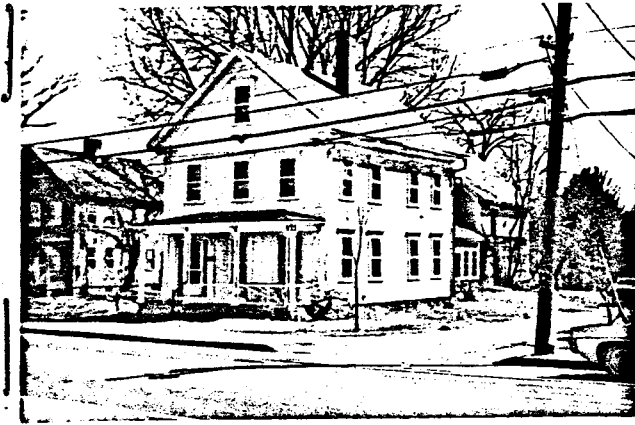


In Area no. A	Form no. 48
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2.



1. Town North Reading

Address 140 Park Street

Name Charles Putnam Howard House

Present use Residence

Present owner Mrs. Florence P. Conn

3. Description:

Date 1840

Source Reading Assessor's Record

Style Greek Revival

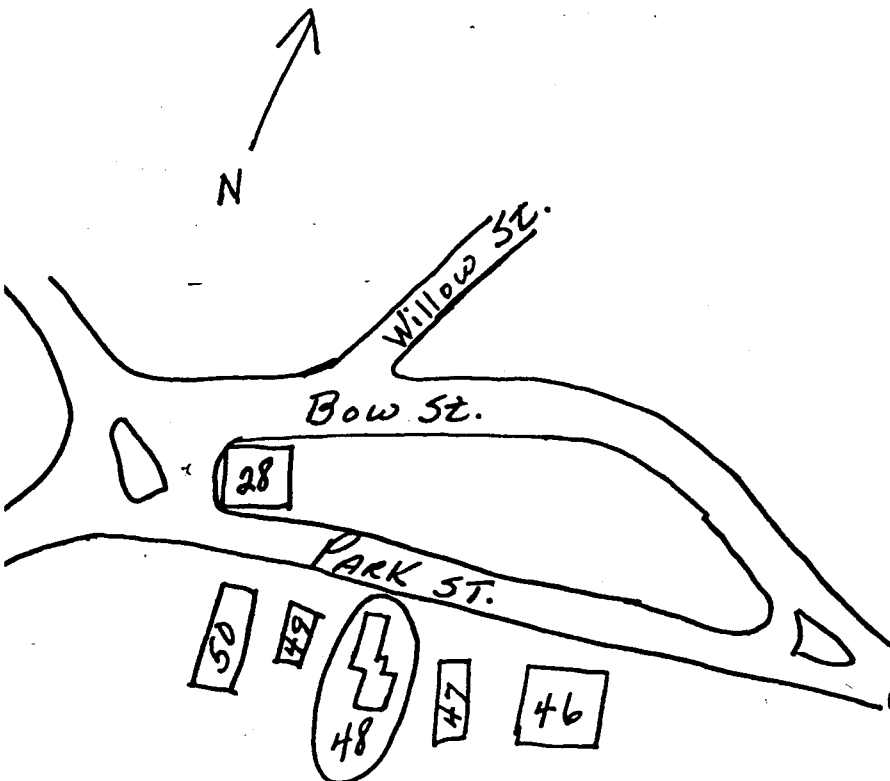
Architect \_\_\_\_\_

Exterior wall fabric wood

Outbuildings (describe) attached barn

Other features Anglo-Italianate Porc

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



Altered \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Moved \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

5. Lot size: 20,000 sq. ft.

One acre or less x Over one acre \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate frontage 48'

Approximate distance of building from street

15'

6. Recorded by Barbara O'Brien

Organization Historical Commission

Date January, 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) Charles Putnam Howard (formerly Hayward)

Original use Residence

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Living Room used as telephone switchboard off:  
from approximately 1923 thru Sept. 12, 1952

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Charles Putnam Howard (formerly Hayward until mid-1820's) had the home and a store on the westerly side of the home built in 1840. When the North Parish of Reading incorporated in 1853, Howard was elected Town Clerk and served in that capacity for a number of years. He also served as Selectman for three years.

The third location of the telephone switchboard office was in the living room of this home, beginning around 1923 through Sept. 12, 1952, when the crank telephones were replaced with the dial system. Mrs. Florence P. Conron, the present owner, was in charge of the switchboard between 1923 and 1952.

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

Mdd1sx s. s. Registry of Deeds and Probate  
Reading Assessor's Records  
North Reading Town Reports  
Interview with Flossie Conron