

FORM B - BUILDING

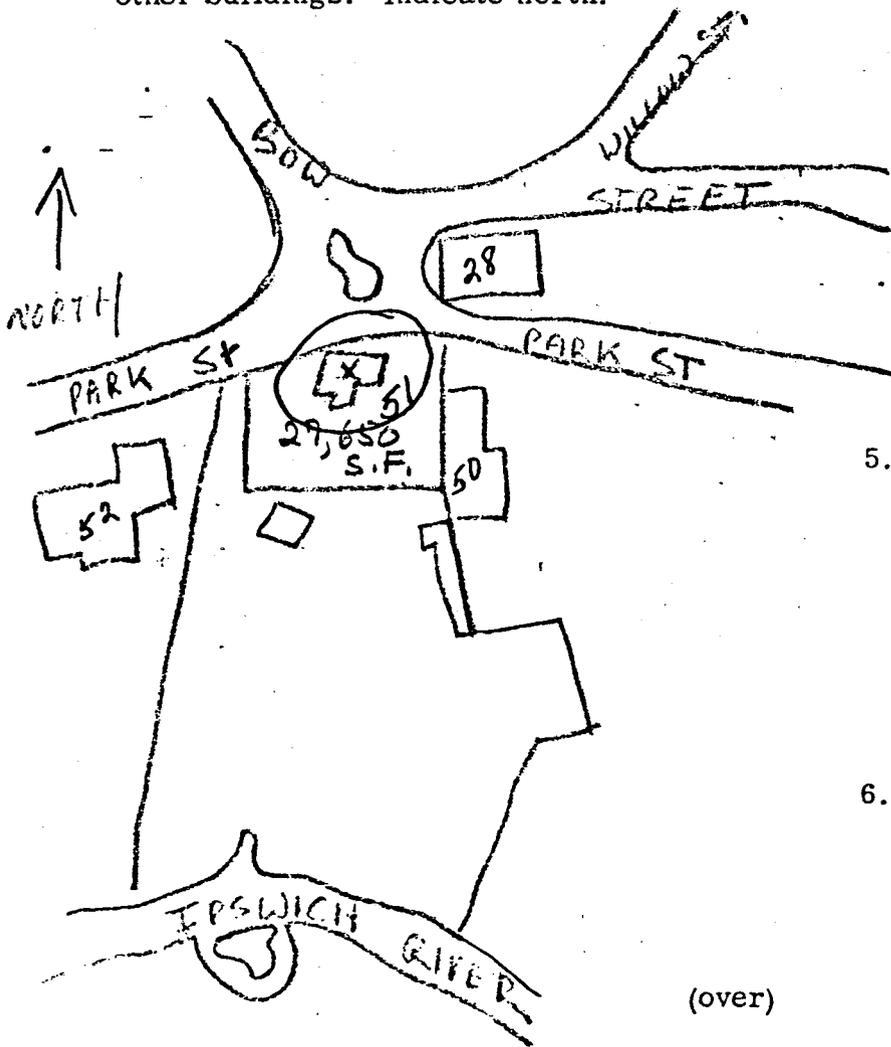
MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, State House, Boston

In Area no.	Form no.
A	51

2.



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



(over)

1. Town North Reading

Address 148 Park Street

Name J. B. McLane House

Present use Professional offices

Present owner Medomic Realty Corp., subsidiary of Malden Cooperative Bank

3. Description:

Date 1818

Source Reading Assessor's Record

Style Federal

Attributed to:
Architect Ebenezer Damon, built

Exterior wall fabric wood

Outbuildings (describe) 4-car garage
Mink House

Other features Several additions

through 1900

Renovated & restored 1977

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved _____ Date _____

5. Lot size: 27,650 sq. ft. (part of 4 1/2 acre parcel)
One acre or less x Over one acre _____

Approximate frontage 180'

Approximate distance of building from street

5'

6. Recorded by Nickerson/O'Brien

Organization Historical Commission

Date June 1978

7. Original owner (if known) Dr. Jacob Goodwin
 Original use residence
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates offices See #9 below

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Built in 1818 on land purchased by Dr. Jacob Goodwin from the inhabitants of the North Parish. Three years later the home was sold to Cyrus Pierce, Clergyman. With the consent of Rev. Eliab Stone, the second minister of the Parish, Pierce was invited to settle as colleague to aid the ill and aging preacher in administering to the needs of the Parish.

David A. Grosvenor, Physician, purchased the property in 1928. Grosvenor was interested in promoting education and conveyed a portion of his land for that purpose to which he later provided improvements. Ten years after Grosvenor's death in 1876, the heirs conveyed the premises to Jared Brown McLane.

A blacksmith by trade, J. B. McLane employed many townspeople in the operation of the McLane Wagon Factory located to the rear of his home. J. B. was active in Town affairs as well as being a successful businessman and bank director. He was a charter member of both the Board of Fire Engineers (early fire department) and the Finance Committee, serving many years on the latter, and in 1915 was elected State Representative. In 1915, J. B. offered to give \$10,000 towards the construction of the proposed centrally located school if the Town would change its name to McLane. J. B. died in 1917 and the property passed to McLane's daughter, Lelia, and her husband, Foster Rayner Batchelder who was also active in Town affairs holding the office of Selectman as well as others.

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

- Mdlsx s. s. Registry of Deeds and Probate
- Reading Assessor's Records
- Old Maps thru 1910
- Old photographs; Interviews with Dotens, Jones
- Parish Records
- North Reading Town Reports

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
Office of the Secretary, Boston

Community: North Reading	Form No: A-51
Property Name: J. B. McLane House	

Indicate each item on inventory form which is being continued below.

9. HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE:

The wagon works burned to the ground in February 1928 destroying adjacent buildings owned by Turner, one of which was the old Center School Dr. Grosvenor took such an interest in.

The home then became the residence of Elizabeth Batchelder and her husband, William E. Doten. Elizabeth had been adopted by Mr. and Mrs. Foster R. Batchelder when Elizabeth's parents, Alice and Irving Flint Batchelder, passed away within three days of each other in December of 1915. Irving F. Batchelder had also been a town official and had been elected to State Representative in 1914. William E. Doten, Elizabeth's husband, has given the town over 100 years of service in an official capacity which includes many terms as Selectman and Finance Committee member.

William H. Porter purchased the property in 1946 and constructed a cement block building about 100' long submerged halfway under ground for the purpose of raising mink. Reports are that the venture was not too successful due to the activity in the Town center.

The Malden Cooperative Bank completed restoring the McLane House in 1977 for use as professional offices.

Staple to Inventory form at bottom