

FORM B - BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
A	47

2.



1. Town North Reading

Address 136 Park Street

Name First of the Baptist Parso
ages

Present use Residence, two family

Present owner Nicholas P. Bonifac

3. Description:

Date 1837

Source "Historical Highlights"

Style Greek Revival

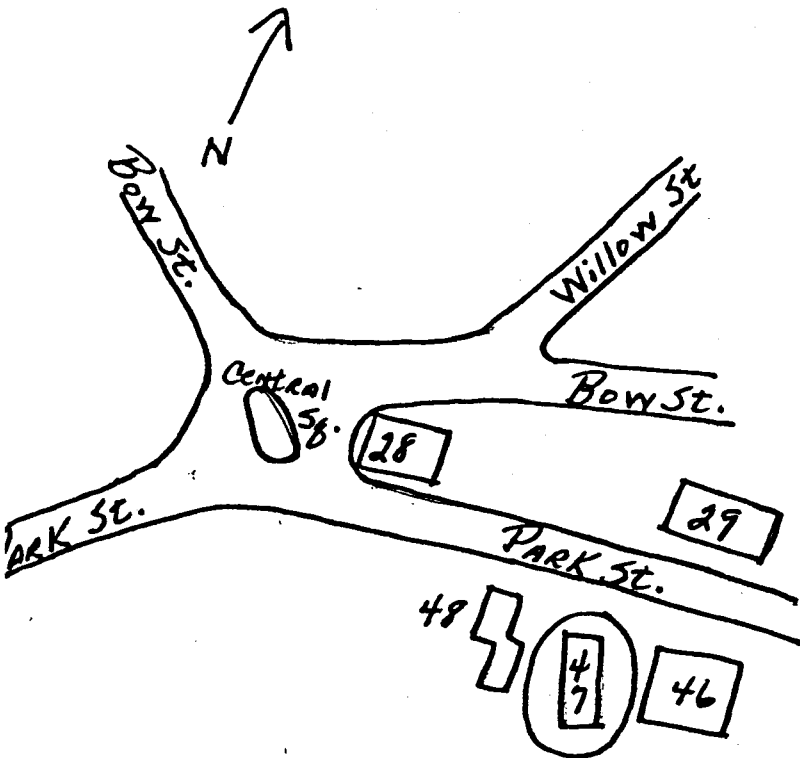
Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric Shakes

Outbuildings (describe) garage

Other features Queene Anne Porch

4. Map. Draw sketch of building location in relation to nearest cross streets and other buildings. Indicate north.



Rear porch removed Date 1952
Altered Barn burned Date 1952

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: 103 3/5 sq. rods

One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 121'

Approximate distance of building from stre
35'

6. Recorded by Barbara O'Brien

Organization Historical Commission

Date November, 1977

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) North Parish of Reading Baptist Society

Original use Parsonage

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates single family residence - 1891; converted to two family after 1912

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

Aboriginal	<u> </u>	Conservation	<u> </u>	Recreation	<u> </u>
Agricultural	<u> </u>	Education	<u> </u>	Religion	<u> X </u>
Architectural	<u> </u>	Exploration/ settlement	<u> </u>	Science/ invention	<u> </u>
The Arts	<u> </u>	Industry	<u> </u>	Social/ humanitarian	<u> X </u>
Commerce	<u> X </u>	Military	<u> </u>	Transportation	<u> </u>
Communication	<u> </u>	Political	<u> </u>		
Community development	<u> X </u>				

9. Historical significance (include explanation of themes checked above)

Twenty-one years after the Baptist Society organized, the Society had the first of three parsonages built. Although the first of the Baptist Churches burned in 1860 (situated east of the parsonage), the home was used until sold to Frederick S. French in 1891. French was a partner in the store, Carpenter & French, which occupied the former site of the church.

The single family home was converted to a two family and then again to a single family several times after 1912. Dr. Herbert Land, now of Reading, rented the first floor for his residence and office (2nd location).

10. Bibliography and/or references (such as local histories, deeds, assessor's records, early maps, etc.)

Mddlsx s. s. Registry of Deeds and Probate
"Historical Highlights" of the Baptist Church, Robertson, 1967
Interview with Willard "Mike" Walsh