

FORM B -BUILDING

Assessor's number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission  
220 Morrissey Boulevard

11-003

Reading

65

Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Town: North Reading, MA

Place (neighborhood or village)

Holt's Grove at

Martin's Pond

Address 10 Batchelder Avenue

Historic Name Undetermined

Use: Present Residence

Original Residence

Date of Construction 1905

Source Dorothy Kittredge, current owner

Style/Form Craftsman

Architect/Builder Undetermined

Exterior Material

Foundation Field stone

Wall Wood shingles

Roof Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures

N/A

Major Alterations (with dates) Very intact

Condition Good

Moved  yes  no

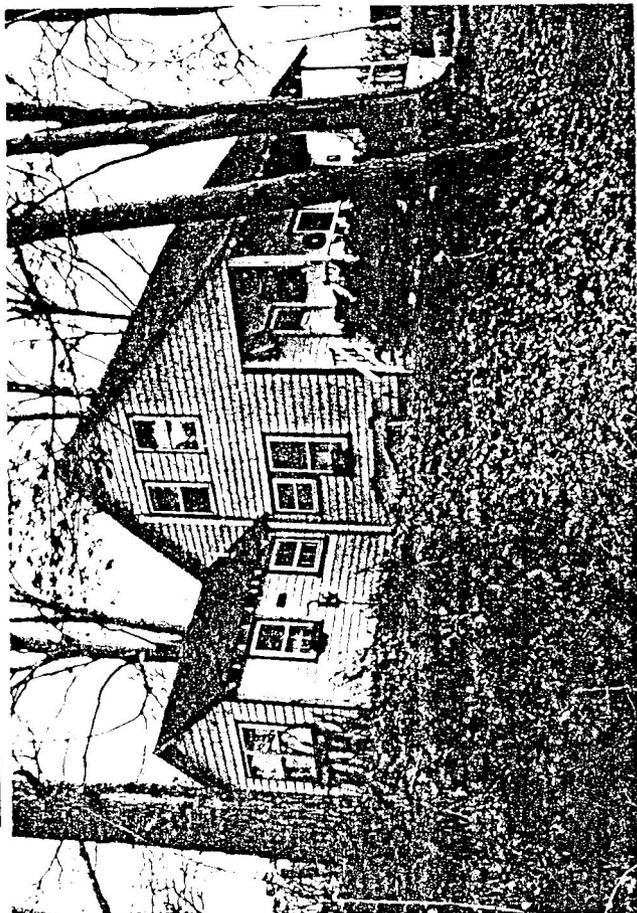
Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Picturesquely sited on northeastern shores of

Martin's Pond. Part of a node of cottages bordering the  
cul-de-sac called Batchelder Avenue.

Recorded by Edward W. Gordon  
North Reading Historical Commission  
Organization

Date(month/day/year) 17/10/2001



## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

10 Batchelder Avenue is a relatively rare, intact summer cottage dating from the earliest phase of North Reading's rise as a middle class summer vacation destination during the first quarter of the twentieth century. While most of the cottages bordering Martin's Pond have been altered by the addition of porches, picture windows and ell additions, 10 Batchelder Avenue retains integrity of form, fabric and siting.

This Craftsman style cottage was built in 1905, for the family of Dorothy Kittredge, the present owner. Essentially L-shaped in form, it rises a single story to intersecting gable roofs. Sheathed in rustic wooden shingles, this house's main facade faces Martin's Pond. The main facade is dominated by a full-length front porch which is sheltered by the dramatic sweep of the roof's west slope. Measuring three-bays-by-two-bays, windows are simply enframed and contain 1/1 wood sash. Projecting from the northeast corner of the main block is a one-story, two-bay-by-one-bay gable-roofed ell. At the center of the Batchelder Avenue elevation is a small, open porch which is enclosed by a gable roof.

### 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.*

10 Batchelder Avenue has been owned by three generations of Dorothy Kittredge's family. Built in 1905, this house is representative of the type of Craftsman style cottage being built on North Reading ponds during the first quarter of the nineteenth century. The largest of the town's five ponds, Martin's Pond was the focus of a thriving ice industry during the second half of the nineteenth century. Alanson A. Upton, A.R. McIntire and others were leaders in this industry. Further research is needed to determine the extent of this business--was this an essentially local trade with customers drawn from North Reading and adjacent communities or did its reach extend to Boston, Salem, Lawrence and other markets?

By 1906, the glory days of the ice industry were drawing to a close and colonies of summer cottages were being built at Martin's Pond and to a lesser extent on Swan Pond and along the Ipswich River. 10 Batchelder Avenue was part of a cluster of cottages at the northeast corner of Martin's Pond called Holt's Grove. Prior to early twentieth century seasonal residence development the Holts and the Batchelders, families long associated with the northern section of North Reading seem to have been the principle land owners in the area (see MHC Form B's for 178 North Street and 220 North Street).

### 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  
Eaton, Chester W., & Warren Eaton, eds. Proceedings of the 250th Anniversary of the Ancient Town of N.R.  
Le Page, Samuel M. A History of North Reading, Tercentenary Ed., 1944

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

# STREETS, PARCELS & BUILDINGS NORTH READING, MASSACHUSETTS

