

FORM B -BUILDING

Assessor' number

USGS Quad

Area(s)

Form Number

Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard

Map: 53 Parcel: 33

Reading

97

Town: North Reading, MA

Place (neighborhood or village)

Town Center

Address 171 Haverhill Street

Historic Name Campbell-Fox Farmstead

Use: Present Private residence

Original Farm house

Date of Construction 1857

Source Eatons' 250th Anniversary History of North Reading

Style/Form Italianate/L-shaped

Architect/Builder Undetermined

Exterior Material

Foundation Granite block

Wall Clapboards

Roof Asphalt shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Two car, tin-roofed garage.

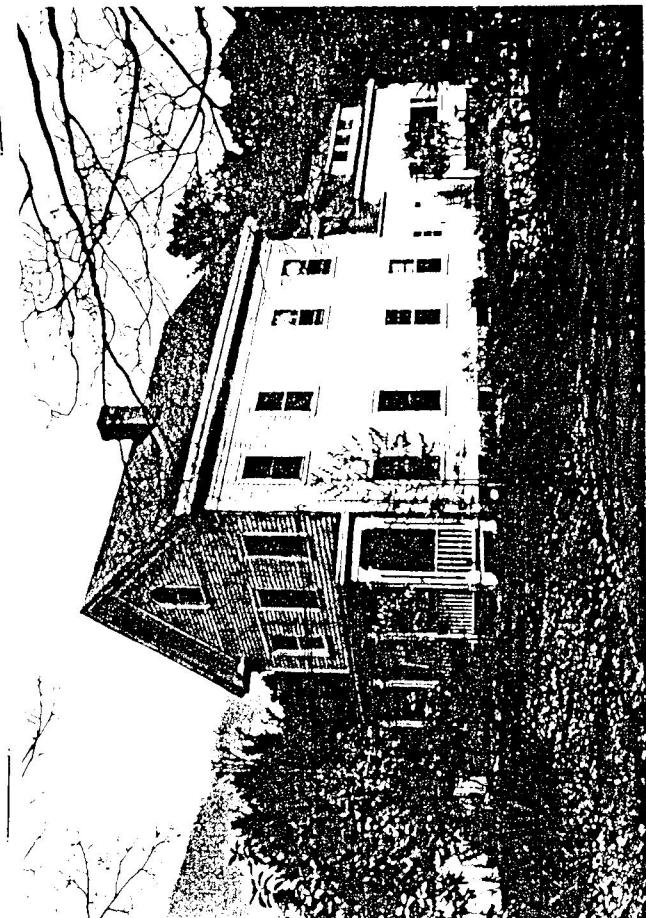
Major Alterations (with dates) Picture window
and dormer added to easternmost ell.

Condition Good

Moved yes no

Acreage Less than one acre

Setting Situated on a tree-shaded lot just north of the

n Town Common. A low, rubble stone retaining wall
borders the north side of the driveway that extends from the
street to the garage.

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

Massachusetts Historical Commission

Community: North Reading, MA

Form No:

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION *see continuation sheet*

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

Built in 1857, 171 Haverhill Street ranks among the most intact, full blown examples of an Italianate house in North Reading. Standing with its end gable facing Haverhill Street, this clapboard-clad house rises two stories from a granite block basement to an asphalt shingle-covered gable roof with return eaves. The house is composed of a three-bay-by-four-bay main block with two one-and-one-half story rear ell. The edges of the house are crisply accented by narrow corner boards. The main facade exhibits a full-length front porch with chamfered Doric posts and slat work railings. The posts exhibit narrow arched punched and cut openings. The placement of the front door suggests a side hall interior plan. To the right of the entrance, tall double hung windows containing 6/6 wood sash open on to the porch. These windows are the only ones that possess louvered shutters. In general, windows are fully enframed and contain 6/6 wood sash. The attic is illuminated by arched windows. In typical Italianate fashion, the eaves are fairly deep. The side walls culminate in wide boards with raised molding courses.

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.

Built in 1857, 171 Haverhill Street is significant as a property associated with the shoe industry through its original owner, John B. Campbell. A noted Middlesex County horticulturist who perfected a new type strawberry, Campbell is also credited with the landscape design of North Reading's Riverside Cemetery. This house's parcel was evidently carved from the Gowing family's extensive holdings. The original owner of this property was John B. Campbell. This house seems to be labeled J. F. Hammond on the 1857 Map of Middlesex County. By 1870, John B. Campbell presided over a 25 3/4 acre farm with a total valuation of \$3,040. This farm encompassed a house (\$1600); a barn (\$300); a shop (\$350); as well as a 3/4-acre house lot (\$200); a 2-acre garden lot (\$100); a three-acre pasture (\$90); and wood lots named Welch and Holt valued at \$400. The fact that the shop on the premises had an estimated value that was a bit more than that of the barn underlines the fact that shoe making, not agricultural enterprise, was the principal source of income for the Campbell family. Indeed, in their 250th Anniversary History of North Reading, the Eatons include a photograph of Campbell and discuss his career as a shoe maker and civic leader in North Reading.

John Buxton Campbell was born on January 2, 1821. The son of James and Phebe (Buxton) Campbell,

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

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.*

