

FORM B - BUILDING

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

In Area no.	Form no.
A	3

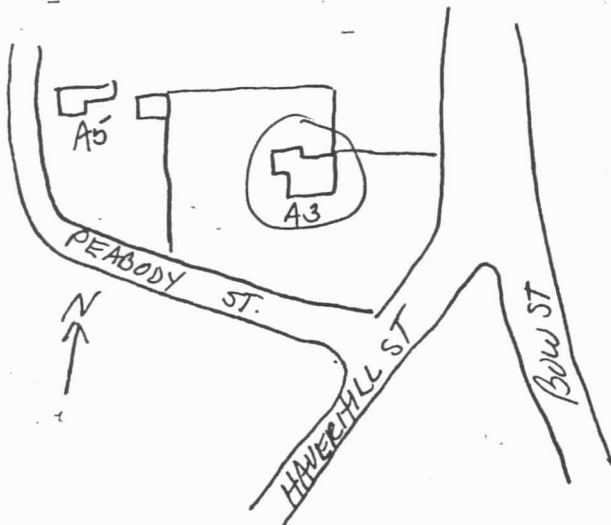
2.



1. Town North Reading
 Address 1 Peabody Street
 Name Rev. Eliab Stone House
 Present use residence
 Present owner Mr. & Mrs. Clark J. Sawyer

3. Description:
 Date 6/1/61
 Source _____
 Style Early Georgian
 Architect _____
 Exterior wall fabric wood clapboard
 Outbuildings (describe) garage
 Other features Hip roof

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: 42,818 sq. ft.
 One acre or less _____ Over one acre x
 Approximate frontage 182'
 Approximate distance of building from stree 100'

6. Recorded by Marguerite Church
 Organization Historical Commission
 Date June 1978

(over)

7. Original owner (if known) _____
 Original use dwelling
 Subsequent uses (if any) and dates Congregational Parsonage, 1841 - 1931

8. Themes (check as many as applicable)

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

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

Rev. Eliab Stone, the second minister of Reading's North Parish, was born in Framingham 5 May 1737, son of Lt. Micah and Abigail (Reed) Stone. A Harvard graduate of 1758, he was ordained 20 May 1761 and continued to serve the Parish 61 years until his death 31 Aug 1822. In his published sermon preached 19 May 1811 at the end of a half century of ministerial labors, he said he had baptized 876 persons mostly children, married 380 couples and received 303 individuals into the church. He was invited to sit in Ecclesiastical Councils 44 times and 7 of his sermons were published between 1783 and 1811. Throughout the Revolutionary War, he held himself in readiness as a minute-man and once at the sound of the alarm, donned his wig, shouldered his musket and marched to Salem.

Rev. Eliab Stone purchased the land in October 1761 from the heirs of Silas Eaton with "our share of buildings thereon," and unfortunately, paid no taxes. Therefore, we are unable to provide even a circa date.

The Congregational Church purchased the home in 1841 and it served as a parsonage thru 1931.

One of the present owners, Clark J. Sawyer, is a former Selectman.

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

- Mddlsx s. s. Registry of Deeds and Probate
- Reading Assessor's Records
- Parish Records
- Gregory Stone Genealogy, Bartlett, 1918
- Upton Memorial, Vinton, 1874
- Early Maps thru 1910
- Wakefield Library, Early Reading Wills (WPA Project) Eaton, 1935