

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
A	53

1. Town North Reading

Address 158 Park Street

Name Cranberry Cottage

Present use residence

Present owner William H. Ryer

3. Description:

Date 1889

Source N. R. Assessor's Records

Style 19th Century Cottage

Architect _____

Exterior wall fabric wood shingle

Outbuildings (describe) _____

Other features _____

Altered _____ Date _____

Moved XX Date c. 1899

5. Lot size: 1.8 acres

One acre or less _____ Over one acre x

Approximate frontage 125'

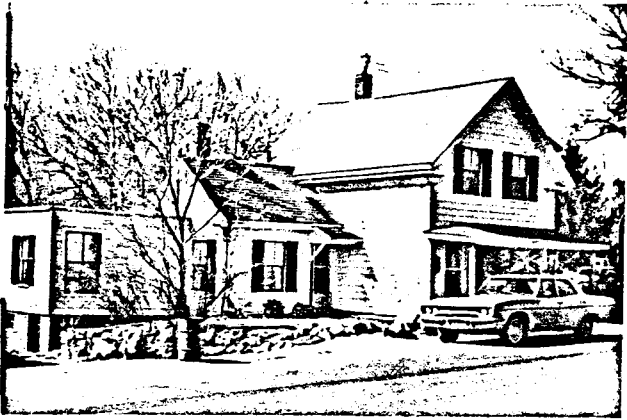
Approximate distance of building from street
1'

6. Recorded by Nickerson/O'Brien

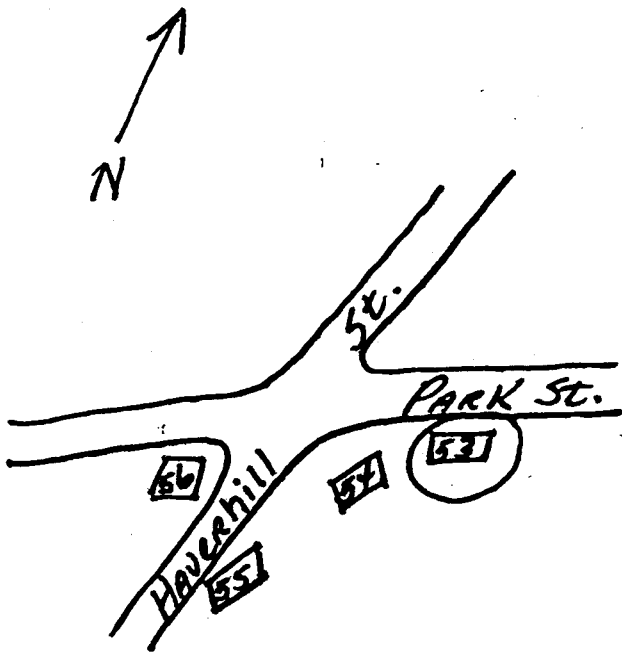
Organization Historical Commission

Date June 1978

2.



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



(over)

7. Original owner (if known) John McDonnell

Original use dwelling

Subsequent uses (if any) and dates _____

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

In 1896 when the Town proposed the construction of an engine house (the Hose House was located until 1968-69 between A-51 and A-52), Cranberry Cottage had to be moved since it had been mistakenly erected on Town land. The cottage was moved between 1896 and 1902. For most of its years, the house has been used an income property and has been owned by the Ryer family since 1905. Many prominent citizens have temporarily lived in the cottage including William H. Ryer, original owner of Ryer's Store, William H. Ryer, Jr., one of two surviving World War I veterans, Mollie Ryer, Postmistress, Michael Walsh, Postmaster, Dr. Herbert Land, Physician, John Ercoline, Veterans Agent, and Jean Ryer, the present Town Accountant.

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

Middlesex s. s. Registry of Deeds and Probate
N. R. Assessor's Records
Interviews with Willard (Mike) Walsh, William H. Ryer