/Atlases: 1795,1831,1857,1875,1889,1906;
Town of North Reading Street List, 1966
North Reading Directories (Wakefield): 1896-97;1905;1907;1911-12; 1919-20;1931-1932;1941
Valuation of Real and Personal Estates, Town of North Reading: 1870;1890;1910;1920;1930
Massachusetts Historical Commission North Reading Reconnaissance Survey, c. 1980

Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

NORTH READING, MA



LYNNFIELD

NORTH READING, MA
LEGEND

-  TOWN BOUNDARY
-  PARCELS
-  BUILDING FOOTPRINT
-  ACCEPTED & UTILIZED
-  UNACCEPTED ACCEPTED
-  HYDROGRAPHY